

July 21, 2019

Dan Wolf
Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Commission
121 – 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dockets 17-410 and 17-322

Should the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) authorize a transfer of the site permit to Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota Corporation (Xcel Energy) pursuant to Minn. R. 7854.1400 and Section 14 of the Site Permit?

No. Xcel has announced plans to upgrade 32 turbines in the project. This would require new modeling before transfer of the site permit.

The project does not have sufficient land to build the collection lines as permitted.

Should the Commission authorize a transfer of the route permit to Xcel Energy pursuant to Minn. R. 7850.5000 and Section 11 of the Route Permit?

No. The project does not have sufficient land to build the HVTL as approved.

Has Freeborn Wind Energy LLC (Freeborn Wind) provided the name and description of the entity to whom the permit is to be transferred, the reasons for the transfer, a description of the facilities affected, and the requested date of the transfer?

It has not provided a complete description of the facilities affected. The map supplied to residents in the June 2019 mailing is incomplete, document 20195-153294-01.

The map is missing several homes, including but not limited to one in Section 30 of London township-11456 850th Ave Glenville, one in Section 25 of ShellRock township-11133 850th Ave Glenville, and one in Section 35 of ShellRock township. These were located in a two minute search of the map for homes near my house!

Sean Gaston submitted a letter to the docket on June 13, 2019 indicating his home was missing from the map, document 20196-153562-01.

Kathy Nelson submitted documents 20177-133568-01 and 20177-133568-02 regarding numerous homes in the project area that are not on the maps.

Xcel has indicated they plan to 'upgrade' 32 turbines in the project. Everyone of these homes could be impacted by that change. The Gaston home has a high concentration of turbines near it, one has to wonder if their home was ever recognized.

All of these homes need to be verified and added to the maps to be included in modeling, prior to transfer of the permit.

Is there sufficient information in the record to determine that the new permittee can comply with the conditions of the permits?

Site permit Section 11.1 states the project will identify all surety and financial securities established for decommissioning and site restoration at least 60 days prior to the pre-operational meeting.

The permit was issued in error without any decommissioning information. The method of decommissioning surety and financial securities needs to be confirmed by the PUC prior to the transfer of the permit and certainly before the building of the project, in compliance with 7854.0500, Subp 13.

Invenergy sent a letter and map in June 2019 to residents of Freeborn county. The map is missing several homes, including but not limited to one in Section 30 of London township-11456 850th Ave Glenville, one in Section 25 of ShellRock township-11133 850th Ave Glenville, and one in Section 35 of ShellRock township. These were located in a two minute search of the map for homes near my house!

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Xcel has indicated they plan to 'upgrade' 32 turbines in the project. Every home in the project could be impacted by that change. The Gaston home has a high concentration of turbines near it, one has to wonder if their home was ever recognized. See the attached email from XCEL.

All of these homes need to be verified and added to the maps to be included in modeling, prior to transfer of the permit.

In both 17-410 and 17-322 there remain gaps in the transmission and collection lines where the project has not had voluntary easements signed. Commissioner Tuma stated, "if they don't have the land, they can't build."

Why is the PUC even considering transfer of a permit that cannot build? The project stated numerous times, including at PUC meetings, that they would not use eminent domain.

It has also come to my attention that the project has terminated at least 34 easements. I have attached a copy of a letter and the envelope that it came in that was given me by a terminated easement holder. The letter was not sent via certified mail as the letter states and these terminations could affect the project and needs to be addressed prior to transfer of the permit.

I ask that the Commission not decide on acquisition until after Xcel files Petition for Amendment of Site Permit because I have knowledge that the project has changed significantly.

As I try to answer these questions, I am struck by the fact that a project such as this would change the place I call home forever, along with hundreds of other non-participants. There are many highly educated persons in the footprint including those with PhDs, master degrees,

bachelor degrees, skilled trade workers, and many other honorable professionals; yet we don't have a single lawyer living among us.

Our concerns in the past have at times, many times, fallen on deaf ears. A prime example of that is decommissioning. This was raised as a concern many times and yet the permit was issued without decommissioning rules being followed and then the PUC admits they missed it. The citizens didn't. Please take my comments seriously even when I don't know which particular law to reference.

Dorenne Hansen
dhansen078@gmail.com

Freeborn Wind Farm Update

1 message

Duncan, Trisha A <Trisha.A.Duncan@xcelenergy.com>

Wed, Jun 19, 2019 at 1:12 PM

To: "

Hi

As you may or may not have heard, Xcel Energy purchased the Freeborn Wind Farm project last Friday, June 14th. We are excited to take ownership on the project and we look forward to working with everyone going forward. Having said that, we would like to communicate more detail with all of you on a proposed amendment we will be filing with the PUC to the site permit. To increase the project's energy output and efficiency, we will be proposing to upgrade 32 turbines to the a Vesta120 model. Aside from minor changes to the project layout, there will be minimal effects to landowners.

My question to you is, how would you like this communication to occur to the entire Township board? We are happy to come and present at an upcoming meeting, provide a detailed memo, or other options we can discuss. However you think is best to communicate this, we are happy to abide by . We are planning to communicate this with as many local government in the project area ahead of the filing as much possible, and would like to do this within the next couple weeks.

Let me know what you think and how you would like to proceed, if at all possible yet today.

Thanks so much.

Trisha

Trisha A. Duncan
Xcel Energy | Responsible By Nature
Manager, Community Relations and Economic Development
210 Lime Street, Mankato, MN 56001
P: 507.387.9633 C: 612.227.8880 F: 612.329.2912
E: trisha.a.duncan@xcelenergy.com

XcelEnergy.com Facebook.com/XcelEnergy Twitter.com/XcelEnergy

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

June 11, 2019

Via Certified Mail

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Glenville, Minnesota 56036

RE: Agreement Regarding Easements dated July 11, 2015 by and between Invenergy Wind Development LLC and [REDACTED] ("Agreement")

Dear [REDACTED]

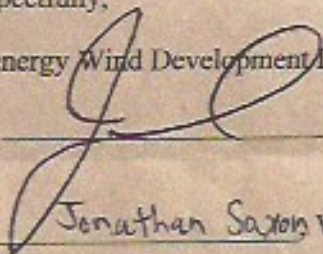
This letter is to notify you that we are hereby electing to terminate the Agreement pursuant to our rights in Section 10(a) contained therein. Such termination shall be effective (30) thirty days from the date of this letter.

We thank you for the opportunity to do business with us and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Respectfully,

Invenergy Wind Development LLC

By: _____


Jonathan Saxon, Vice President

invenergy

One South Wacker Drive
Suite 1800
Chicago, IL 60606

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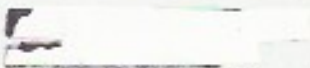
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Glenview, Minnesota, 56016

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