Mad Wolf Ranch L.L.C.
mile marker 9 on hwy 89
Browning, Montana 59417
(406) 338-2414

Senate Energy & Telecomm.Comm.
Exhibit No. 7
Date 1.25.05
Bill No. SB 256

January 11, 2005

Mr. Jasen R. Bronec, General Manager
Glacier Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 2090
Cut Bank, Montana 59427-2090

RE: Your visit to the 2005 Montana State Legislature.

Mr. Bronec,

Per our conversation today I would write under the following three captions as it relates to my wind turbine located within the Glacier Electric service area:

Why I have my wind turbine: In early 2003 while researching for an anemometer Roy Knollcamper of Glacier Electric Cooperative informed me of both the NW Seed project and the NCAT funds. Because of his efforts and directives I had a Bergey 10 KW wind turbine installed fall of 2003.

The economic viability of my wind turbine: The wind turbine has been somewhat problematic. They take a little more tinkering than I think most folks would want to deal with. Without the grants I had received the project would have been a more expensive and time-consuming substitute to the traditional manner of getting power from the grid. Your working with me and your response to my May 12th, 2004 request was very helpful and made the project far more beneficial to me. It allowed me to deduct my power generation from my house meter as well as my shop meter.

The future of wind turbines: I do believe there is a future for generating power from wind economically. I think it is important for each electric cooperative to be able to work with its constituents in a way that benefits all of its members and takes into account infrastructure and energy sources. An overall mandate could inhibit growth in the area of clean energy because it could very well take out of play the important aspect of problem solving through relationships and consideration of local energy sources and distribution infrastructure.

Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,

Doug Nelson