

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Allete, Inc.
Bison 1 Wind Project – Oliver / Morton Counties
Siting Application

Case No. PU-09-151

NOTICE OF INFORMAL HEARING AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

November 12, 2010

On September 29, 2009, Certificate of Site Compatibility for Energy Conversion Facility No. 15 was issued to Minnesota Power, an operating division of Allete, Inc., (Allete) authorizing construction of a 75.9 MW Bison 1 Wind Project consisting of up to thirty three 2.3 MW wind turbine generators and associated facilities to be constructed in two phases in Morton and Oliver Counties of North Dakota. On November 8, 2010, Allete filed a request to modify the Certificate to move one wind turbine generator approximately 215 feet; and for authority to utilize Siemens direct drive turbine technology with 3.0 MW wind turbine generators and a resulting increase in overall total generating capacity to 81.8 MW and a decrease by two in the total number of turbines to 31.

The issues to be considered in this matter are:

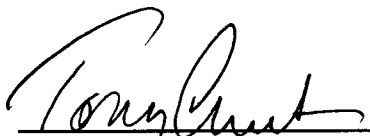
1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the modified facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the modified facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the modified facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

Those interested are invited to comment on the permit modification request in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearing must be received by **December 13, 2010**. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

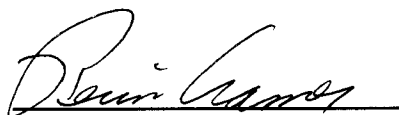
An informal hearing of this matter is scheduled to begin on **December 8, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. CST** in the Commission Hearing Room on the 12th floor of the State Capitol. At the informal hearing, the Commission will discuss this matter with the parties and interested members of the public.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota, 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify the Commission.

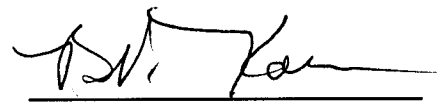
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Tony Clark
Commissioner



Kevin Cramer
Chairman



Brian P. Kalk
Commissioner

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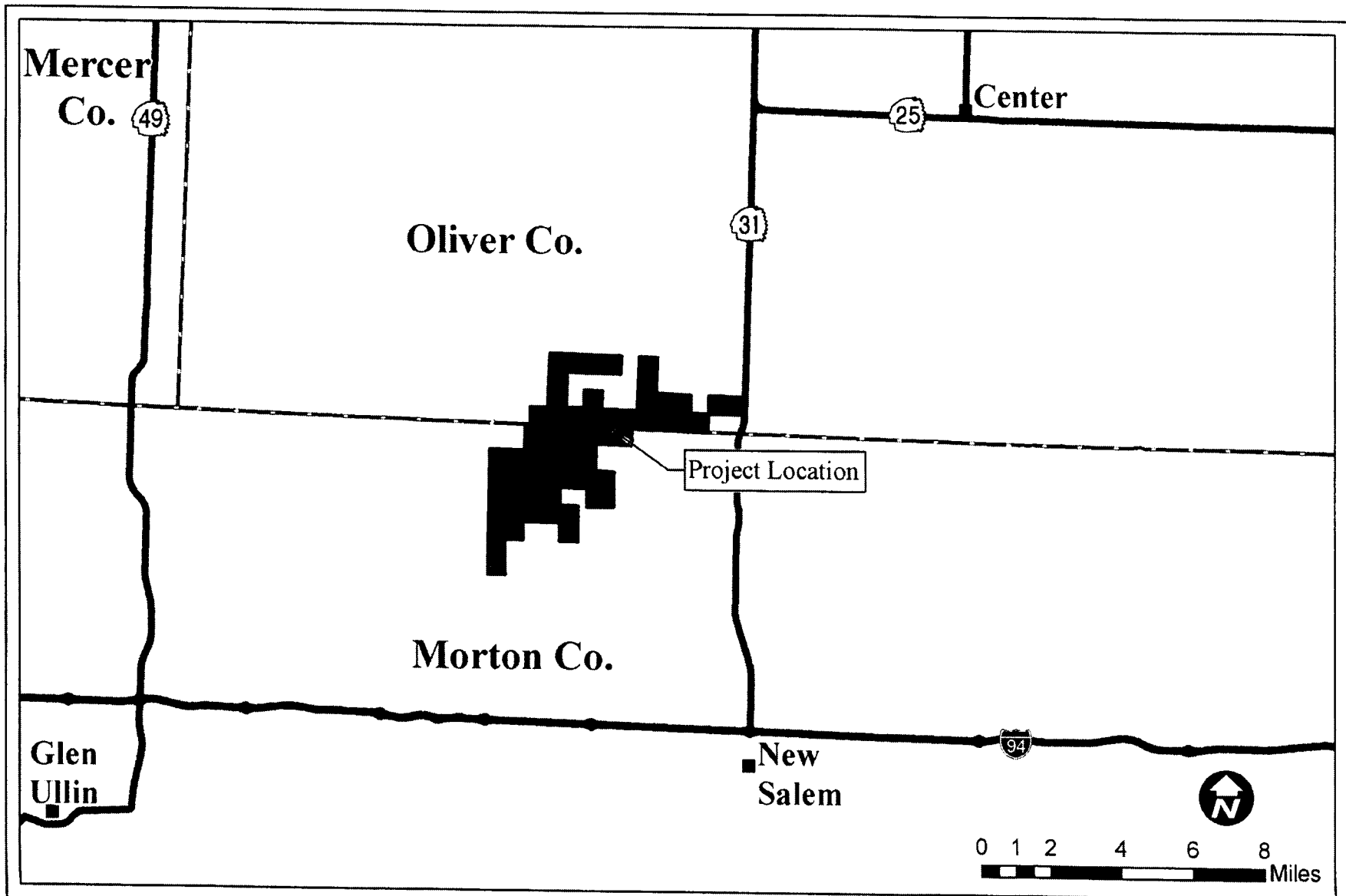


Figure 1: Project Location
Bison I Wind Project
Minnesota Power
Morton & Oliver Counties, ND