



Public Works / Environmental Services
1105 8th Avenue NE,
Austin, Minnesota 55912
Phone: 507-437-7718 Fax: 507-437-7609

August 31, 2022

Consumer Affairs Office
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St Paul, MN 55101
consumer.puc@state.mn.us; richard.davis@state.mn.us

**Re: 200 MW Pleasant Valley Large Wind Repower Site Permit Amendment;
PUC Docket Number: E-002/WS-09-1197**

Dear Mr. Davis,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this project prior to PUC issuance of a Permit.

Access Roads:

Should the PUC issue a Site Permit for this project, early coordination with Mower County's Public Works staff is strongly encouraged. It is the expectation that NSP, dba Xcel Energy will enter into a Road Use Agreement with Mower County for use of County and/or Township roads.

Any new access points from local roads are subject to approval from the road authority – Mower County or the representative Township. Any necessary driveway or access permits applied for as a part of the Pleasant Valley Repower Project will not be issued until the PUC has issued an approved, Site Permit for this project. All applicable permitting, traffic control and construction coordination efforts should be made through Mower County's Highway Department: Michal Hanson, Public Works Director, michal@co.mower.mn.us, 507-437-7718. Mower County should be given the opportunity to participate in pre-construction meetings as they apply to County or Township owned property.

Decommissioning:

We understand some temporary staging of decommissioned parts may be necessary during the replacement of existing tower components, however, all materials shall be properly disposed of within 12 months of initiating the work. Pursuant to Mower County Zoning Ordinance, laydown yards and staging areas may require a Conditional Use Permit from Mower County.

Questions regarding decommissioning or land use permitting can be directed to Angela Lipelt, Environmental Services Supervisor, angiel@co.mower.mn.us, 507-437-7718

Communication Systems:

Please be advised there are microwave beam path (communication) corridors in the project area. Any proposed towers alterations must not interfere with either the registered beam path routes or the reserve beam path routes.

Questions regarding beam path routes and potential interference can be directed to Angela Lipelt, Environmental Services Supervisor, angiel@co.mower.mn.us, 507-437-7718

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. We look forward to working with NSP, dba Xcel Energy, to successfully repower this project.

Sincerely,

Valerie Sheedy

Valerie Sheedy, P.G.

Assistant Public Works Director

Email: valeries@co.mower.mn.us

Direct: 507-434-2639

CC: Mike Hanson, Public Works Director; Angie Lipelt, Environmental Services Supervisor; Polly Glynn, County Commissioner; Trish Harren, County Administrator