



Policy Update

July 26, 2024

South Dakota Farm Bureau to Testify at Upcoming Property Tax Assessment Summer Study

South Dakota Farm Bureau will be testifying at the upcoming legislative property tax assessment methodology summer study. The study committee on Property Tax Assessment Methodology will hold its second meeting of the 2024 Interim on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (CT). The meeting is being conducted via electronic conference and in Room 362 of the State Capitol in Pierre, South Dakota, to allow for both remote and in-person participation.

The Study Committee on Property Tax Assessment Methodology, co-chaired by Senator Randy Deibert (R-Spearfish) and Representative Drew Peterson (R-Salem), will hear comments from the South Dakota Retailers Association, the South Dakota Farm Bureau, South Dakota Realtors Association, and the Directors of Equalization for Brown, Dewey, Lawrence, and McCook Counties. South Dakota Farm Bureau's comments will focus on the productivity methodology that is currently being utilized to assess agricultural land for property tax purposes.

The full agenda is available [online](#).

Click [here](#) to listen online.

South Dakota Farm Bureau Hosts Tax Meetings Across South Dakota

South Dakota Farm Bureau recently held a series of informational meetings about taxes at four locations across South Dakota. The meetings included experts from the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) and the South Dakota Department of Revenue (DOR).

Topics included:

- Upcoming tax code reforms set to expire in 2025, which may affect estate planning;
- What makes up your tax bill; and
- What you can do to learn more about taxes in your county.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, set to expire in 2025, is benefiting most farm and ranch businesses. Important provisions include reduced tax rates, the new small business income deduction, provisions to allow the matching of income and expenses, immediate cost recovery and an increase in the estate tax exemption. More than 98 percent of farms and ranches operate as pass-through businesses – sole proprietorships, partnerships and Sub S corporations. Failure to extend important pass-through provisions will result in a tax increase for farmers and ranchers and leave them without ways to deal with the cyclical and unpredictable nature of their businesses.

In addition, many landowners had questions about how their property tax bill is calculated and where to go if they have questions about their tax bill.

Click [here](#) to learn more about property taxes.

Sign Up for Prairie Dog Control Programs Open

The South Dakota Departments of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) and Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) want to remind South Dakota landowners to register for assistance with prairie dog encroachment. The deadline for enrollment is **August 15**.

The state's prairie dog control program is cooperatively operated by GFP and DANR. GFP manages encroachment issues for prairie dogs that move from public lands to adjacent private lands, while DANR manages requests for service between private landowners.

Landowners must register at prairiedogcontrol.sd.gov before August 15 to request assistance with unwanted prairie dogs. Landowners with questions about the program can contact GFP at 605.394.6788. Once eligibility is verified in the fall (Aug-Oct), GFP staff or a department representative will begin control measures on the private land. Timing can vary depending on several factors such as weather and location, thus control may not take place immediately following eligibility verification.

New Wind Farm Proposed in Deuel County

A new 68 wind turbine project is being proposed for southern Deuel County. Invenergy, is the company proposing the South Deuel Wind project and they will invest approximately \$600 million into its construction. The project will produce up to 260 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity and deliver up to 250 MW to the point of interconnection. The project would also include a six-mile 345-kilovolt line tying to the existing Astoria switchyard. Operations date for the project is currently set for December of 2026.

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public input meeting on the application and project on Thursday, August 22, 2024 - 5:30 p.m. CDT- Clear Lake Community Center, 218 Third Avenue South, Clear Lake, South Dakota.

For more information about the project, please click [here](#).

To learn more about the Public Utilities Commission, please click [here](#).

Contact for Questions

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