

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Applications of Walleye
Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need and
Site Permit for the up to 110.8 MW Walleye
Wind Project in Rock County

FIRST PREHEARING ORDER

On March 12, 2021, Administrative Law Judge Jim Mortenson convened a prehearing conference in this matter. The prehearing was held via telephone conference call.

Brian Meloy, Stinson LLP, appeared on behalf of Walleye Wind, LLC (Applicant), along with Brian Murphy of Walleye Wind.

Suzanne L. Steinhauer, Environmental Review Manager, Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA), appeared on behalf of EERA.

Michael Kaluzniak, Senior Energy Facility Planner, Public Utilities Commission Energy Facility Permitting (Commission staff), appeared on behalf of the Commission staff.

Interested persons are invited and encouraged to participate in this informal process and need not intervene as a party. They should subscribe to one of the cases, using one of the MPUC Docket numbers, in eDockets and monitor filings and attend one of the public hearings where they will be able to make comments and ask questions of the Applicant and EERA. Interested persons should address whether the proposed wind farm meets criteria under Minn. Stat. ch. 216F and Minn. R. chs. 7849 and 7854.

Based upon the record and the discussion among the participants at the prehearing conference,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. No later than **April 13, 2021**, Commission staff will publish notice of the availability of the Environmental Report and Draft Site Permit, and the Notice of Public Hearing in the EQB Monitor and by any other appropriate means.¹

2. Two public hearings will be held on the applications on **May 4, 2021**. Hearings will be held at **1:00 p.m.** and at **6:00 p.m.** In accordance with current protocols in place to limit the spread of COVID-19, the hearings will be held remotely via telephone and internet connection. Commission staff will provide instructions in the Hearing Notice on hearing access and participation. The Applicant is to provide a summary of the applications at the hearings, including the need for the facility and its location, as well as any other issues that are or may be controversial or of interest to the public. Questions from the public will be entertained by the Applicant, EERA, and Commission staff, as appropriate.

3. The last day for written public comment will be **May 20, 2021**.

4. Commission staff will complete the compilation of public comments received no later than **May 25, 2021**.

5. No later than **June 2, 2021**, Applicant will serve and file proposed findings of fact and replies to public comments.

6. No later than **June 16, 2021**, EERA and other parties will serve and file comments on Applicant's proposed findings.

7. No later than **July 16, 2021**, the Administrative Law Judge will issue a report in accordance with directions from the Public Utilities Commission.

8. Parties may serve and file exceptions to the Judge's report no later than **August 2, 2021**.

Dated: March 18, 2021



JIM MORTENSON
Administrative Law Judge

¹ If publishing will not occur by April 13, 2021, the parties will reconvene for a telephone prehearing conference at **1:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, April 8, 2021**. At the appointed time, participants must dial **888-742-5095** and enter conference code **685 684 1864#**. Commission staff must notify the Judge and parties of the need for this prehearing conference no later than April 7, 2021.

March 18, 2021

See Attached Service List

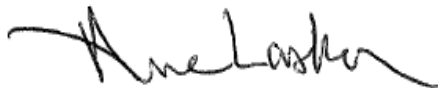
Re: *In the Matter of the Applications of Walleye Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need and Site Permit for the up to 110.8 MW Walleye Wind Project in Rock County*
OAH 5-2500-37275
MPUC Docket Nos. IP7026/CN-20-269, WS-20-384

To All Persons on the Attached Service List:

Enclosed and served upon you is the Administrative Law Judge's **FIRST PREHEARING ORDER** in the above-entitled matter.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (651) 361-7881, Anne.Laska@state.mn.us, or via facsimile at (651) 539-0310.

Sincerely,



ANNE LASKA
Legal Assistant

Enclosure

cc: Docket Coordinator

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
PO BOX 64620
600 NORTH ROBERT STREET
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55164

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In the Matter of the Applications of Walleye Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need and Site Permit for the up to 110.8 MW Walleye Wind Project in Rock County	OAH Docket No.: 5-2500-37275 MPUC Docket Nos.: IP7026/CN-20-269, WS-20-384
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Anne Laska certifies that on March 18, 2021, she served the true and correct **FIRST PREHEARING ORDER** by eService, and U.S. Mail, (in the manner indicated below) to the following individuals:

Last Name	First Name	Email	Company Name	Delivery Method
Commerce Attorneys	Generic Notice	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	Electronic Service
Fairman	Kate	kate.frantz@state.mn.us	Department of Natural Resources	Electronic Service
Felix Gerth	Annie	annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us	N/A	Electronic Service
Ferguson	Sharon	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Electronic Service
Franco	Lucas	lfranco@liunagroc.com	LIUNA	Electronic Service
Howe	Kari	kari.howe@state.mn.us	DEED	Electronic Service
KOTCH EGSTAD	STACY	Stacy.Kotch@state.mn.us	MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	Electronic Service
Kaluzniak	Michael	mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Electronic Service
Kirsch	Ray	Raymond.Kirsch@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Electronic Service
Kromar	Karen	karen.kromar@state.mn.us	MN Pollution Control Agency	Electronic Service
Medhaug	Susan	Susan.medhaug@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Electronic Service
Meloy	Brian	brian.meloy@stinson.com	STINSON LLP	Electronic Service
Mortenson	James	james.mortenson@state.mn.us	Office of Administrative Hearings	Electronic Service

Residential Utilities Division	Generic Notice	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Electronic Service
Roos	Stephan	stephan.roos@state.mn.us	MN Department of Agriculture	Electronic Service
Seuffert	Will	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Electronic Service
Shaddix Elling	Janet	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates	Electronic Service
Steinhauer	Suzanne	suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Electronic Service
Warzecha	Cynthia	cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Electronic Service
Weich	Mike	Mike.Weich@nexteraenergy.com	Dodge County Wind, LLC	Electronic Service