

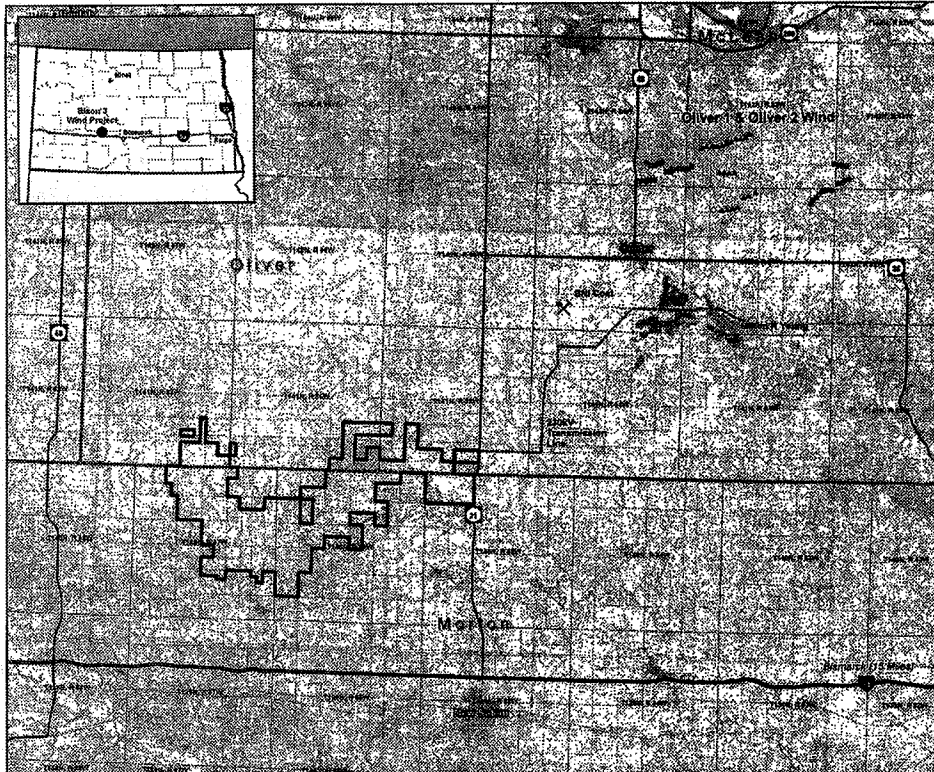
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**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ALLETE, Inc. Case No. PU-11-162
Bison 3 Wind Project – Oliver /
Morton Counties
Siting Application
NOTICE OF FILING AND NOTICE
OF HEARING
August 10, 2011**

On July 7, 2011, Minnesota Power, an operating division of ALLETE, Inc., (Allete) filed an application for a certificate of site compatibility to authorize construction of a 105 MW Bison 3 Wind Project consisting of 35 wind turbine generators and associated facilities in Morton and Oliver Counties, North Dakota, as shown on the

attached map. A Public Hearing on the application is scheduled to begin September 15, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. CDT, at the Oliver County Courthouse, 11 West Main, Center, North Dakota 58530. The issues to be considered are:
1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and envi-

ronmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?
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
Kevin Cramer, Commissioner
Tony Clark, Chairman
Brian P. Kalk, Commissioner



- ▲ Oliver 1 Wind Project Turbine Location
- Oliver 2 Wind Project Turbine Location
- ✕ BNI Coal Mine
- Milton R. Young Generation Station
- ~ 230kV Transmission Line
- ~ DC Transmission Line
- ~ Interstate Highway
- ~ State Highway
- ▭ Preliminary Bison 3 Project Boundary
- ▭ Municipality
- ▭ County Boundary

Data Source:
Project Boundary - Minnesota Power
Utilities - Minnesota Power
Roads, Administrative Boundaries - ND DOT
Topo Map - USGS DNR

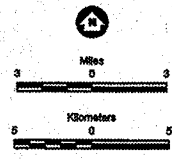


Exhibit 1
PROJECT OVERVIEW MAP
Bison 3 Wind Project
Minnesota Power
Morton & Oliver Counties, North Dakota

Game and Fish Starts Assessment of Missouri River Boat Ramps

As the Missouri River slowly recedes back to within its banks over the next few weeks, State Game and Fish Department biologists are anticipating that many boat ramps will require substantial work before they are useable again.

"We know that as the water goes down, people will be anxious to try to

Other ramps will likely require permits before needed construction can begin. "We're working with state and federal agencies to expedite the permits on those areas we believe we can make repairs rather quickly and provide boating access," Steinwand added.

If all goes well, Steinwand is hopeful Game and Fish can get a cou-

them back in operation. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has scheduled the Tailrace ramp to reopen on Aug. 18.

It will likely take another couple of weeks before the water goes down far enough so Game and Fish staff can assess all 12 public ramps rendered unusable on the Missouri River between Garrison Dam and Lake Oahe.