

## Richard Haugen

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**From:** My Yahoo <cindiemk@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2016 10:37 AM  
**To:** Richard Haugen; Robert Hill  
**Subject:** Astoria Property  
**Attachments:** Astoria 1 ac Site Plan.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Hello Richard and Robert,

I am writing to let you know that in April, 2016, my husband Kyle and I put an offer in on a 20 acre building site 1 mile south and 1/4 mile east of Astoria, SD. I no longer have the address, but have attached an image of where we were going to put our house. We were working with a Century 21 realtor and had sold our Brookings home and been looking for an acreage since November, 2015. We were extremely excited about this property and the Deubrook school district for our 2 children. About 10 days after we submitted our offer and earnest money, I found out that a 4,000 head dairy operation was proposed to be built only 1.5 miles as the crow flies southwest (upwind) of the land we were under contract to buy. I contacted a few people and learned a couple of things. First I learned the permit was being contested, and that it wouldn't be known until after our purchase was final whether this confined dairy facility would be built. Second, a friend of mine had recently had to sell their acreage north of Watertown because a dairy facility had been built over 2 miles away, but upwind of them. He said there were days when the wind was right that if they hung laundry on the line it would come in smelling of manure from the confined dairy operation. We decided we couldn't risk investing in the property. Once informing our banker at First Bank and Trust of the facility, they also stated that we were making a good decision. Because of the uncertainty with the facility, our earnest money was refunded and we were released from the contract. Our long term goal is to live a sustainable life and grow our own food on a small acreage. Because of Brookings County land use policies and how the county is trying to drive people out of the country and into cities to increase opportunities for large agricultural operations, we ended up moving out of the county. Thanks for your time in reading this message.

Sincerely,

Cindie McCutcheon

605-695-1060

Hermosa, SD