

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: July 2, 2021

In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy for an Amendment to the Site Permit for the Grand Meadow Wind Farm Repower Project in Mower County.

PUC Docket Number: IP6646/WS-07-839

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold public meetings and provide a written comment period on the site permit amendment application of Xcel Energy (Xcel) for their proposed modifications to the Grand Meadow Wind Farm in Mower County. Xcel filed a Site Permit Amendment Application with the Commission on May 27, 2021 requesting to repower the project's 67 turbines and increase the energy production of the facility, improve overall reliability, and extend the service life of the turbines. Xcel proposes to retrofit the existing wind farm by installing new, larger rotors and replacing components within the wind turbine nacelles. Upon repowering, the energy capacity of each turbine would increase from 1.5 MW to 1.6 MW resulting in a total increase of the project's total nameplate capacity from 100.5 MW to approximately 107.2 MW. The turbine replacements would increase the turbine diameter from 253 feet to 318 feet on 52 of the turbines, and to 299 feet on the remaining 15 turbines.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information about the proposed project, discuss the state's review process, and to accept verbal or written comments. Representatives from the Commission, the Department of Commerce staff and Xcel will be available at the meeting to answer questions.

In-Person Meeting

Date: Monday, July 19, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Dexter Community Building
107 Main Street South, Dexter, MN 55926
Link to Google Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/z1Pg1qKV91vTG7yh8>

To find out if a meeting is canceled due to bad weather or other call 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Remote-Access Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM

Telephone: 1-866-609-6127
Conference ID: 2412408

Internet (Video Only – No Audio): minnesota.webex.com
Event Number: 146 228 3950 Password: R9MyFWeTW53

- To listen to the public hearing and provide verbal comments, follow the directions below to access the hearing by telephone. You must join the hearing by telephone if you are interested in listening to the hearing.
- To view the speaker presentations, follow the directions above to access the hearing over the internet. You must join the hearing over the internet if you are interested in viewing the speaker presentations.
- If you wish to listen to the hearing while watching the presentations, you must join the hearing by both telephone and internet.
- Additional information and instructions are available at:
<https://mn.gov/puc/newsroom/webex/>

Written comments will be accepted through **Monday, August 3, 2021, by 4:30 p.m.** Please include the docket number in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following questions:

- What potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project should be considered in the draft site permit?
- What are the possible methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid potential impacts of the proposed project?
- Are there any unique characteristics of the proposed site or the project that should be considered?

Comments may be submitted via:

Online: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#comment>

Email: david.birkholz@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: David Birkholz
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
St. Paul, MN 55101

Important. Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

Additional Information

Filing Requirements. Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eDockets* and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record. See all documents filed in this matter via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *eDockets*, enter the year (07) and the docket number (839), and select *Search*.

Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to Dockets* and follow the prompts.

Project Mailing List. Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246 with the docket number (07-839), your name, mailing address, and email address.

Department of Commerce Website: Additional information on the project can be found at the following website: <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/289/>.

Site Permit Application. A printed copy of the site permit amendment application is available for viewing at [Grand Meadow Public Library, 125 Grand Ave East, Grand Meadow, MN 55936](#).

Project Contacts

Public Utilities Commission

Charley Bruce, Public Advisor, Charley.Bruce@state.mn.us or 651-201-2207

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

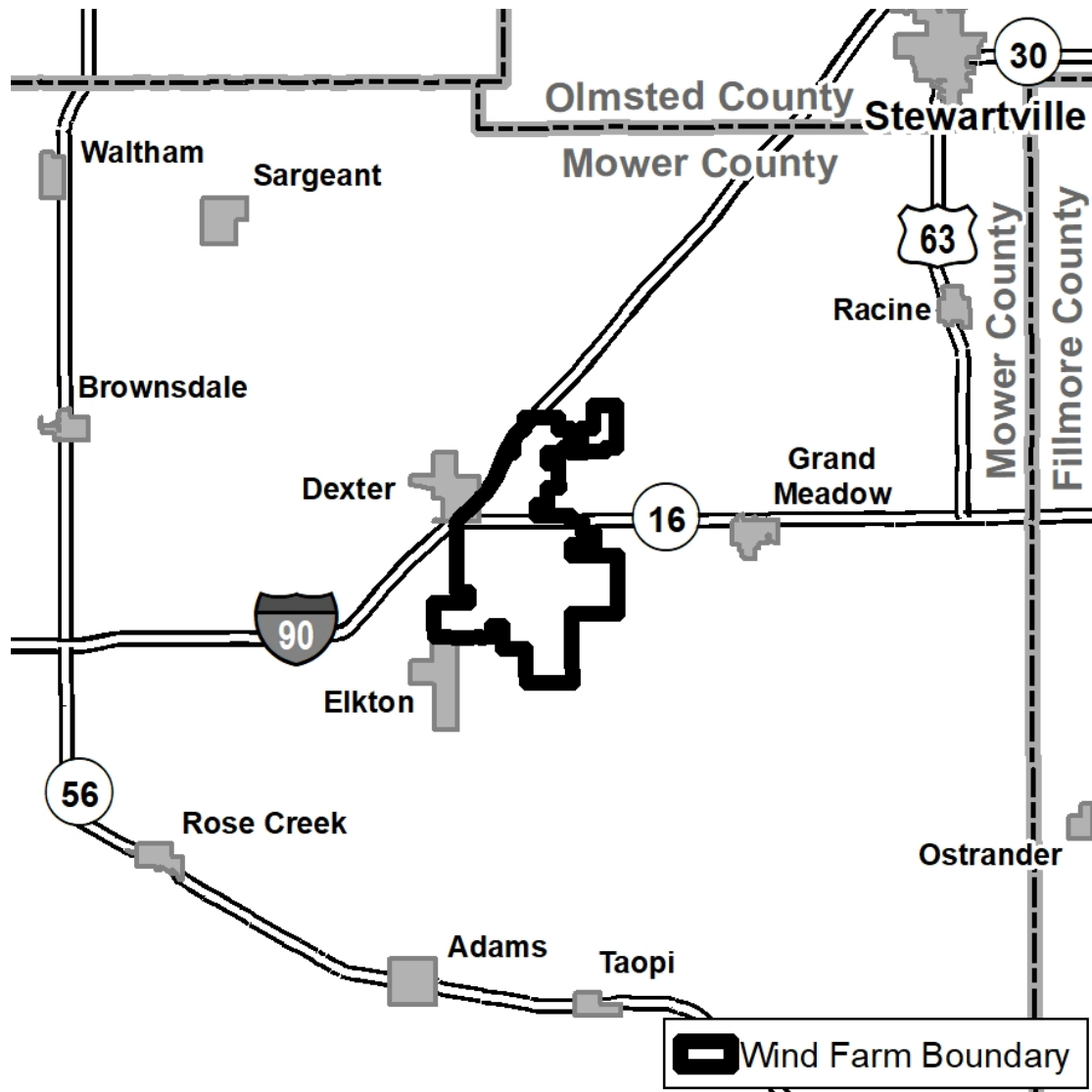
Department of Commerce

David Birkholz, Environmental Review Manager, David.Birkholz@state.mn.us or 651-539-1841

Xcel Energy

Matt Langan, Matthew.A.Langan@xcelenergy.com or 612-330-6954

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the hearings. To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.



GRAND MEADOW WIND FARM PROJECT AREA MAP