Border infrastructure solution

How about a single solution to the border problem that would impact five problems? Let’s build a border infrastructure of equally spaced wind generators. The generator towers would also house electronic surveillance technology, forming a continuous “porch vision 24/7” of the entire border. The aggregate system would:

1. Protect the border against illegal entries.
2. Dramatically increase the U.S. supply of renewable energy.
3. Offer renewable energy to Mexico and accrue a portion of the revenue to pay for the infrastructure.
4. Decrease fossil fuel emissions by both countries — positive impact on climate change.
5. Allow private landowner contracts to compensate for land uses of system towers and maintenance access (no “taking” of private property).

How much better looking and less public expense (public acceptance) would a revenue-producing string of wind towers be than a “U.S. Great Wall”? Besides, history proves that the original Great Wall never worked.

W. Cecil Steward, *Omaha*
President/CEO, Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities