

In the Matter of the Department of Commerce Workgroup on Wind and Solar Facilities

Dockets No. E999/M-17-123

III. Decision Options

Request DOC EERA Develop Guidance Addressing Topics

1. Request that DOC EERA develop guidance materials or best practices to address issues discussed throughout this docket, including but not limited to the:
 - eFiling of decommissioning plans **with wind and solar site permit applications at the point of application acceptance (required for wind pursuant to the requirement in Minn. Rule 7854.0500, subp. 13; new for solar.)**
 - Decommissioning plans eFiling recommendations (as standalone documents and public filing status);
 - The level of detailed content provided in decommissioning plans at initial application;
 - Financial surety instruments and funding timeline;
 - Financial surety for projects without long PPAs;
 - Decommission cost estimates provided by a knowledgeable third party;
 - Disclosure of the surety beneficiary and procedures for notice of a change in surety beneficiary;
 - Recycling and reclamation plan content;
 - Agency coordination considerations and roles; and
 - Post-decommissioning completion reports from permittees.
2. Take no action.
3. Take some other action deemed appropriate.

Permit Review Procedures and Schedule - Periodic Five-Year Reviews

4. Request the DOC EERA follow the decommission plan review order as established by this record; if any modifications are necessary, that DOC EERA submit a letter into this record informing the Commission of any adjustments to the timing or project list (or other pertinent information).
5. Include in draft permits terms addressing preparation of financial instruments and submission to the Commission for review and approval at an appropriate time.
6. Take no action.
7. Take some other action deemed appropriate.

DOC EERA to Initiate all Decommissioning Plan Reviews.

8. Request, via order, that DOC EERA initiate all decommission plan reviews.
9. Take no action.
10. Take some other action deemed appropriate.

DOC EERA to file Annual Summary Decommissioning Report

11. Request, via order, DOC EERA to file a summary of the status of wind and solar decommissioning plan activities and developments in decommissioning best practices in Docket No. E999/M-17-123.
12. Take no action.
13. Take some other action deemed appropriate.

Staff Recommendations: 1 and 4 and 5 and 8 and 11