

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**

4TH FIGHTER WING (ACC) SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE NC

16 July 2012

Colonel Jeannie M. Leavitt Commander, 4th Fighter Wing 1510 Wright Brothers Avenue Seymour Johnson AFB NC 27531 FILED

AUG 0 1 2012

Clerk's Office N.C. Utilities Commission

The Honorable Beverly Perdue Governor of North Carolina Raleigh NC 27699-0301 N.C. Utilities Commission

Dear Governor Perdue

EMP-61, SUB O

I am very concerned about wind farm development planned near Pantego, North Carolina and within Tyrrell County, North Carolina. Wind farms and the windmills that comprise them will have a significant impact on the training of F-15E aircrew conducted by Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.

Please understand that we are troubled that building windmills in the proposed areas will adversely affect Seymour Johnson's most frequently used low-level training routes, the primary bomb range used to train F-15E aircrew, and the most frequently used F-15E low-flight training area. Additionally, windmill structures and rotating blades have a demonstrable negative effect on the F-15E's main radar and its terrain following radar system. The effects are significant at both medium and low altitude flight levels.

Because of these factors, I believe that wind farm development in any part of eastern North Carolina has the potential to harm the training missions of Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and potentially other Department of Defense users of the airspace near the planned projects. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call. Thank you.

Sincerely

EANNIE M.(LEAVITT, Colonel, USAF

Commander