



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
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August 5, 2016

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

RE: In the Matter of Black Oak Wind, LLC and Getty Wind, LLC Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permits in Stearns County, Minnesota

PUC Docket Numbers: IP6866/WS-11-831, IP6853/WS-10-1240, and IP6686, 6853/CN-11-471

Dear Ms. DeBleeckere:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Petition for Site Permit Transfer for the Black Oak Wind and Getty Wind Projects. We are commenting on relevant project-related issues or concerns.

The DNR has worked with Sempra U.S. Gas and Power to develop the Avian and Bat Post Construction Monitoring Plan Survey Design. The company has incorporated the DNR's suggested comments on the draft survey design and posted it to eDockets on July 14, 2016.

The DNR has updated information about the evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*). The presence of this species was recently confirmed at a site in Ramsey County, Minnesota. In 2012, evening bats were identified during the acoustic surveys required by the PUC for the Getty Black Oak/Getty Wind project sites. At that time, the DNR did not have evidence confirming the presence of evening bats in Minnesota. The confirmed presence of this species and the potential for it to occur within the project area is of interest to the DNR. However, we are not proposing any changes be made to the Avian Bat Protection Plan.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Warzecha  
Senior Planner  
Environmental Review Unit  
651-259-5078

cc: Suzanne Steinhauer, Department of Commerce  
Sean Wazlaw, Sempra U.S. Gas & Power

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