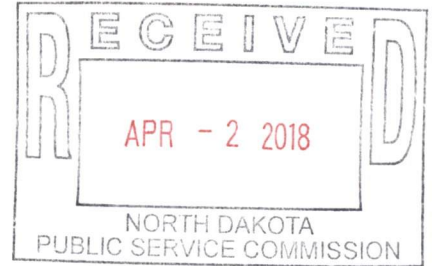


April 2, 2018

**VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



**RE: Meadowlark Wind I LLC's Application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility for the New Frontier Wind Energy Project in McHenry County, North Dakota Case No. PU-11-69**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On March 29, 2018, the Commission held an informal hearing in the above-referenced matter to discuss Meadowlark Wind I LLC's ("Meadowlark") planned access road construction methodology in relation to the topsoil segregation requirement in Certification Provision No. 15, attached to the Commission's May 10, 2017 Order of Continuing Suitability ("Order"). During the informal hearing, it was determined that a request for amendment of the Order is necessary to allow for the planned access road construction methodology. Therefore, in accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-22-08(4), Meadowlark respectfully requests that the Commission amend Certification Provision No. 15 of the Order as follows:

15. Company understands and agrees that topsoil, up to 12 inches, or topsoil to the depth of cultivation, whichever is greater, over and along trench areas, roadways, tower locations, and locations of associated facilities must be carefully stripped and segregated from the subsoil. However, with respect to access roads, Company may remove less than 12 inches of topsoil, or less than topsoil to the depth of cultivation, provided that any topsoil that is removed is segregated from the subsoil. Any area on which excavated subsoil will be placed must first be stripped of topsoil. The stripped topsoil must not be stockpiled in natural drainages, and must be protected from water erosion. Care must be taken to protect topsoil from unnecessary compaction by heavy machinery. Unless otherwise approved by the Commission, topsoil must be removed before topsoil freezes in the late fall/ early winter to the point that frost inhibits

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**Request to amend Certification Provision No. 15 of the Order**

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
April 2, 2018  
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proper soil segregation. After backfilling with subsoil is completed, any excess subsoil must be placed over the excavation area, blending the grade into existing topography. Topsoil must be replaced over areas from which it was stripped only after the subsoil is replaced.

Meadowlark requests that the Commission issue a notice of opportunity for hearing regarding the proposed Order amendment at its earliest opportunity.

During the informal hearing, the Commission also requested that the following information be provided as Late-Filed Exhibit No. 5:

1. Information regarding access road acreage per turbine for wind projects constructed by Blattner Energy;
2. Information regarding the estimated acres per turbine for wind projects constructed by Blattner Energy;
3. Information regarding the make-up of 6 percent cement subgrade stabilization used in proposed access road construction methodology; and
4. Information regarding pH/productivity of soils where cement subgrade stabilization has been used.

Meadowlark will provide the requested information under separate cover as soon as it is available.

An electronic copy of this letter was filed with the Commission today via e-mail, and 10 copies of this letter are enclosed. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/ms  
Enclosures

cc: Jerry Lein (via e-mail)  
Jack Schuh (via e-mail)  
Todd Hartleben (via e-mail)  
Chad Tucker (via e-mail)  
Bill Behling (via e-mail)  
Dan Moller (via e-mail)

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