

ISSUED: MAY 30, 2018

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

In the Matter of the Certificate of Need Application for the Nobles 2 Wind Project

PUC Docket Number: IP6964/CN-16-289

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis staff has completed an Environmental Report (ER) for the proposed project. The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project.

The ER, and all material constituting the official record for the certificate of need, can be found on the eDockets system at: <u>https://www.eDockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp</u>; search on the year "**16**" and number "**289.**"

Electronic versions of the ER and selected other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing on the Department's energy facility permitting website:

https://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/resource.html?Id=34736

Project Description. On October 13, 2017, Nobles 2 Power Partners, LLC (Nobles 2) submitted applications to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to construct and operate a large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) in Nobles County. In order to construct the Nobles 2 Wind Project, the applicant must be granted a certificate of need and a site permit from the Commission.

The proposed project would entail construction of between 65 to 82 wind turbines for a combined nameplate capacity of up to 260 megawatts (MW) in Bloom, Larkin, Leota, Lismore, Summit Lake, and Wilmont townships in Nobles County. Facilities associated with the project include underground electrical collection and communication lines, a project substation and interconnection switchyard, an operations and maintenance building, and permanent meteorological towers and gravel access roads.

Project Contacts: If you have questions or would like further information about this project, please contact the following.

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Jamie MacAlister: Jamie.MacAlister@state.mn.us, 651-539-1775 or 1-800-657-3794 David Birkholz: David.Birkholz@state.mn.us, 651-539-1838

Public Utilities Commission

Charley Bruce, Public Advisor: Charley.Bruce@state.mn.us, 651-201-2251

Michael Kaluzniak, Energy Facilities Planner: Michael.Kaluzniak@state.mn.us, 651-201-2257

Nobles 2 Power Partners, LLC Project Contact

Scott Seier: SSeier@tenaska.com, 402-691-9510

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may reach the Department through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Department of Commerce Notice of Availability of Environmental Report

Docket No. IP6964/CN-16-289

Dated this **31**st day of **May 2018**

/s/Sharon Ferguson

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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.st ate.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1800 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-289_CC Service List
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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.st ate.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1800 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_17-597_Official cc Service List
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Debra	Moynihan	debra.moynihan@state.mn. us	MN Department of Transportation	395 John Ireland Blvd MS 620 St. Paul, MN 55155-1899	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_17-597_EQB Tech Reps

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