

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON APPLICATION COMPLETENESS

Issued: July 13, 2018

In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the Dodge County Wind Project and Associated Facilities in Dodge, Steele, and Olmsted Counties, Minnesota

In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Site Permit for the Dodge County Wind Project and Associated Facilities in Dodge and Steele Counties, Minnesota

In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Route Permit for the 345 kV High-Voltage Transmission Line Associated with the Dodge County Wind Project in Dodge and Olmsted Counties, Minnesota

PUC Docket Numbers: IP-6981/CN-17-306 (Certificate of Need)
IP-6981/WS-17-307 (LWECS Site Permit)
IP-6981/TL-17-308 (HVTL Route Permit)

Comment Period

Initial comment period closes **Friday, August 10, 2018**, at 4:30 p.m.

Reply comment period closes **Friday, August 17, 2018**, at 4:30 p.m.

Comments received after the comment period closes may not be considered.

Project Description

Dodge County Wind, LLC has filed a certificate of need application, a large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) site permit application, and a high-voltage transmission line (HVTL) route permit application for its proposed 170 megawatt (MW) Dodge County Wind Farm to be located in Dodge and Steele counties and an associated 23-mile 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to be located in Dodge and Olmsted counties (Project). The Project would include up to 70 wind turbines, underground electric collection lines, a new collector substation, an operation

and maintenance building, permanent meteorological towers, and gravel access roads. The associated 345 kV transmission line would be constructed on single-circuit monopole structures within a 150-foot right-of-way and would connect the wind farm to the Byron Substation in Olmsted County.

Topics for Comment

- Does the certificate of need application contain the information required under Minn. R. 7849.0220, subp. 1 and 2?
- Does the LW ECS site permit application contain the information required under Minn. R. 7854.0500?
- Does the HVTL route permit application contain the information required under Minn. R. 7850.1900, subp. 2 and 3?
- Should the certificate of need application be evaluated using the Commission's informal process or referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for contested case proceedings?
- Should the LW ECS site permit application be referred to the OAH for contested case proceedings?
- Should the LW ECS site permit application and the HVTL route permit application be processed jointly with the certificate of need application, *i.e.*, joint public information meetings, joint public hearings, and an environmental impact statement in lieu of an environmental report (*See* Minn. R. 7849.1900, subp. 2)?
- Should an advisory task force be appointed for the HVTL route permit application?
- Are there any contested issues of fact with respect to the representations made in the applications?

Comment Submission Process

Comments may be submitted:

Email: Comments can be emailed to publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us.

Efiling: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

U.S. Mail: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101.

Please use the Commission's docket numbers (CN-17-306, WS-17-307, or TL-17-308) in all correspondence.

Important: Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

Additional Information

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter:

- year (17) and the docket number (306) for certificate of need; or
- year (17) and the docket number (307) for LWECs site permit; or
- year (17) and the docket number (308) for HVTL route permit, and select *Search*.

Subscribe to the Docket: Receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, and follow the prompts.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2204.

Questions about these dockets or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Scott Ek at scott.ek@state.mn.us or 651-201-2255 or Charley Bruce, Public Advisor, at publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us or 651-201-2251.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.