

**Albany County Commissioners**

Tim Sullivan, Chairman 742-5757  
Tim Chestnut, Commissioner 721-2004  
Pat Gabriel, Commissioner 745-7112  
Albany County Commissioners  
5256 Grand Avenue, Suite 202  
Laramie, WY 82070

**Converse County Commissioners**

Ed Werner, Chairman 358-4119  
Mike Colling, Vice Chairman 436-9212  
Dave Edwards, Commissioner 358-1169  
Tony Lehner, Commissioner 436-2208  
Jim Willox, Commissioner 358-2696  
Converse County Commissioners  
107 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 114  
Douglas, WY 82633



**Governor's Office**

Honorable Dave Freudenthal  
307-777-7434  
governor@state.wy.us  
Governor of the State of Wyoming  
State Capitol  
200 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Aaron Clark, Special Advisor to the  
Governor on Energy Infrastructure  
307-322-1811  
aclark1@state.wy.us  
P.O. Box 249  
Wheatland, WY 82201

**Bureau of Land Management**

Walt George 307-775-6116  
walt\_george@blm.gov  
Tamara Gretsich  
Bureau of Land Management  
5353 Yellowstone Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

**Owners of Rocky Mountain Power**

Mr. Warren E. Buffett 402-346-1400  
Chief Executive Officer  
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.  
3555 Farnam Street, Suite 1440  
Omaha, NE 68131

Mr. Gregory E. Abel 515-242-4000 Fax 515-242-4031  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company  
P.O. Box 657  
Des Moines, IA 50306-0657

**Wasatch Wind and Its Financial Backers**

Tracy Livingston, CEO  
435-657-2550  
Wasatch Wind, Inc.  
357 W 910 S, Suite A  
Heber City, UT 84032

Professor Jane Woodward, CEO  
650-724-6740  
Department of Civil & Env. Eng.  
Jerry Yang & Akiko Yamazaki  
Environment & Energy Building  
473 Via Ortega, Room 314, m/c 4020  
Stanford, CA 94305

Mr. David F. Lincoln 610-964-8004  
Managing Partner  
Element Partners  
Three Radnor Corp. Ctr., Suite 410  
100 Matsonford Road  
Radnor, PA 19087

Aaron Zubaty  
650-324-9095  
Map Royalty, Inc.  
2555 Park Blvd, Suite 1  
Palo Alta, CA 94306

Theodore F. Craver, Jr.  
(626) 302-2222  
Chairman, President, and CEO  
Edison International  
P. O. Box 976  
Rosemead, CA 91770-0976

Ronald J. Litzinger  
(949) 752-5588  
Chairman, President, and CEO  
Edison Mission Group  
18101 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1700  
Irvine, CA 92612 -0178

**U.S. Senators and Representatives**

**The Honorable John A. Barrasso**  
United States Senate  
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-5004

Main: 202-224-6441  
Fax: 202-224-1724  
Toll free: 866-235-9553  
Kelsey Campbell 261-6413

Federal Building, Suite 2201  
100 East B Street  
Casper, WY 82601-1962  
Main: 307-261-6413

**The Honorable Michael Enzi**  
United States Senate  
379A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-5003

Main: 202-224-3424  
Fax: 202-228-0359  
Toll Free: 888-250-1879  
Sandy Tinsley 261-6572  
Main: 307-261-6572  
Fax: 307-261-6574

Federal Building, Room 3201  
100 East B Street  
Casper, WY 82601-1975

**The Honorable Cynthia Lummis**  
United States House of Representatives  
1004 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-5001

Main: 202-225-2311  
Fax: 202-225-3057  
Toll Free: 888-879-3599  
Jackie King 261-6595

P.O. Box 33201  
Casper, WY 82602

100 East B Street, Suite 4003  
Casper, WY 82601  
Main: 307-261-6595  
Fax: 307-261-6597

**Northern Laramie Range Alliance – Steering Committee Members**

For more information, please contact the following Steering Committee Members at [info@nlralliance.org](mailto:info@nlralliance.org) and attend the public meeting scheduled for July 9th at 7 pm at the Douglas High School Auditorium. See also [www.NLRAlliance.org](http://www.NLRAlliance.org).

Kenneth G. Lay, Glenrock, Wyoming  
Tom E. Swanson, Casper, Wyoming  
Sharon Rodeman, Casper, Wyoming

Diemer True, Casper, Wyoming  
Willard McMillan, Douglas, Wyoming  
Bret Frye, Douglas, Wyoming

David Pestotnik, Casper, Wyoming  
Steve Sibrel, Glenrock, Wyoming  
Kevin Stowe, Casper, Wyoming

To: Citizens of Converse County

From: The Northern Laramie Range Alliance ([www.NLRAlliance.org](http://www.NLRAlliance.org))

Subject: **Proposed Industrialization of the Northern Laramie Mountains in Southwestern Converse County; Public Meeting on July 9, 2009, at 7 pm, in the Douglas High School Auditorium**

We are writing to bring to your attention to developments that may seriously impair our quality of life.

**What is the problem?** There are two pending proposals to industrialize the mountain country in the southwest corner of Converse County:

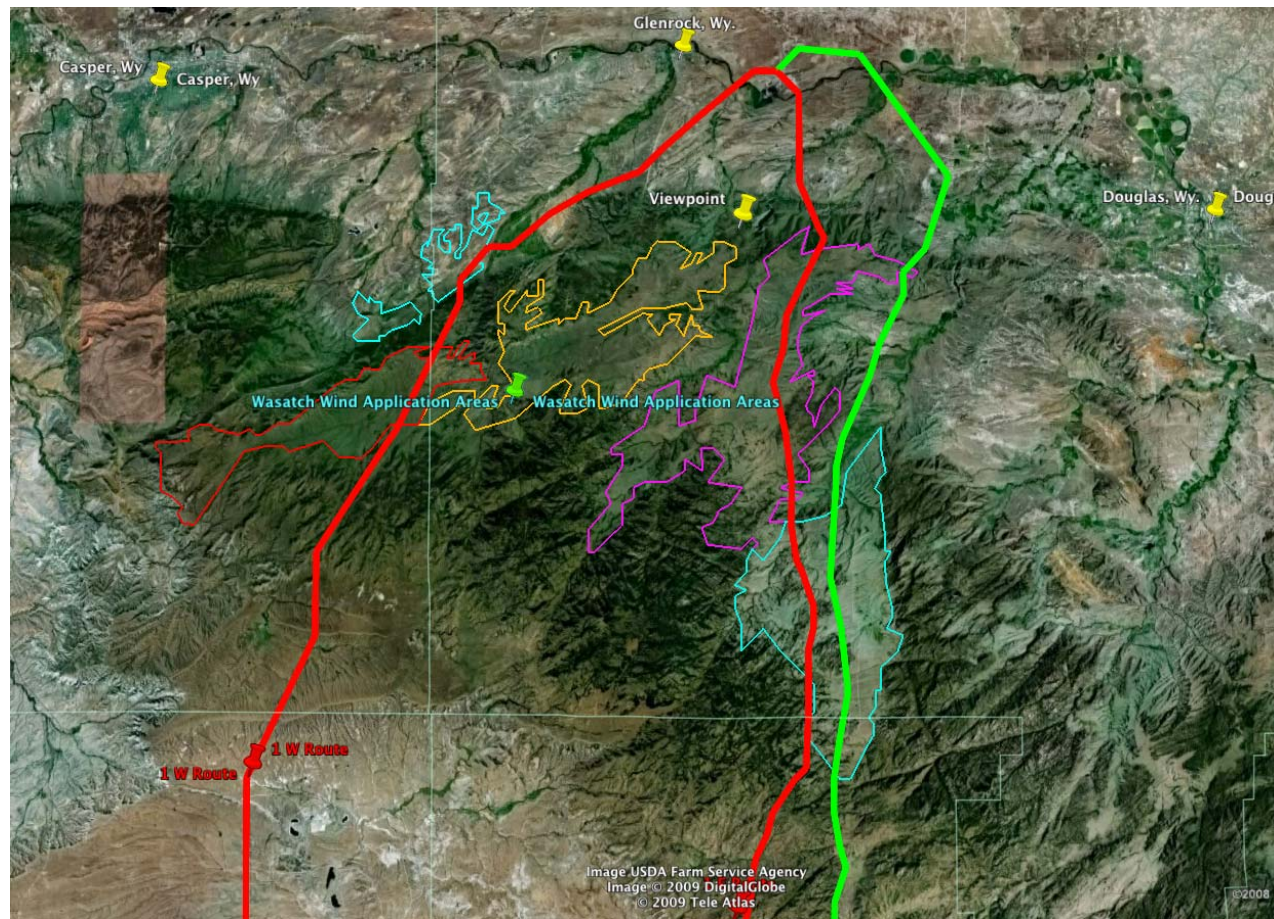
- A Utah-based company called Wasatch Wind, Inc. is attempting to install hundreds of 400-foot high wind turbines across tens of thousands of acres of the mountain country south and west of I-25.
- At the same time, Rocky Mountain Power continues to propose creating a new electric transmission corridor and installing a new powerline from Glenrock south through the mountains to Medicine Bow.



*The Northern Laramie Range in Wyoming: Targeted for industrialization by the transmission and wind energy industries.*

These two projects, if allowed to go forward, will alter fundamentally the character of a part of the County that many of us cherish as a place to live, ranch, hunt, fish or simply explore. The area has some of the finest scenery in the eastern part of Wyoming. It has undeveloped country roads winding through pine and aspen woods and over grand, open ridges with breathtaking views, en route to National Forest access points and campgrounds. It covers Wyoming Game & Fish's Elk Area 7, the richest in the state. It has old pioneer homesteads and many sites with prehistoric and more recent Indian artifacts.

If the two development proposals succeed, all of this will change. Our trips through the country will be on wide, leveled highways through a forest of towers and rotors of the scale of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis or the Washington Monument, blinking at night with aircraft warning lights and sounding the low-frequency "whoof-whoof-whoof" of industrial-strength windmills. It will be alongside or in sight of steel transmission towers and wires. All will be underlain by tons of concrete and serviced by a network of access roads. There will be almost nowhere, in hundreds of square miles, from which this infrastructure will not be visible.



Google Earth image of the Northern Laramie Range in Albany, Converse and Natrona Counties. The parallel routes in the east are Segments 1E (in red) and 1E Alternate (in green), new transmission corridors proposed by Rocky Mountain Power. The route to the west, in red, is Rocky Mountain Power's existing corridor. The colored outlines enclose the areas within which Wasatch Wind has applied for special use permits for state lands. If its development plans succeed, these enclosed areas would be covered by hundreds of wind turbines, each more than 400 ft. high. The photo elsewhere in this brochure was taken looking south from the "viewpoint" shown south of Glenrock.

It would be one thing if this development were necessary, even for the future of Converse County as a center for energy development; but it is not. There is a vast area of the County in which wind development is appropriate and welcome and where it already is occurring. There are, moreover, existing transportation and transmission corridors that can be reinforced to deliver that energy reliably to the national electric transmission grid.

Not even job creation or public revenues are compelling: Past experience is that these projects create a few hundred jobs when construction is underway (many of which go to itinerant out-of-staters) and 10-15 in the operating phase. Most of the power generated and most of the profits go to California, elsewhere in the US, or even to foreign governments. (The operating contract for the Rolling Hills windfarm, for example, is with enXco, owned by Electricite de France, the French-government-owned power utility). Wasatch Wind's main backers are in Palo Alto, California and Radnor, Pennsylvania – neither is home to industrial-strength wind farms, suffice to say. Property-tax assessments on the affected land may go up, but there is no state severance tax on wind energy, so no contribution to education or other public priorities in Wyoming.

This is not a situation in which a handful of unhappy neighbors are saying "not in my back yard" to unavoidable infrastructure development needed for the broader public good. Rather, it is a case in which largely-outside private interests are trying to take advantage of Wyoming's low population density and its admirable tradition of "live and let live" to profit at the expense of our entire community.

Fortunately, it is not too late to do something about this. The Northern Laramie Range Alliance formed this spring when the magnitude of the powerline and wind development became visible. We have already forwarded to federal, state and local officials, and to the corporate and financial backers of these proposals, more than 360 citizen petitions opposing the Rocky Mountain Power transmission project and, in a more recent campaign, more than 200 opposing the Wasatch Wind turbine-erection plan. We need all of you to make it even clearer to our public officials and to the private interests that stand to gain from industrializing our mountains that the public in Converse County overwhelmingly opposes this.

**Is it urgent?** Yes.

Wasatch Wind actively is negotiating with a handful of large landowners, offering tiny annual "lease" payments for their property and the promise of eye-popping financial rewards if and when financing and transmission can be arranged and turbines built. Wasatch Wind has applied for "special use" permits on the state-owned land currently leased for grazing by 44 lessees. While it is by no means clear that Wasatch can finance this project, it is pushing hard to sign up these landowners, apparently in an effort to present the community with an "accomplished fact" before we can take steps to protect our mountain country. Wasatch also is trying to elicit state-government support for its industrialization project.

Rocky Mountain Power is insisting that the proposed new power line be included in a draft Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") being prepared by the federal Bureau of Land Management. There is still time for public opposition to convince Rocky Mountain Power to propose an alternative that would much better serve Converse County, the state and, ultimately, the country, but the draft EIS is due in two or three months so now is the time for our voices to be heard.

**What is the Alliance's position?**

- No industrial-scale wind development at elevations above 6,000 feet in Converse County.
- No electric transmission lines through the Northern Laramie Mountains except on existing corridors. No new electric transmission corridors across this area.

**What can YOU do to help?**

**SIGN AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED PETITIONS TO:**

**NORTHERN LARAMIE RANGE ALLIANCE  
P.O. BOX 3215  
CASPER, WY 82602**

**Attend our next public meeting:** July 9, 2009, at 7 pm, in the Douglas High School Auditorium. We will bring everyone up-to-date on the situation and on what the Alliance is doing. We have invited Wasatch Wind to present a proposal to address the issues we have highlighted above.

**Call and write the County Commissioners** to let them know you expect them to use all the means that their disposal to prevent Rocky Mountain Power, Wasatch Wind, or anyone else from industrializing the mountain country in Converse County. (The Northern Laramie Range Alliance is providing to the Commissioners and the County Attorney the legal basis for it to do so.)

**Call and write Governor Freudenthal and your State Senator and Representative** to let them know that you support Wyoming having the tools to prevent industrialization of its most valuable agricultural, recreational and scenic landscapes.

**Call and write the U. S. Bureau of Land Management,** to let them know you oppose new transmission lines across federal land in our mountains and the use of federal land in these mountains for wind energy development.

**Call and write Wasatch Wind and its financial backers,** letting them know you would like them to seek wind farm development opportunities elsewhere (their website claims they are working on opportunities in ten other regions, including Lake Erie, the Caribbean and the South Pacific, among others).

**Call and write our U.S. Senators and Representative,** asking that they use all of their influence to prevent industrialization of our mountains.

**Please see the following contact information for the Northern Laramie Range Alliance, its Steering Group Members, and the foregoing government and corporate officials.**