



David R. Moller

Senior Attorney

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June 12, 2015
VIA E-FILING

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

Re: ALLETE Clean Energy through Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC
Thunder Spirit Wind Project
Case No. PU-11-601

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On June 3, 2015 ALLETE Clean Energy submitted a filing (Attachment A) in regards to a repeater station potentially impacting an archaeological site.

Immediately upon notification, ALLETE Clean Energy marked off the site and discontinued construction activities in that area. ALLETE Clean Energy then dispatched an archeologist (Beaver Creek Archaeology) to review the site and make an evaluation of the impacts.

Upon field review of the site, Beaver Creek Archaeology did not believe the repeater station impacted the archaeology site and filed the corresponding report with the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Attachment B includes SHPO concurrence with Beaver Creek Archaeology's assessment that no significant sites were impacted.

ALLETE Clean Energy will continue avoidance of the site for the remainder of construction and archaeological monitor will be present when the repeater station is removed at construction completion.

Please contact Dan McCourtney at 218.355.3515 or dmccourtney@allete.com with any questions.

Yours truly,

David R. Moeller

DRM:sr

Attachments

c: Jerry Lien - North Dakota Public Service Commission (jlein@nd.gov)
Dan McCourtney
Wells McGiffert
Frank Frederickson
John Hollingsworth



David R. Moller

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June 3, 2015

VIA E-MAILED/MAILED

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

Re: ALLETE Clean Energy through Thunder Spirit
Wind, LLC Thunder Spirit Wind Project
Case No. PU-11-601

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On Saturday May 30, 2015 at approximately 2:00 p.m. the Thunder Spirit Wind Project site team identified that a repeater station was inadvertently placed on an archaeological site listed with the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). A picture of the repeater station can be found on Attachment A.

Immediately upon notification, ALLETE Clean Energy marked off the site and discontinued construction activities in that area. ALLETE Clean Energy then dispatched an archeologist (Beaver Creek Archaeology) to review the site and make an evaluation of the impacts. The location of the repeater station can be found on Attachment B.

Upon field review of the site, Beaver Creek Archaeology did not believe the site should be listed with the SHPO and has already begun discussions with the SHPO to remove the site from their records. No additional construction activities are allowed to occur near the site until SHPO concurrence has been received.

ALLETE Clean Energy will continue to keep the North Dakota Public Service Commission informed of the site's developments, the SHPO concurrence determination and any mitigation resulting from the evaluation.

Attachment A

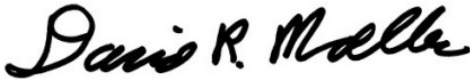
Mr. Nitschke

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June 3, 2015

Please contact Dan McCartney at 218.355.3515 or dmccourtney@allete.com with any questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Moeller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David R. Moeller

DRM:sr

Attach.

c: Jerry Lien - North Dakota Public Service Commission (jlein@nd.gov)
Dan McCartney
Wells McGiffert
Frank Frederickson
John Hollingsworth



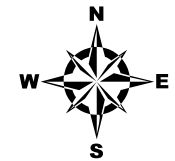
Thunder Spirit Repeater Station Location

Attachment B

6/03/15

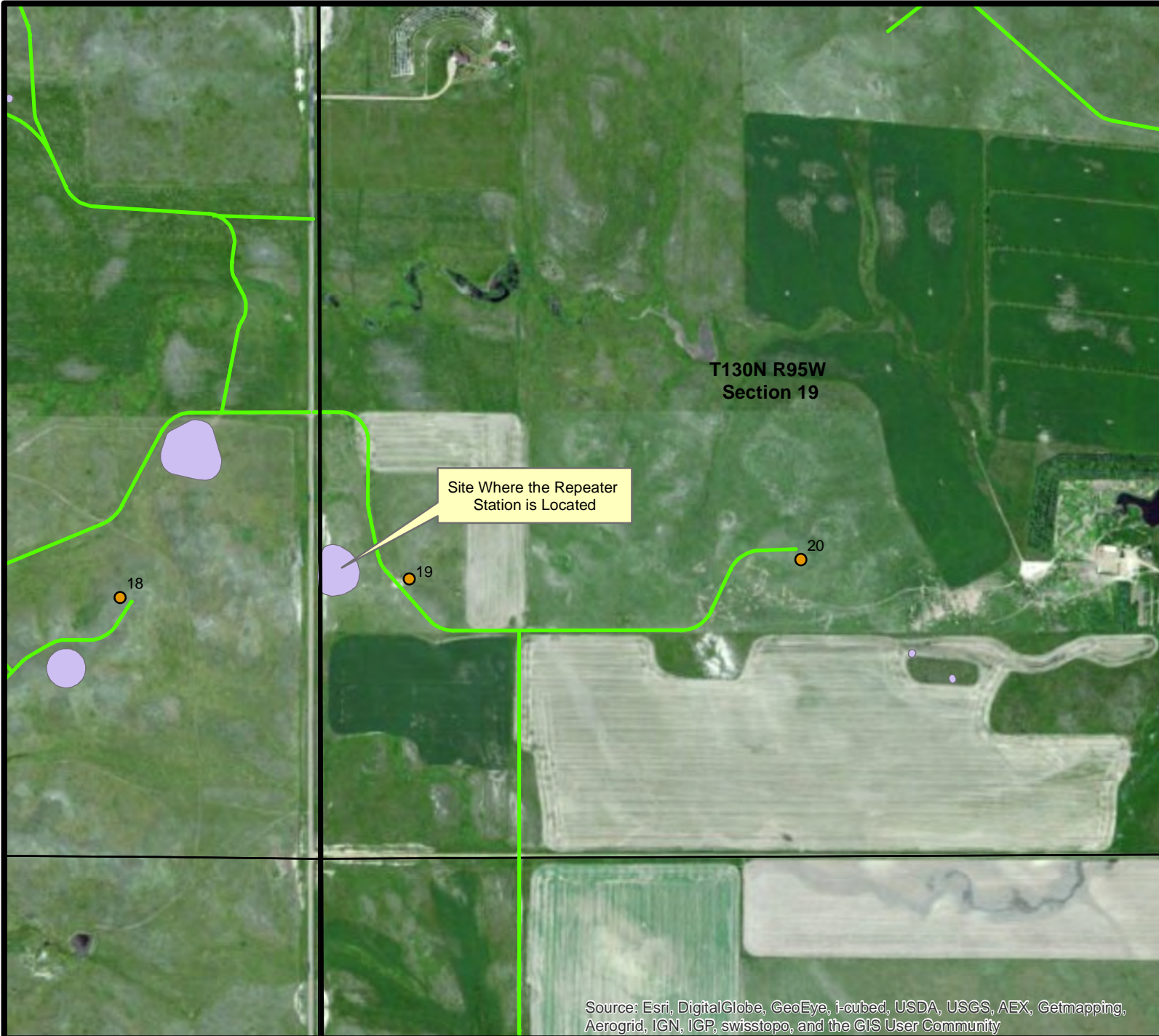
Legend

- Thunder Spirit Turbine Locations
- T S Access Roads w SHPO and PSC Concurrence
- Thunder Spirit Arch Sites With Buffers Included
- PLSS SECTIONS



0.4

Miles



Attachment B

Daniel McCartney (ALLETE)

From: Picha, Paul R. <ppicha@nd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 1:17 PM
To: 'Wade Burns'
Cc: Daniel McCartney (ALLETE)
Subject: RE: Thunder Spirit Windfarm Site Issues Letter Report

[ALERT – External Email – Handle Accordingly]

June 10, 2015

NDSHPO Ref.: 11-1854 PSC

Dear Wade:

We have reviewed the June 5, 2015 letter documentation associated with the Minnesota Power/ALLETE Thunder Spirit Wind Farm and found it acceptable. We concur that with the assessment that no significant sites were affected and no further action is needed, except for monitoring the removal of the radio repeater as described in the letter. Thank you for providing the documentation for review.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Picha
[signed for]

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

From: Wade Burns [<mailto:WBurns@bcarch.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 4:28 PM
To: Picha, Paul R.
Cc: Daniel McCartney (ALLETE)
Subject: Thunder Spirit Windfarm Site Issues Letter Report

Paul,
Attached are our findings for the Thunder Spirit Windfarm where a couple sites had been encroached upon. No significant damage occurred and we recommend no further action except a monitor during the removal of the radio repeater when the project is completed and the device is no longer needed. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email.
Thank you,
Wade

WadeBurns, M.S.
President
Beaver Creek Archaeology

Attachment B

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