



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

ISSUED: JUNE 29, 2020

In the Matter of the Certificate of Need Application for the Buffalo Ridge Wind Project

Docket Number: IP-7006/CN-19-309

The Minnesota Department of Commerce has issued a Revised Environmental Report (ER) for the proposed Buffalo Ridge Wind Project. The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project.

The Revised ER can be viewed on the Department's website:

<https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/13711/>. It can also be viewed through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's website: <http://mn.gov/puc>. Select "eDockets," enter the year ("19") and the docket number ("309"), and then select "Search."

The Revised ER will also be available for review at the public library in the cities of Lake Benton, Tyler, and Pipestone.

Project Description

Buffalo Ridge Wind, LLC (Buffalo Ridge Wind) is proposing to construct a 109 megawatt (MW) wind farm in Lincoln County and Pipestone County, Minnesota. The Buffalo Ridge Wind project would consist of wind turbines and associated facilities, including access roads, communication lines, underground electrical collector lines, a meteorological tower, a staging and construction laydown area, an operation and maintenance facility, and a project substation. Buffalo Ridge Wind anticipates that the project would consist of up to 40 wind turbines varying in size from 2.52 to 2.82 MW.

Process Information

In order to construct the proposed Buffalo Ridge Wind project, Buffalo Ridge Wind must obtain two approvals from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) – a certificate of need and a site permit. Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff is responsible for conducting environmental review for certificate of need applications submitted to the Commission. EERA staff has prepared the above-noted ER to meet this responsibility.

The ER evaluates the potential human and environmental impacts of the project and alternatives to the project. The ER will be used by the Commission in deciding whether to issue a certificate of need for the project.

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How to Learn More

- Department of Commerce website: <http://www.mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities>
- Full Case Record. See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website, <http://www.mn.gov/puc>. Select "eDockets," enter the year ("19") and the docket number ("309"), and then select "Search."
- Project Mailing List. Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate. Contact docketing.puc@state.mn.us, 651-201-2204, with the docket numbers (19-309), your name, mailing address, and email address.
- Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notifications when new documents are filed in the project docket, go to the Commission's website, <http://www.mn.gov/puc>, select "Subscribe," and follow the prompts.

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