

PrairieWinds ND 1, Inc.

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February 19, 2008

Ms. Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco
Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard; Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 49-22 of the North Dakota Century Code and implementing rules, PrairieWinds ND 1, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Basin Electric Power Cooperative (**Basin Electric**), hereby notifies you of its intent to construct a 115.5 megawatt (MW) wind project in north central North Dakota.

1. Description of Size and Type of Facility and the Area to be Served

PrairieWinds ND 1, Inc. is proposing to construct a new 115.5 MW wind project in north-central North Dakota named the PrairieWinds Project (**Project**). The Project would include seventy-seven (77) wind turbine generators and a connecting 115 kV transmission line. The wind resource assessment study conducted in the area projects a net capacity factor in the upper thirty percentage range. Power from the Project would be supplied to Basin Electric's members through an interconnection with Western Area Power Administration's (**Western**) transmission system. Western is a federal power marketing agency with the U.S. Department of Energy (**DOE**).

2. A Map of the Study Area for the Proposed Site or Corridor

A map of the area being studied for location of the site for the proposed Project is enclosed.

3. The Anticipated Construction and Operation Schedule

Construction on the Project would begin as soon as necessary approvals are obtained. Under schedules giving consideration to state and federal regulation, that construction will begin in April, 2009, with the Project being placed into operation in January 2010.

4. An Estimate of the Total Cost of Construction

To date, PrairieWinds ND1 has not developed a definitive cost estimate for the PrairieWinds ND Project, but preliminary figures indicate the cost of the Project would be approximately \$240,000,000.00.

5. Additional Information

Basin Electric is a consumer-owned, regional cooperative headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota which services 120 member rural electric systems in nine states: Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. These member systems, in turn, distribute electricity to more than 2.5 million customers.

Basin Electric has established the need for additional renewable energy capacity to service forecasted member load growth demands and meet state-mandated Renewable Portfolio Objectives/Standards.

In 2007, the North Dakota Legislature established a state renewable and recycled energy objective that ten percent of all electricity sold at retail within the state by the year 2015 be obtained from renewable energy and recycled energy sources.

Basin Electric hereby requests the Commission shorten the one-year waiting period between filing a Letter of Intent and the filing of an Application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility as provided at Section 69-06-03-01 N.D.A.C.

We will be prepared to file the Application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility by September, 2008.

We would appreciate any assistance the Public Service Commission can provide to expedite the permitting process.

Sincerely,



Ronald R. Harper
CEO & General Manager

rrh/df/mw
Enclosures