

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Lanny Baer <Lanny@adamsdevelopment.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2013 8:13 AM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Noble Flat Hill I, LLC

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IP6687/TL-08-988
IP6687/WS-08-1134

Mr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

All our comments about the Noble Flat Hill project are as relevant today as they were when we made them in 2009. There was no need for the project back then, still is no need today, and two years from now there will be no need. The evidence continues to be published, Large Wind Energy Conversion Systems continues to cost the consumer more in higher energy rates to subsidize and United States citizens more in taxes to fund the construction of the towers.

The Commission should NOT amend the site permit, authorizing an additional two more years to commence construction and to obtain a power purchase agreement or other enforceable mechanism. There is no need for the power, their inability to get a power purchase agreement or financing in three years should prove there is no need. Noble Flat Hill was just at the Clay County Planning Commission meeting on May 21, 2013 requesting an extension for the meteorological tower permit and publicly stated they are having difficulty procuring a power purchase agreement because there is so much competition in the State of Minnesota bidding to sell power due to the numerous permits issued without power purchase agreements. They also publicly stated they are having difficulty procuring private investors for financing. Clay County staff thought this went away and were surprised to see Noble resurface.

The Commission should NOT authorize an extension to the term of the LWECs site permit to 30 years from the date of reissuance (if reissued). When the original permit was issued it was very clear this is a time sensitive venture to get started or lose your rights to continue if you snooze. Noble should have had their act together and known whether or not they could do the job in the allotted time.

The Commission should NOT amend the route permit, authorizing an additional four years to commence construction. If they were to build the towers; they need to have their act together and be building the transmission lines at the same time the towers are going up not two years later. Why would you give them two additional years to decide if they can build the towers and an additional four years to build transmission lines? You are considering giving Noble two years after the construction of the towers before they need to transmit power. Why?

The power companies in Minnesota have met their 20-20 power mandates, raised our rates to pay for the expensive power; the State of Minnesota legislators have raised our taxes to pay for the subsidies required to additionally fund the mandates. Please tell Noble to get their act together, follow the original permit. This is not right; as tax paying citizens of Minnesota; we should held hostage an additional two years before we can freely market our properties without the need to disclose the potential for 100 plus towers out our front door.

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