

Along the roadside, BILLBOARDS, shout for attention. Ads for TV and Radio Stations featuring star meteorologists are mixed in with messages from groups seeking followers:

- COUNTY FAIR: RANCH RODEO! TRUCK AND TRACTOR PULL! PRIZES! FAMILY FUN!!
- WCTV. WEATHER YOU CAN TRUST WITH BRAD JONES [who we'll soon meet]
- BIG HEART CASINO. JACKPOTS, JACKPOTS, JACKPOTS!
- 102.5FM "WEATHER ON THE ONES"
- GAY DOES NOT MEAN HAPPY. CALL THE HELPLINE.
- BABY'S HEART BEATS 18 DAYS FROM CONCEPTION.

Maddy looks away from this last one. Focuses on the long road that splits the land evenly, right through the middle of:

The Great Plains. Here, the sky goes on forever and light makes colors pop like an Ed Hopper painting. This is America's heartland and it is a breathtaking beauty to behold.

She flies past...

EXT. FARM - MORNING [8:00AM] 13

Rick and Tammy's place. Now that it's daylight, we see that the farmhouse is big, but by no means grand.

EXT. FARM - FIELD - CONTINUOUS 14

RICK (mid-50's), a salt-of-the-earth cowboy, surveys the back pasture with a country-corporate wind farm exec, ERIC (30's) and a GEOLOGIST (60's).

A four-by-four with HEARTLAND WIND POWER: WELCOMING THE WINDS OF CHANGE emblazoned on the side and a picture of a windmill is parked near by.

RICK

How fast d'you think you'll get them up?

ERIC

Soon as can be, if the land proves suitable.

**Info**

RICK  
It was 100?

ERIC  
At eight-K a unit. Still sound  
good?

RICK  
At that price, it answers a lotta  
prayers.

## Start

The geologist comes over with his iPad.

RICK (CONT'D)  
All good?

GEOLOGIST  
Over there...Could be karst.

RICK  
What's that?

ERIC  
(to geologist)  
You gonna run the GPR?

The geologist is already getting the GPR machine out of the  
van (like a lawnmower with radar).

## End

ERIC (CONT'D)  
What it means is, there's a chance  
the soil's too soft.

Rick watches the geologist get going with the GPR.

RICK  
Hail hit us a few years back.  
Destroyed the crop. Left pockmarks  
like mortar fire. Wiped us out.  
Could it be 'cause of that?

ERIC  
Nah, this kind of thing runs  
deeper. Could be caves or craters  
down there. GPR'll let us know  
without having to dig.

RICK  
And if there is, will it go ahead?

ERIC  
Depends on the extent of it.

Rick watches, worried, as the geologist walks the land.