

Memorandum

To: Commissioners Julie Fedorchak, Randy Christmann, and Sheri Haugen-Hoffart

From: Adam Renfandt

Date: February 28, 2022

Subject: Revised Decommissioning Plan and Cost Estimate for Tatanka Wind Power, LLC (Case No. PU-10-73)

On December 29, 2021, the Commission approved a revised decommissioning plan and cost estimate for Tatanka Wind Power, LLC (Tatanka). Tatanka consists of 61 1.5 MW turbines in North Dakota with a nameplate capacity of 91.5 MWs. The approved decommissioning plan relies on the “felling” approach to decommissioning with a cost estimate of \$9,478,100, or approximately \$155,000 per turbine (without subtracting salvage proceeds).

On February 28, 2022, Tatanka filed its proposal to issue a surety bond with the Commission for the full amount of the cost estimate. They propose to issue the bond using Euler Hermes North America Insurance Company as the surety, which is wholly owned by Allianz, and has an AA credit rating by S&P Global Ratings. The term of the bond is 18 years, thereby implying a facility useful life of approximately 30 years with the bond outstanding for an additional 2 years to complete decommissioning.

Staff has reviewed Tatanka’s proposal and recommends that the Commission approve Tatanka’s February 28, 2022 surety bond proposal.