



**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040**

December 13, 2021

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

**RE: In the Matter of the Application of Zephyr Wind, LLC for an Amendment to the Site Permit for the
Community South Wind Repower Project in Nobles County
PUC Docket Number: IP-6871/WS-11-863**

Dear Public Advisor,

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Amendment to the Site Permit for the Community South Wind Repower Project in Nobles County. Our agency offers the following comment:

The site permit application does not include a plan for post-construction fatality monitoring. The DNR recommends two years of post-construction fatality monitoring, which is consistent with the monitoring requirements included in recent site permits and site permit amendments issued by the Public Utilities Commission. The Draft Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (provided in Appendix K) should be revised to include a post-construction fatality monitoring plan. It is noteworthy that post-construction fatality monitoring was not conducted for the original Community Wind South Wind Project.

The DNR appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Amendment to the Site Permit for the Community South Wind Repower Project. Our agency advises that any DNR permits or licenses required for the project will not be granted until the PUC has issued an approved permit for this project. If you have questions about our agency's comments, I may be reached at cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us or 651-259-5078.

Sincerely,

/S/ Cynthia Warzecha
Energy Projects Planner

CC: Cezar Panait, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Jamie MacAlister, Minnesota Department of Commerce
Justin Fike, Zephyr Wind, LLC
Joanne Boettcher, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
ERDB 20200327