



Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC | 30 West Superior St. | Duluth, MN | 55802

May 4, 2015

North Dakota Public Service Commission

Attn: Mr. Jerry Lein

Public Utilities Division

600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept. 408

Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Subject: Thunder Spirit Wind Project
Wind Turbine Access Road Shifts
Case No. PU-11-601

Mr. Lein,



On October 9, 2013 the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a Certificate of Site Compatibility (Certificate) for the Thunder Spirit Wind Project (Project). The Certificate was subsequently amended on August 14, 2014. On November 20, 2015 ALLETE Clean Energy purchased Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC, the company that owns the the Project and will be continuing construction throughout 2015.

During Project engineering, some access road shifts were needed in order to accommodate landowner requests and improve the Project's constructability. As a result, ALLETE Clean Energy is requesting PSC approval for access road shifts associated with the project:

- Access road changes leading to turbines 7, 20, 28, 29, 30 and 32 are needed to minimize landowner impacts and place access roads along existing two track section line roads or adjacent to property boundaries and field lines.
- Access road changes leading to turbines 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 are due to optimizing constructability and minimizing the Project's environmental impact.
- Access road changes leading to turbines 21 & 22 are due to wetland avoidance and minimizing the amount of wetland fill required for the Project.

These access road shifts can be found on the attached Figure 1. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office concurrence of "No Effect" can be found in Attachment A of this letter.

If any additional information is required by the PSC for approval please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel McCourtney
ALLETE Clean Energy

DM:sr

cc. Wells McGiffert

Frank Fredrickson

David Moeller (electronically)

103 PU-11-601 Filed: 5/4/2015 Pages: 3
Request for access road shift

AN ALLET

Allete, Inc.

Daniel McCourtney

Thunder Spirit Wind Project Layout

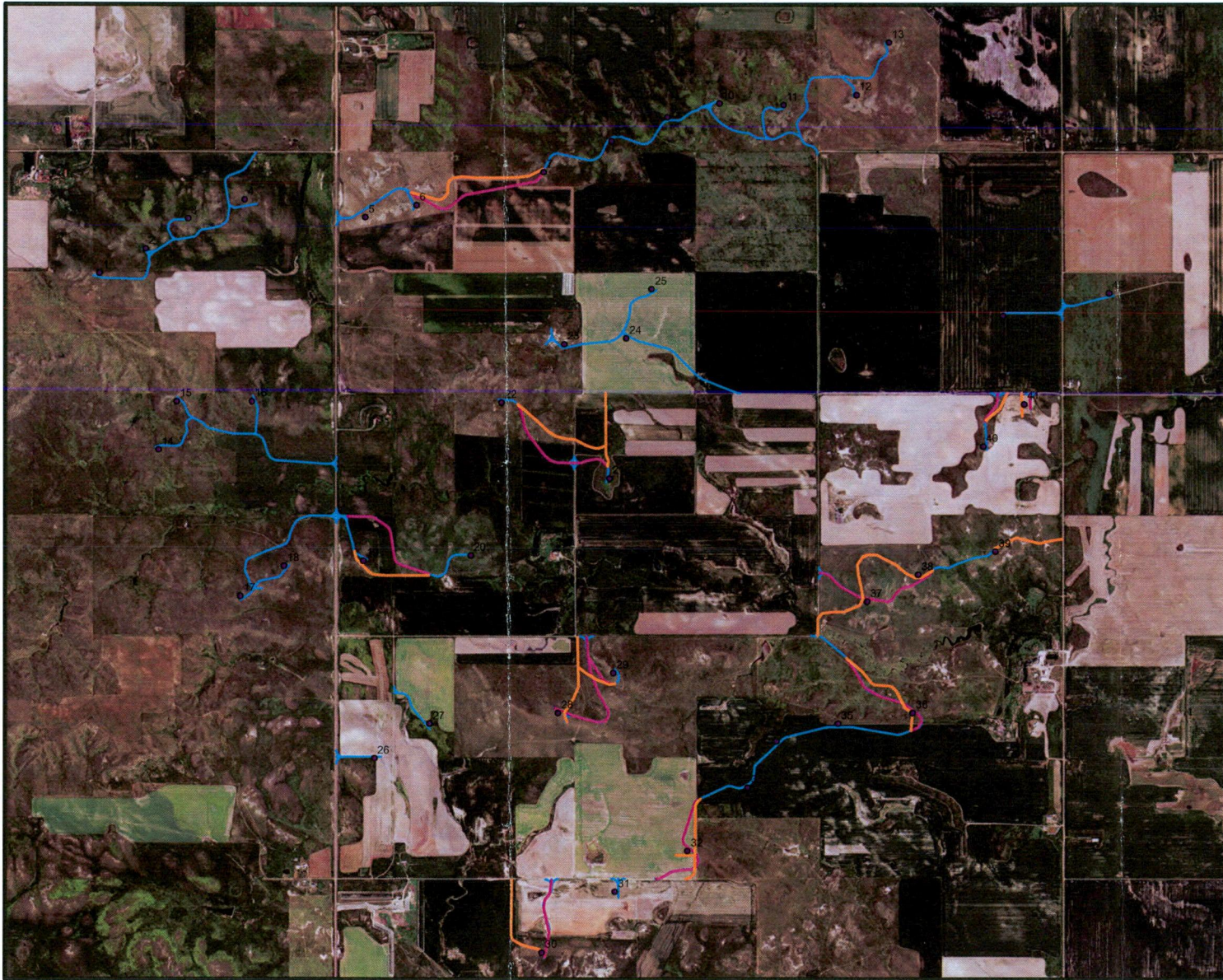


Figure 1

5/4/15

Legend

- Proposed Thunder Spirit access road changes
- Originally permitted access road that will not be built
- Originally permitted Thunder Spirit access roads to be built
- Thunder Spirit Turbine Locations



1.5 Miles





**STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**
OF NORTH DAKOTA

COPY

Attachment A

Jack Dalrymple
Governor of North Dakota

April 29, 2015

North Dakota
State Historical Board

Ms. Brittany Brooks
Beaver Creek Archaeology, Inc.
1632 Capital Way
Bismarck, ND 58501

Calvin Grinnell
New Town - President

A. Ruric Todd III
Jamestown - Vice President

NDSHPO REF: 11-1854E PSC Minnesota Power/ALLETE "Addendum to Thunder Spirit Wind Farm: A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory in Adams County, North Dakota"

Margaret Puetz
Bismarck - Secretary

Dear Ms. Brooks:

Albert I. Berger
Grand Forks

We reviewed NDSHPO REF: 11-1854E PSC Minnesota Power/ALLETE "Addendum to Thunder Spirit Wind Farm: A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory in Adams County, North Dakota," and find the report acceptable.

Gerold Gerntholz
Valley City

Diane K. Larson
Bismarck

We provisionally concur with a *"No Significant Sites Affected,"* and if consulted by a Federal Agency *"No Historic Properties Affected"* determinations on the findings and recommendations in this report and in the two previous reports, (MS #14326 and MS#15333), provided the proposed project is of the nature stated and it takes place in the locations described. The architectural documentation in "Thunder Spirit Wind Energy Center: Class I and Class II Architectural Reconnaissance Survey in Adams County, North Dakota," from July 2013 was sufficient, and review is complete to date. If you have questions please contact either Susan Quinnell at squinnell@nd.gov (701) 328-3576 or Paul Picha at ppicha@nd.gov (701) 328-3574.

Chester E Nelson, Jr.
Bismarck

Sara Otte Coleman
Director
Tourism Division

Kelly Schmidt
State Treasurer

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State

Sincerely,

Mark Zimmerman
Director
Parks and Recreation
Department

Claudia J. Berg
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)
and
Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota

Grant Levi
Director
Department of Transportation

Claudia J. Berg
Director

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11-1854