

**BASIN ELECTRIC  
POWER COOPERATIVE**

1717 EAST INTERSTATE AVENUE  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58503  
PHONE: 701-223-0441 FAX: 701-557-5336



September 30, 2013

Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Re: PSC Case No. PU-08-75  
Tree/Shrub Replacement Report for ND  
Basin Electric Power Cooperative – PrairieWinds ND1

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) constructed the PrairieWinds ND1 wind energy facility (Project) in Ward County, North Dakota. Basin Electric submitted a tree and shrub replacement plan for the Project that was subsequently approved by the ND PSC.

At a replacement ratio of 2:1, approximately 2,668 trees and shrubs were required for replanting. Two large NRCS plantings were completed in 2012, totaling approximately 2,343 trees and shrubs. In 2013, the NRCS completed an additional planting totaling approximately 469 trees and shrubs. Basin Electric staff also completed two plantings in 2013 totaling 112 trees. In total, approximately 2,924 trees and shrubs have been planted on behalf of the Project, which amounts to about 10 percent more than the minimum required.

Basin Electric Environmental Services personnel inspected the plantings during late summer 2013, and estimated the overall survival rate to be approximately 84%. Factoring in the approximate 10 percent additional number of trees and shrubs planted on behalf of the Project, the survival rate (based on a requirement for 2,668 trees and shrubs) is greater than 90 percent. Favorable conditions (abundant moisture) during the 2013 growing season undoubtedly enhanced the survival rate of the plantings.

Please contact me at 701.557.5495 or [ksolie@becpc.com](mailto:ksolie@becpc.com) if you have any questions regarding this submittal.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Solie  
Senior Water Quality/Waste Management Coordinator

ksl/ds

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**Tree and shrub replacement report update**