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**MN Docket 17-410**  
**July 13, 2020**

**e-Docket Filing Numbers 20206-163788-01, 20206-163782-01,  
20206-163782-02, and 20206-163929-01**

**What action(s) should the Commission take in response to the June 8, 2020  
requests to amend the Site Permit for the Freeborn Wind Project?**

**In answer:**

**The Developer must re-site or remove a limited number of turbines into a  
configuration that will prevent adjacent landowners from receiving more  
than 30 hours of non-discounted shadow flicker on their property per the  
Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance.**

I read the letter from Xcel this past Friday stating that :

“.....Moving these 17 turbines to Iowa (and removing them from the Site Plan)  
will have no impact on the rest of the permitted project.....” and that there was  
obstructive behavior .....”obstructive behavior from London and Oakland  
townships.....”.

The London and Oakland township deciding to use the ordinance of their  
townships is not obstructive. It's good government. These individuals were  
elected to protect their citizens and the township property.

I'd like to address obstructive behavior by the project. There have been lies  
told by the land agents to get non-participants to sign easements (admitted to  
by Invenergy and agent fired but no easement nullified), land agent that  
requested a person falsify a signature and then falsified a notary stamp (he was  
fined by the state of MN and lost MN notary stamp), agents without permission  
on non-participants land, comments by those working for the project that they  
will “work with” the participants and non-participants, claims of gatherings for all  
who live in the footprint, bullying at the Shellrock township meetings, I could go

on. The obstruction has not been on the part of the townships as the project alleges.

I agree wholeheartedly that the turbines in these requests should be removed. As Xcel further states in the July 10, 2020 letter, .....”and it moves turbines from a community that was antagonistic to the project to one that is receptive to the project. For all these reasons, we ultimately determined this shift was in the best interest of all parties.” I do not agree that the people in this footprint have been antagonistic nor have the townships been antagonistic but I agree 100% that Xcel move these 17 turbines to Iowa!

A petition with nearly 80% of the residents in the footprint opposed to the project. This was filed at the public hearing in September 2017 and a map was filed by Mike Hansen in October 2017 (document 20170-136288-01 and 02). It's not new news that this project is not supported in the Minnesota portion.

It is great that the permit supports the Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance but it should be noted and enforced that Freeborn county sees 30 hours of shadow flicker is 30 hours of shadow flicker. No where in the ordinance does it say anything about making reductions in the flicker time for unknown and potential reasons. This is why the turbines need to be sited for a straight up 30 hours or less.

Shadow flicker exceedences cannot be determined by a review after the fact. Mitigation at this time is to move the turbines before the offense takes place. Other projects such as factories must plan for the worst and build accordingly. This project should be no different.

**The Developer must re-site or remove a limited number of turbines into a configuration that will prevent adjacent landowners from receiving more than 30 hours of non-discounted shadow flicker on their property per the Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance.**

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July 15, 2020  
MN Docket 17-410

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20206-163782-02, and 20206-163929-01

What action(s) should the Commission take in response to the June 8, 2020 requests to amend the Site Permit for the Freeborn Wind Project?

In answer:

The Developer must re-site or remove a limited number of turbines into a configuration that will prevent adjacent landowners from receiving more than 30 hours of non-discounted shadow flicker on their property per the Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance.

It is clear that it was not the intent of the Freeborn county commissioners that the shadow flicker should be discounted. 30 hours is 30 hours, not 60 or 200 hours that can be discounted or changed to 30 hours. Reductions of 60-70+% is not part of the ordinance.

Freeborn County Ordinance, Chapter 26, Section 56

Invenenergy's Dan Litchfield stated "they" wanted to work with "us" the non-participants. On June 14, 2017 there were several meeting with Dan L, Michael, and non-participants at the Invenenergy office, at a private residence, and at a second private residence. These meetings included each of the persons who have filed a request for a special amendment under the 13.0 Special Conditions. I also attended one of these meetings. Dan L stated the project wanted to work with us. The next day the permit application was filed without any changes. Xcel came to a Shellrock township meeting in the fall of 2019. The meeting started with several area residents in attendance to hear the latest from Xcel. The Xcel rep, Tricia, started the meeting by turning her back to the audience and beginning to speak. When someone said, "we can't hear", she replied, "I'm not here to speak to you." The chair asked her to turn so we could hear. Other reps later in the presentation, stated, "we will work with you". Not a single turbine has been moved due to a non-participant's input. Thus far "work with us" is the project telling us what they are going to do and that

we, the non-participants, need to accept it. This amendment request is that opportunity to “work with us”.

There are three turbines remaining in London township, according to Xcel’s letter of July 10, 2020. Removing these along with the 13 other London (and the 4 Oakland) township turbines would alleviate any shadow flicker issues for two of the above homes (receptors). What needs to be done to assure the project will not put these turbines back into the project in a year or later? This amendment is needed, especially for the non-participants.

The Nelson and Severtson shadow flicker will be alleviated by the removal of the 13 turbines in London township. The Gaston request will not be addressed with removal of the turbines referred to in the Xcel letter, (document 20207-174813-01).

“....Based upon the developers projected “conservative estimate”, my family and I are projected to receive around 63.15 hours of shadow flicker (3,811 minutes) or 2.1 times the limit established by Freeborn County Ordinance 26-56. The “Real Case” estimate reduces that total by a staggering 61.8% (1.456 minutes) based upon a modification of modeling parameters. A change of this magnitude should produce serious questions about the validity of the modifications made by the developer...” (Sean Gaston document 20206-163782-01 and 02)

Xcel has made numerous changes to the application, changing the size of the turbines, moving the turbines-one moving north and east approximately 4/10th of a mile, and the removal of turbines. Removing the remaining turbines in London township would show a great deal of good faith for the project.

The removal of the 17 turbines, as indicated in the Xcel letter of July 10, 2020, (document #20207-164813-01), shows that removing turbines is not an engineering feat of astronomical proportions as the project would like the PUC to believe.

The amendment increasing the size of turbines and moving them accordingly, in Xcel’s amendment, (document #20198-155331-01 to 04), also shows that when the project wishes to move or remove a turbine, the project can make those changes.

When consulting the maps provided by Xcel and Wanzek, it appears that the turbines shadowing the Gaston home are on a collection line by themselves, then connecting with lines to the west, this makes it even easier to remove them.

As I was preparing this letter I received a subscription notice for ‘Briefing Papers’. Commissioner Tuma is proposing, with very little notice before

the meeting of July 16, a change for the project. This item is not on the agenda and doesn't have thing to do with Sue Madson's daycare.

Since when does a PUC commissioner request for a project something that the project itself has stated they have no interest in pursuing???!!!

Excel has submitted a letter (document 20207-174813-01) that they are moving 17 turbines into Iowa, "...and it moves turbines from a community that was antagonistic to the project to one that is receptive to the project". The AFCL, those who live in the footprint and oppose the project, have been anything but antagonistic. Is that what we now call people and local governments who protect their citizens?

We have followed the rules, we have participated whenever possible, attended meetings, and would expect the PUC and the project to do the same.

The Developer must re-site or remove a limited number of turbines into a configuration that will prevent adjacent landowners from receiving more than 30 hours of non-discounted shadow flicker on their property per the Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance.

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What action(s) should the Commission take in response to the June 8, 2020 requests to amend the Site Permit for the Freeborn Wind Project?

The developer **MUST** remove or re-site turbines that are receiving more than 30 hours of non-discounted shadow flicker on their property (per the Freeborn county shadow flicker ordinance). Xcel increased the size of the turbines and moved them accordingly when it was good for them, so that shows that they **CAN** move turbines; **MAKE THE CORRECT ADJUSTMENTS NOW!**

Xcel cannot comply with Minnesota Laws, Freeborn county laws, and several ordinances across the state, take the rest of the turbines to Iowa now!

And it seems from reading Xcel's comments that it is going to cost too much money, have/need too much man power, and take too much additional time to construct this project; **THEY SHOULD REMOVE ALL EXISTING TURBINES IN MINNESOTA AND MOVE THEM TO IOWA!**

Thank you,  
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