

**Comments from Operating Engineers Local 49 and North Central States Regional Council
of Carpenters**

May 22, 2023

Mr. Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need, a Site Permit and a Route Permit for the up to 259 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System and associated 161 kV Transmission Line in Dodge, Mower and Steele Counties, MN

Dear Ms. Seuffert,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the two topics within the Notice of Comment Period.

At this time we do not have any recommendations for methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid potential impacts of the proposed project that should be considered within the proposed draft route permit. Similarly, we do not have any additional issue that should be added to a potential contested case referral beyond those outlined by Dodge County Wind in their March 6, 2023 filing.

We would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate our continued support for the Dodge County Wind project. The project will create good jobs for local construction workers and provide needed renewable energy for Minnesotans served by Great River Energy. With the recently passed 100% by 2040 bill by the Minnesota legislature it will be critical for projects like this to stay on track. While we recognize the complexity involved with siting transmission lines, we would respectfully encourage the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in any future order to continue to move this project towards a final permitting decision.

Sincerely,

Nathan Runke, Regulatory and Political Affairs Coordinator, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49

Adam Duininck, Director of Government Affairs, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters