

# Memorandum

To: Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart, and Fedorchak

From: Adam Renfandt 

Date: September 11, 2024

Subject: Cedar Hills Wind Project - Bowman County, ND, Decommissioning Plan and Cost, Case No. PU-10-491

On August 16, 2024, Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed an updated decommissioning plan, cost estimate, and self-guaranty with the Commission for its Cedar Hills wind facility.

The Cedar Hills wind facility has a nameplate capacity of 19.5 MWs and consists of 13 turbines. The updated decommissioning cost estimate excluding scrap value is \$4,097,329, or approximately \$315,179 per turbine, and the self-guaranty is for the full amount. The prior 2019 decommissioning estimate, excluding scrap value was \$3,368,341. The updated plan utilizes the same decommissioning technique whereby the turbines will be dismantled with a crane, the components downsized, and the scrap hauled to a disposal site.

Staff reviewed Cedar Wind's updated decommissioning plan and cost estimate and find them to be reasonable and consistent with the Commission's rules. Furthermore, MDU meets the Commission's criteria to provide a self-guaranty. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the decommissioning plan, cost estimate, and self-guaranty.