November 18, 2009

Senator Ben Nelson
720 Hart
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Proposed Wind Energy Training Center at Western Nebraska Community College

Greetings Senator Nelson:

I would first like to thank you for allowing me to take a moment of your time to ask for your support for a project that I believe deserves consideration for federal funding.

Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC) has embarked upon an exciting opportunity to develop a Wind Energy Training Center in Sidney, Nebraska, for the purpose of educating and training students in wind energy technology.

According to the American Wind Energy Association, western Nebraska is one of the best areas for wind energy potential in the United States. There are already a number of existing and planned wind farms in the area and this is great opportunity to advance the institution and to improve economic and workforce development in the Nebraska panhandle.

Employers, such as Nebraska Public Power, require a steady stream of certified candidates and I believe that WNCC is in an ideal position to meet their needs. By developing a center, the college can substantially increase the number of well-trained professionals that are needed by the wind industry as well as related technology, agriculture and energy sectors.

As a strong supporter of WNCC and its mission, I recognize that our position alone will not ensure the successful development of the center. Federal assistance will be critical and having you as an advocate of the Wind Energy Training Center would be of tremendous value.

We greatly appreciate all that you do for our college, community and region. Thank you Senator Nelson.

Respectfully Requested,

Scott Wentz
Board Member, Western Nebraska Community College Foundation