



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
NORTH DAKOTA REGULATORY OFFICE
 1513 SOUTH 12TH STREET
 BISMARCK ND 58504-6640

North Dakota Regulatory Office

[NWO-2010-1163-BIS]

HDR Engineering, Inc.
 ATTN: Ms. Kelly Garvey
 701 Xenia Avenue South
 Minneapolis, MN 55416-3636

Dear Ms. Garvey:

We have reviewed your request, on behalf of Montana-Dakota Utilities, Co., requesting an approved jurisdictional determination (JD) for two wetland areas associated with the Merricourt Wind Farm to Ellendale 230 kV Transmission Line - Merricourt Interconnection Substation. The project is located in Section 3, Township 130 North, Range 67 West, McIntosh County, North Dakota.

An approved JD was completed for these two wetlands on January 31, 2011 and they were determined to be isolated waters, not subject to jurisdiction by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The JD is available on the website <https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-rnd/ndhome.htm>. If you are not in agreement with the JD, you may request an administrative appeal under Corps of Engineers regulations found at 33 CFR 331. The Request for Appeal must be received within 60 days from the date of this correspondence. If you would like more information on the jurisdictional appeal process, contact this office. **It is not necessary to submit a Request for Appeal if you do not object to the JD.** The JD will be valid for a period of five (5) years.

The Omaha District, North Dakota Regulatory Office is committed to providing quality and timely service to our customers. In an effort to improve customer service, please take a moment to complete our Customer Service Survey found on our website at <http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html>. If you do not have internet access, you may call and request a paper copy of the survey that you can complete and return to us by mail or fax.

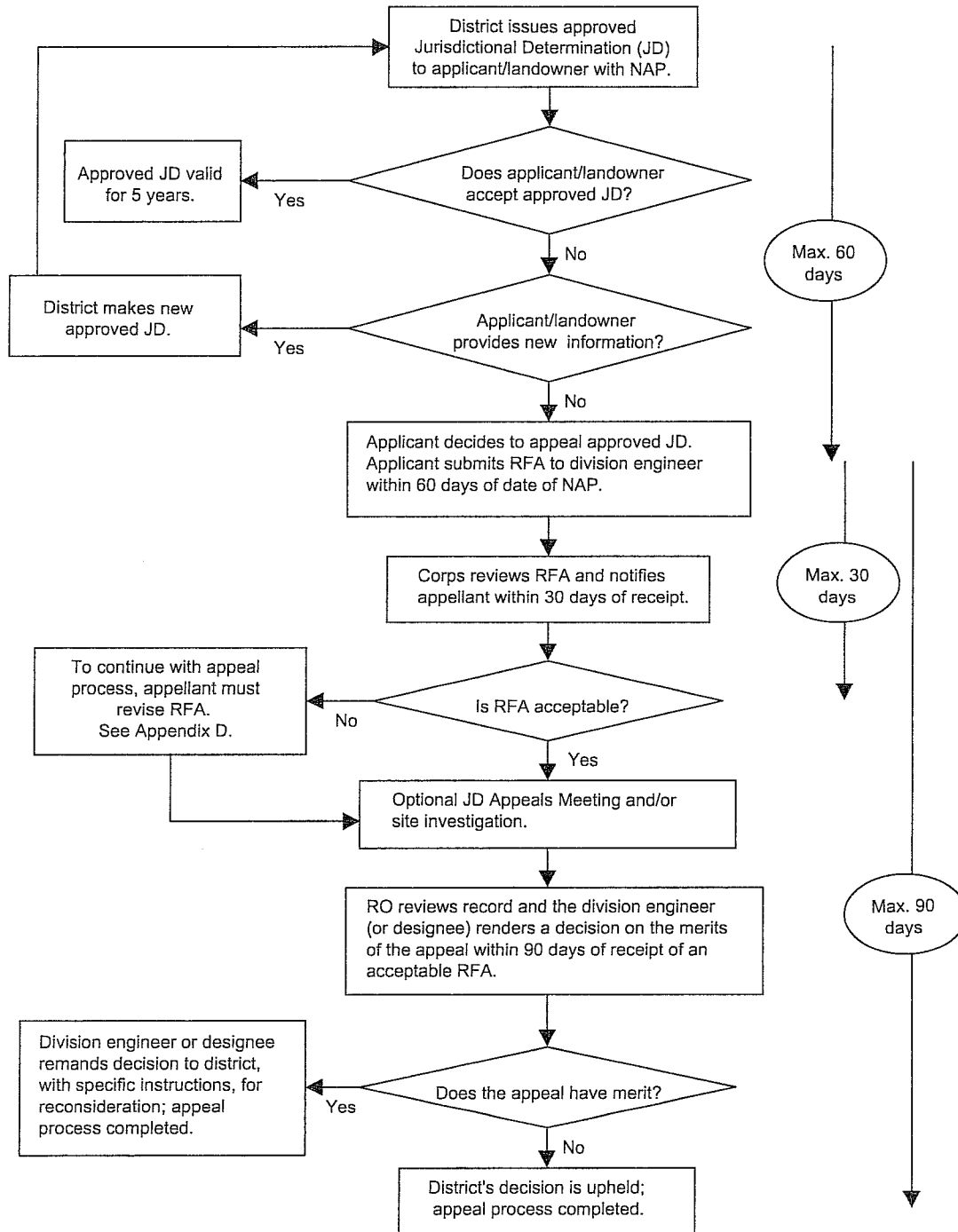
Should you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Ms. Patsy Crooke of this office by letter or telephone (701) 255-0015 and reference project number NWO-2010-1163-BIS.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Cimarosti
 Regulatory Program Manager
 North Dakota

Enclosure

Administrative Appeal Process for Approved Jurisdictional Determinations



NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applicant: Montana-Dakota Utilities/HDR, Inc.	File Number: NWO-2010-1163-BIS	Date: 28 Feb 2011
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Attached is:	See Section below
A. INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of Permission)	A
B. PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of Permission)	B
C. PERMIT DENIAL	C
XX D. APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	D
E. PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E

SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding a modification, reconsideration, or administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwo/reg> or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or request modification of the permit.

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the District Engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **REQUEST MODIFICATION:** If you object to the permit (LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the District Engineer. Your objections must be received by the District Engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. Upon receipt of your letter, the District Engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the District Engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.

B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit.

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the District Engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **APPEAL:** If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the Division Engineer (address on page 2). This form must be received by the Division Engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

C: PERMIT DENIAL: You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the Division Engineer (address on page 2). This form must be received by the Division Engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept the approved JD, appeal the approved JD, or submit new information and request reconsideration of the approved JD.

- **ACCEPT:** You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice, means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- **APPEAL:** If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the Division Engineer (address on page 2). This form must be received by the Division Engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- **RECONSIDERATION BASED ON NEW INFORMATION:** You may submit new information to the District Engineer for reconsideration of an approved JD. You must submit the information within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

SECTION II—Fill out this section and return this form to the appropriate office only if submitting a request for modification or reconsideration to the District Engineer, or if submitting a request for Administrative Appeal to the Division Engineer. All such submittals must be made within 60 days of the date of this notice.

Submit the following requests to the District Engineer

- A. Modification of an INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Item A).
- D. Reconsideration of an APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION based on NEW INFORMATION (Item D RECONSIDERATION).

Submit the following requests to the Division Engineer

- B. Administrative Appeal of a PROFFERED PERMIT (Item B).
- C. Administrative Appeal of a PERMIT DENIAL (Item C).
- D. Administrative Appeal of an APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (Item D APPEAL) (for reasons other than reconsideration of an approved JD based on new information).

(Note: Preliminary Jurisdictional Determinations (Item E) are not appealable. If you have concerns regarding a preliminary Jurisdictional Determination, you can request an approved Jurisdictional Determination).

REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)

SUBMITTAL OF NEW OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The District Engineer may accept and consider new information if you request a modification to an initial proffered permit (Part A), or a reconsideration of an approved JD (Part D). An administrative appeal to the Division Engineer is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the administrative record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision and/or the appeal process you may contact:
DISTRICT ENGINEER
Attn: Daniel E. Cimarosti
1513 South 12th Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58504
Telephone: (701) 255-0015

If you wish to submit an appeal or have questions regarding the appeal process you may contact:
US Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division
Attn: David Gesl, Appeal Review Officer
PO Box 2870
Portland, OR 97208-2870
Telephone: (503) 808-3825

(Use this address for submittals to the District Engineer)

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15 day notice of any site investigation, and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.

Date:

Telephone number:

Signature of appellant or agent.