

Energy Facility Permitting

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January 14, 2013

Mr. John Ihle Glacial Ridge Wind Project LLC 27451 South Highway 34 Barnesville, MN 56514

Re: Public Utilities Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit

for Glacial Ridge Wind Project in Pope County, IP-6650/WS-07-1073

Annual Compliance Review, Reply by February 28, 2013

Dear Mr. Ihle:

The Energy Facility Permitting Unit of the Minnesota Department of Commerce recently completed a review of the Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) site permit's requirements for the Glacial Ridge Wind Project and compared them to filings on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and Department of Commerce e-Dockets website. We completed a similar review in March 2012 and requested then that Glacial Ridge Wind Project LLC file a required notice to local residents and units of government, indicating that the permit had been issued.

We are writing now since we have not had a reply and it is nearly two years since the site permit was amended on June 1, 2011, to extend the dates for advising the Commission: (1) if a power purchase agreement or other enforceable mechanism has not been obtained and (2) if pre-construction surveys have not been completed and construction has not commenced. Please contact Larry Hartman, the Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting state permit manager for this project, at 651-296-5089, or larry.hartman@state.mn.us, at your earliest convenience to discuss the project status.

Permit Condition III.J.4., Power Purchase Agreement, as amended, states:

"This Permit does not authorize construction of the Project until the Permittee has obtained a power purchase agreement or some other enforceable mechanism for sale of the electricity to be generated by the Project. In the event the Permittee does not obtain a power purchase agreement or some other enforceable mechanism for sale of the electricity to be generated by the project within two years of the issuance of this Permit, the Permittee must advise the Commission of the reason for not having such power purchase agreement or enforceable mechanism. In such event, the Commission may determine whether this permit should be amended or revoked. No amendment or revocation of this permit may be undertaken except in accordance with applicable statutes and rules, including Minnesota Statute 216F.05 and Minnesota Rule 7854.1300."

Permit condition III.K.2., Failure to Commence Construction, as amended, states:

"If the Permittee has not completed the pre-construction surveys required in paragraph III.D., and commenced construction of the project within two years of the issuance of this Permit, the Permittee must advise the Commission of the reason construction has not commenced. In such event, the Commission may determine whether this Permit should be revoked. No revocation of this Permit may be undertaken except in accordance with applicable statutes and rules, including Minnesota Statute 216F.05 and Minnesota Rules 7854.1300."

In addition to a response regarding the power purchase agreement and construction, we are requesting that you e-file documentation that a copy of the permit was provided to landowners and units of government in accordance with permit condition III.K.9. However, if this documentation cannot be provided, please only indicate this with an explanation; do not send out copies of the permit at this time. We are requesting that you e-file a reply before February 28, 2013 on the Public Utilities Commission and Department of Commerce e-Dockets website at:

https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/security/login.do?method=showLogin

Address correspondence to:

Dr. Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Metro Square Building 121 7th Place East, Suite 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198

Last, to help you with tracking future compliance filings, we are attaching a table that summarizes permit requirements and e-filings for this project, current through January 14, 2013. You will also find guidance for future pre-construction compliance filings at the following Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting webpage:

Guidance for Large Wind Energy Conversion System Pre-Construction Compliance

Should you believe that we have missed something or if you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at cynthia.kahrmann@state.mn.us or at 651-296-9655. Thank you for your attention to the requirements of the site permit.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Kahrmann Compliance Coordinator

Cynthia tel

Energy Facility Permitting Unit

Cc: Larry Hartman, Energy Facility Permitting

Tricia deBleeckere, Public Utilities Commission staff

Deb Pile, Energy Facility Permitting

Bret Eknes, Public Utilities Commission staff

Attachments: Annual Compliance Review Table, Glacial Ridge Wind Project, 07-107

e-Filing Conventions for Permittees

CATEGORY	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR PERMIT CONDITION	PERMIT REQUIRED SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT ID	PUBLIC OR TRADE SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT TYPE	E-DOCKETS FILING DATE	EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDA- TIONS	PUC ACTION
1 POST PERMIT	III.K.9., NOTICE TO LOCAL RESIDENTS	WITHIN 10 WORKING DAYS OF PERMIT RECEIPT, SEND COPY OF PERMIT TO COUNTY AUDITOR, CITY AND TOWNSHIP CLERK, AND UNITS OF GOVERNMENT LISTED IN PERMIT. WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER PERMIT ISSUANCE, SEND								
1 POST PERMIT	III.K.9., NOTICE TO LOCAL RESIDENTS	COPY OF PERMIT TO LANDOWNERS.								
2 PRE-C	III.J.4., POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT OR ENFORCEABLE MECHANISM	IF PPA OR OTHER ENFORCEABLE MECHANISM IS NOT OBTAINED WITHIN TWO YEARS OF PERMIT AMENDMENT, ADVISE COMMISSION OF REASON.								
2 PRE-C	III.K.2., FAILURE TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION	IF PERMITTEE HAS NOT COMPLETED PRE- CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS AND COMMENCED CONSTRUCTION WITHIN 2 YEARS OF PERMIT AMENDMENT, ADVISE COMMISSION OF THE REASON.								
2 PRE-C	III.A.1., SITE PLAN	PRIOR TO COMMENCING CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT SITE PLAN, ENGINEERING DRAWINGS AND CONSTRUCTION RESTORATION PLAN.								
2 PRE-C	III.A.2., FIELD REPRESENTATIVE	PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION, PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION.								
2 PRE-C	III.A.3., PRE- CONSTRUCTION MEETING	PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION, CONDUCT MEETING.								

									EFP COMMENTS	
	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR	PERMIT REQUIRED		E-DOCKETS	PUBLIC OR TRADE		E-DOCKETS	E-DOCKETS	AND RECOMMENDA-	PUC
CATEGORY	PERMIT CONDITION	SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	DOCUMENT ID	SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	DOCUMENT TYPE	FILING DATE	TIONS	ACTION
		PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION, NOTIFY THE COMMISSION AND UNITS OF GOVERNMENT LISTED IN PERMIT THAT HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THE ROADS. NOTIFY COMMISSION OF DAMAGE								
2 PRE-C	·	AGREEMENTS UPON REQUEST.								
	III.B.9., SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT	PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION; MAY BE THE SAME AS SWPPP SUBMITTED								
2 PRE-C	CONTROL PLAN	TO THE MPCA. PREPARE AND								
	III.B.16., FIRE	SUBMIT FIRE PROTECTION AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY PLAN TO COMMISSION UPON REQUEST; REGISTER WITH 911 SERVICES								
2 PRE-C										
2 PRE-C	III.C.6., NATIVE PRAIRIE	PREPARE PLAN UPON REQUEST OF THE COMMISSION AND SUBMIT TO COMMISSION AND DNR COMMISSIONER 60 DAYS PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION.								
2 PRE-C	III.D.1., BIOLOGICAL	SUBMIT TO COMMISSION AND DNR COMMISSIONER PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION.								

									EFP COMMENTS	
	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR	PERMIT REQUIRED		E-DOCKETS	PUBLIC OR TRADE		E-DOCKETS	E-DOCKETS	AND RECOMMENDA-	PUC
CATEGORY	PERMIT CONDITION	SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	DOCUMENT ID	SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	DOCUMENT TYPE	FILING DATE	TIONS	ACTION
2 PRE-C	III.D.2., ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	SUBMIT RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY TO THE COMMISSION, SHPO AND STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST (BY PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETING, PER ATTACHMENT 3 TO PERMIT).								
2 PRE-C	III.D.3., INTERFERENCE ASSESSMENT	PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT PLAN TO THE COMMISSION FOR ASSESSMENT OF TELEVISION SIGNAL RECEPTION AND MICROWAVE SIGNAL PATTERNS. COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENT PRIOR TO OPERATION OF THE TURBINES.								
2 PRE-C	III.F.1., WAKE LOSS	PROVIDE PRE- CONSTRUCTION MICROSITING ANALYSIS AND ESTIMATED WAKE LOSS WITH THE SITE PLAN; ALSO PROVIDE ANY OPERATIONAL WAKE LOSS STUDIES.								
2 PRE-C	III.G.1., DECOMMISSIONING PLAN	PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT PLAN; COMMISSION MAY ALSO REQUEST REPORT DESCRIBING HOW THIS OBLIGATION HAS BEEN FULFILLED.	SOME BASIC							
2 PRE-C	III.H.4., COMPLAINT PROCEDURES	PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES TO THE COMMISSION.								
2 PRE-C	III.J.1., WIND RIGHTS	RECEIVING THE RIGHTS, ADVISE COMMISSION OF OBTAINING EXCLUSIVE WIND RIGHTS; SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION OF THE RIGHTS IF REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION.								

CATEGORY	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR PERMIT CONDITION	PERMIT REQUIRED SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT ID	PUBLIC OR TRADE SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT TYPE	E-DOCKETS FILING DATE	EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDA- TIONS	PUC ACTION
3 CONSTR AND OPERATION	III.B.12., RESTORATION, CONSTRUCTION	COMPLETE RESTORATION WITHIN 8 MONTHS AFTER COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION FOR EACH TURBINE.								
3 CONSTR AND OPERATION	III.B.14., NOTIFY BEEKEEPERS OF HERBICIDE APPLICATION	10 DAYS PRIOR TO HERBICIDE APPLICATION.								
3 CONSTR AND OPERATION	III.H.3., EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS	WITHIN 24 HOURS OF OCCURRENCE, NOTIFY COMMISSION; WITHIN 30 DAYS OF OCCURRENCE, SUBMIT REPORT TO THE COMMISSION.								
3 CONSTR AND OPERATION		IN ACCORDANCE WITH ATTACHMENT 1 TO PERMIT, REPORT ALL SUBSTANTIAL COMPLAINTS TO THE COMMISSION THE SAME DAY RECEIVED OR ON THE FOLLOWING WORKING DAY FOR COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AFTER WORKING HOURS; SUBMIT SUMMARY OF ALL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH; IF NO COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, REPORT MAY INDICATE THIS.								
4 PRE- OPERATION		SUBMIT SITE MANAGER CONTACT INFORMATION PRIOR TO PLACING ANY TURBINE INTO OPERATION.								
4 PRE- OPERATION	III.K.12., PRE- OPERATION COMPLIANCE MEETING	CONDUCT MEETING PRIOR TO START OF COMMERCIAL OPERATION.								
5 OPERATION	III.G.3., ABANDONED TURBINES	ADVISE THE COMMISSION OF ANY TURBINES THAT ARE ABANDONED PRIOR TO TERMINATION OF OPERATION OF THE LWECS.								
5 OPERATION	III.H.1., PROJECT ENERGY PRODUCTION	SUBMIT REPORT BY JULY 15 OF EACH YEAR FOR EACH COMPLETE OR PARTIAL PRIOR YEAR OF OPERATION.								

CATEGORY	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR PERMIT CONDITION	PERMIT REQUIRED SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT ID	PUBLIC OR TRADE SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT TYPE	E-DOCKETS FILING DATE	EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDA- TIONS	PUC ACTION
5 OPERATION	III.H.2., WIND RESOURCE USE	SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORT BY 15TH OF JAN, APRIL, JULY, OCT; BEGIN FIRST FULL QUARTER FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL OPERATION.								
5 OPERATION	III.I.1., AS-BUILT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS	WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION, SUBMIT COPY OF AS- BUILT PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS; ALSO SUBMIT THIS DATA IN GIS COMPATIBLE FORMAT.								
6 POST- OPERATION	III.G.2., SITE RESTORATION, UPON PERMIT EXPIRATION OR UPON EARLIER TERMINATION OF OPERATION	WITHIN 18 MONTHS AFTER EXPIRATION, COMPLETE RESTORATION; RESTORE TO DEPTH OF 4 FEET; SUBMIT ANY AGREEMENT TO RESTORE TO LESS THAN 4 FEET TO THE COMMISSION PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF RESTORATION ACTIVITIES.								
7 OTHER	III.K.7., OTHER PERMITS	SUBMIT A COPY OF ANY OTHER FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS								
7 OTHER	III.F.2., NOISE STUDY PROTOCOL	COMMISSION, SUBMIT PROPOSAL FOR CONDUCT OF A NOISE STUDY.								
7 OTHER	III.F.2., NOISE STUDY RESULTS	IF NOISE STUDY PROTOCOL WAS REQUESTED, AFTER APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION, CARRY OUT THE STUDY.								
7 OTHER	III.K.1., PERIODIC REVIEW	THE COMMISSION SHALL INITIATE A REVIEW OF THIS PERMIT AND THE APPLICABLE CONDITIONS AT LEAST ONCE EVERY S YEARS.								
	THIS FILING IS THE ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW CONDUCTED IN 2012. THIS FILING IS THE			20123-73190-01	PUBLIC	DOC EFP STAFF	ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW	3/30/2012		
	COMMISSION PERMIT AMENDMENT ORDER.			20116-63123-01	PUBLIC	PUC	ORDER	6/1/2011	5/18/2011, 20115-62687-01	

CATEGORY	SUBMITTAL TYPE OR PERMIT CONDITION THIS FILING CONTAINS	PERMIT REQUIRED SUBMITTAL DATE	NOTES	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT ID	PUBLIC OR TRADE SECRET	ON BEHALF OF	E-DOCKETS DOCUMENT TYPE	E-DOCKETS FILING DATE	EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDA- TIONS	PUC ACTION
	THE EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE PERMIT AMENDMENT					200552	COMMENTS COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE PETITION TO AMEND	5 to /2011		
	REQUEST. THIS FILING IS THE GLACIAL RIDGE WIND, LLC PETITION TO AMEND THE SITE			20115-62687-01	PUBLIC	DOC EFP	OTHER-TO EXTEND DEADLINES IN ITS	5/18/2011		
	PERMIT.			20113-60848-01	PUBLIC	WIND LLC	LWECS SITE PERMIT	3/31/2011		
	THIS FILING IS THE COMMISSION PERMIT ISSUANCE ORDER.			20094-36805-01	PUBLIC	PUC	ORDERFINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER ISSUING A LARGE WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM SITE PERMIT TO GLACIAL RIDGE WIND, LLC, FOR THE UP TO 20 MW GLACIAL RIDGE WIND PROJECT		4/16/2009, 20094-36306-01	
	THIS FILING CONTAINS THE EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS									
	REGARDING THE PERMIT ISSUANCE.			20094-36306-01	PUBLIC	DOC OES	COMMENTSAND RECOMMENDATIONS	4/16/2009		
	THIS FILING CONTAINS SUPPLEMENTAL PERMIT APPLICATION MATERIAL.			5843261	PUBLIC	GLACIAL RIDGE WIND PROJECT	OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL LETTER	3/30/2009		
	THIS FILING IS A PRE- PERMIT ISSUANCE PROJECT MAP.			5843262	PUBLIC	GLACIAL RIDGE WIND PROJECT	OTHERPROJECT MAP	3/30/2009		
	THIS FILING IS THE PLAIN STATES ENERGY LETTER REGARDING PROJECT STATUS.			4919341	PUBLIC	JOHN IHLE	OTHERLETTER	1/24/2008		
	THIS FILING CONTAINS US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COMMENTS ON THE SITE PERMIT APPLICATION.			4832524	PUBLIC	US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	COMMENTS	11/13/2007		
	THIS FILING IS THE COMMISSION ORDER ACCEPTING THE SITE PERMIT APPLICATION.			4763198	PUBLIC	PUC	ORDERAPPROVED		8/28/2007, 4760647	
	THIS FILING IS THE AMENDED SITE PERMIT APPLICATION.			4768617	PUBLIC	PLAINSTATES ENERGY	OTHERAMENDED SITE PERMIT	9/5/2007		
	THIS FILING CONTAINS EFP COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PERMIT APPLICATION.			4760647	PUBLIC	DOC	COMMENTSAND RECOMMENDATIONS	8/29/2007		
	THIS FILING IS THE INITIAL PERMIT APPLICATION.			4749449	PUBLIC	PLAINSTATES ENERGY	INITIAL FILING GLACIAL RIDGE WIND PROJECT	8/10/2007		

Conventions for e-Filing Energy Facility Permit Compliance Filings on Behalf of the Permittee

Call Cynthia Kahrmann, Energy Facility Permitting Compliance Coordinator, at 651-296-9655 if you have questions about using these conventions in order to e-file your permit <u>compliance</u> e- filing. Or email cynthia.kahrmann@state.mn.us

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS: http://www.commerce.state.mn.us/eDocFile/eFilingHelp.html

What is e-Filed	Docket Type	Document Type to Use	Use of the Additional Information Field	Permit Condition Number Instructions	Notes
Any Compliance	Transmission	Compliance Filing	First, use the term in the Description Field	Energy Facility Permitting	
Filing in the Permit	Line		in the attached table. This will help you	staff is developing a	
Appendix			and others to find the document later. If	compliance tracking system	
"Minnesota Public	Natural Gas		the document is not in the table, use a	that includes the permit	
Utilities Commission	Pipeline		short descriptor.	condition number.	
Compliance Filing				Instructions for its use will	
Procedures for	Petroleum		If this is a partial document, for example,	be added to this document.	
Permitted Energy	Pipeline		for only portion of a site plan and not for		
Facilities" or other			the entire project, add a few words to		
permit required	Power Plant		describe this part, even if it is only the		
submittal, if the	Siting – Non-		sheet numbers.		
document is not in	Wind, Non-				
the table.	Nuclear		Add Part 1 of 3 (or similar) depending on		
			how many logical sections the compliance		
Must be in PDF or	Wind Power		filing has been split into.		
Excel format.	Plant Siting				
			One of the parts can be the cover letter		
	Minor Change		for the compliance filing. For ease of		
	to		tracking, use Document Type =		
	Transmission		Compliance Filing for the cover letter, if it		
	Facilities		is e-filed separate from the document you		
			are submitting. Make sure to identify it as		
			the document's cover letter in the		
			Additional Information field.		

See examples and Re	vised Filings next	t page.				
What is e-Filed	Docket Type	Document Type to Use	Use of the Additional Information Field	Permit Condition Number Instructions	Notes	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan cover letter, Part 1 of 3	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan, Sheets 1-5, Part 2 of 3	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan, Map Book Attachment, Part 3 of 3, sheets 6-10	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Complaint Report May 2012	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
Revised Compliance Filings	As above.	Compliance Filing	You may have previously e-filed a document that was later revised. Use the Additional Information field to identify the document as a revision. Number the revision and any subsequent revisions.	Energy Facility Permitting Staff is developing a compliance tracking system that includes the permit condition number. Instructions for its use will be added to this document.		
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan Revision 1 cover letter, Part 1 of 2, for sheet 5	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan Revision 1, Part 2 of 2, for sheet 5	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan Revision 2 cover letter, Part 1 of 2, for sheet 5	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	
		Compliance Filing	Site Plan Revision 2, Part 2 of 2, for sheet 5	Not yet available	EXAMPLE	

You will find more detailed step-by-step instructions for e-Filing Documents on the Dept. of Commerce e-Dockets web site at http://www.commerce.state.mn.us/eDocFile/eFilingHelp.html

Table of Descriptive Terms for Compliance Filings – Use these terms if the requirement is included in the permit
WIND (LWECS), PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETING
Description (please do not use hyphens)
Environmental Control and Management Plan
Native Prairie Protection Plan
Site Plan
Field Representative Contact Information
Complaint Reporting Procedures
Biological and Natural Resource Inventories
Shadow Flicker Analysis
Archaeological Resources
Interference Assessment
Wake Loss
Avian and Bat Protection Plan
Eagle Protection Plan (note: not all permits require this)
Road Identification
Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
Emergency Response Plan
Wind Rights
WIND (LWECS), PRE-OPERATION COMPLIANCE MEETING
Noise Study Protocol
Decommissioning Plan
WIND (LWECS), OTHER REQUIREMENTS
Description (do not use any hyphens)
Notice to Landowners and Government Units
Site Manager Contact Information
Complaint Report [month, year]
Noise Study Results
Avian and Bat Reporting
Project Energy Production
Wind Resource Use
Extraordinary Events

CONTINUED, WIND (LWECS), OTHER REQUIREMENTS, Use these terms if the requirement is included in the permit							
As Builts							
Power Purchase Agreement [or Enforceable Mechanism, if applicable]							
Failure to Commence Construction							
Abandoned Turbines							
Restoration, Post Construction							
Site Restoration							
Commission Five-Year Review							