
EXHIBIT 6
Agency Correspondence

From: Heather L. Wayne <HWayne@geronimoenergy.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 12:18 PM
To: Smith, Mollie; Patrick Smith
Subject: FW: Requesting Minot Air Force Base Comments on Courtenay Wind Farm

-----Original Message-----

From: HOUGH, CHARLES D GS-11 USAF AFGSC 5 OSS/A3 [<mailto:charles.hough@us.af.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 12:16 PM
To: Heather L. Wayne
Cc: DYER, BRADLEY S Lt Col USAF AFGSC 5 OG/CD
Subject: RE: Requesting Minot Air Force Base Comments on Courtenay Wind Farm

It is our opinion that the proposed Courtney Wind Farm will not have a detrimental effect on the IR-678 military training route or the flight training at Minot Air Force Base.

//SIGNED//

Charles Hough, GS-11
Chief, Airspace Management
5 OG/FM
DSN:453-2967 COM: (701)723-2967
CELL:240-1677

-----Original Message-----

From: Heather L. Wayne [<mailto:HWayne@geronimoenergy.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 3:38 PM
To: HOUGH, CHARLES D GS-11 USAF AFGSC 5 OSS/A3
Cc: Patrick Smith
Subject: RE: Requesting Minot Air Force Base Comments on Courtenay Wind Farm

Hi Mr. Hough-

I am writing to follow up with you about the Courtenay Wind Farm.

Would you be able to provide written comments to us today or early tomorrow?

Heather L. Wayne

52-641-4043

From: Heather L. Wayne
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 5:57 PM
To: 'charles.hough@us.af.mil'
Cc: Patrick Smith
Subject: Requesting Minot Air Force Base Comments on Courtenay Wind Farm

Mr. Charles Hough:

Thank you for your time on the phone this afternoon.

I've attached the following to provide more information about the Courtenay wind energy project:

- . A map showing the location of the proposed project.
- . A letter that provides general information about the Courtenay wind energy project. The letter requests comments from the Minot Air Force Base.
- . The Department of Defense correspondence that references contacting the Minot Air Force Base.
- . An Excel spreadsheet with coordinates of the planned locations of the Project's towers (wind turbines and meteorological towers).
 - o We used a conservative height assumption of 499 feet for wind turbines. The turbines we are currently considering are closer to 430 feet in total height.
 - o The coordinates are in WGS 84 format in both Degrees Minutes Seconds and Decimal Degrees

Per our phone conversation, you requested the tallest total height of any structure in the project (including tower height and elevation). The total tallest height is 2067.2 feet (499 ft structure + 1568.2 ft elevation).

Please review the enclosed information and offer your written comments by July 2, 2013 if possible.

You may contact Patrick Smith, Director of Environmental Planning, or me with comments and/or questions.

Thank you,

Heather Wayne

Associate

Geronimo Energy

7650 Edinborough Way

Suite 725

Edina, MN 55435

Direct: 952.641.4043

www.geronimoenergy.com



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3400

November 2, 2012

Heather Wayne
Geronimo Wind Energy
7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
Edina, MN 55435

Dear Ms. Wayne,

At your request the Department of Defense (DoD) Siting Clearinghouse has coordinated within DoD an informal review of you company's seven wind turbine projects. The following is a summary of the results of this informal review.




The DoD Siting Clearinghouse also coordinated an informal review of the following projects:



- Courtenay Wind Farm project, Stutsman County, North Dakota. The results of this review indicate that this project, as proposed, will impact training we conduct in military operation area Devils Lake East and military training route IR-678. I request that you or your designated representative contact the 5 OSS/A-3C, Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, (701) 723-2967 to discuss possible mitigation measures that would reduce or eliminate any adverse impact.

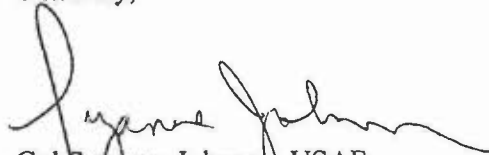




It is my hope that we can reach agreement on measures that will mitigate potential adverse effects on military operations and readiness with minimum impact on the success of your projects. Your continued cooperation will help us preserve the operational, training, and testing capabilities of our nation's Armed Forces.

Please note that this informal review by the DoD Siting Clearinghouse does not constitute an action under 49 United States Code section 44718 and that neither the DoD nor the Secretary of Transportation are bound by the conclusion arrived at under this informal review. Please call me at 703-571-9057 with any questions, and feel free to share this letter with any of your investors or community partners.

Sincerely,



Col Suzanne Johnson, USAF
Military Assistant to Executive Director
DoD Siting Clearinghouse



June 26, 2013

Minot Air Force Base
Attn: External Energy Project Review
Minot, ND 58704

To Whom It May Concern:

Courtenay Wind Farm, LLC (CWF), a subsidiary of Geronimo Wind Energy, LLC, is planning to construct the Courtenay Wind Project (Project) within an approximately 25,000 acre area located 15 miles north of Jamestown, North Dakota, in Northeastern Stutsman County. The Project will consist of up to 134 wind turbines with a height of 499' or less. The project will have associated facilities such as roads, underground electrical collection system, meteorological towers, a substation, an operation and maintenance facility and an associated 115kV transmission line extending out of the project area. Enclosed is a map of the Project site, as well as a one mile study area around the project boundary. Table 1 provides the townships, ranges, and sections encompassed by the Project.

Table 1: Project Location

Civil Township	Township #	Range #	Sections
Gray	142 N	62 W	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 17
Ashland	142 N	63 W	1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 14
Courtenay	143 N	62 W	6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33
Durham	143 N	63 W	1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 13, 24, 25, 26, 35, 36
Nogosek	144 N	63 W	26, 27, 34, 35, 36

CWF will seek a Certificate of Site Compatibility (CSC) from the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) pursuant to Chapter 49-22 of the North Dakota Century Code and Article 69-06 of the North Dakota Administrative Code. CWF filed its CSC application in April 2013 and expects to obtain Commission approval by third quarter 2013. CWF plans to begin construction in third quarter 2013 and begin operating the Project in third quarter 2014.

The purpose of this letter is to inform your organization of the proposed Project, seek your input regarding any permits and approvals that may be required, and identify interests your organization may have in the Project site or associated study area. CWF would like to incorporate comments received in response to this letter into its revised CSC application. We would greatly appreciate receiving your comments in writing by July 2, 2013.

If you have questions or comments regarding the proposed Project, please contact me via phone at 952-988-9000, via email at Patrick@geronimoenergy.com, or via mail at 7650 Edinborough Way #725, Edina, MN 55435.

Sincerely,

Patrick Smith
Development Services

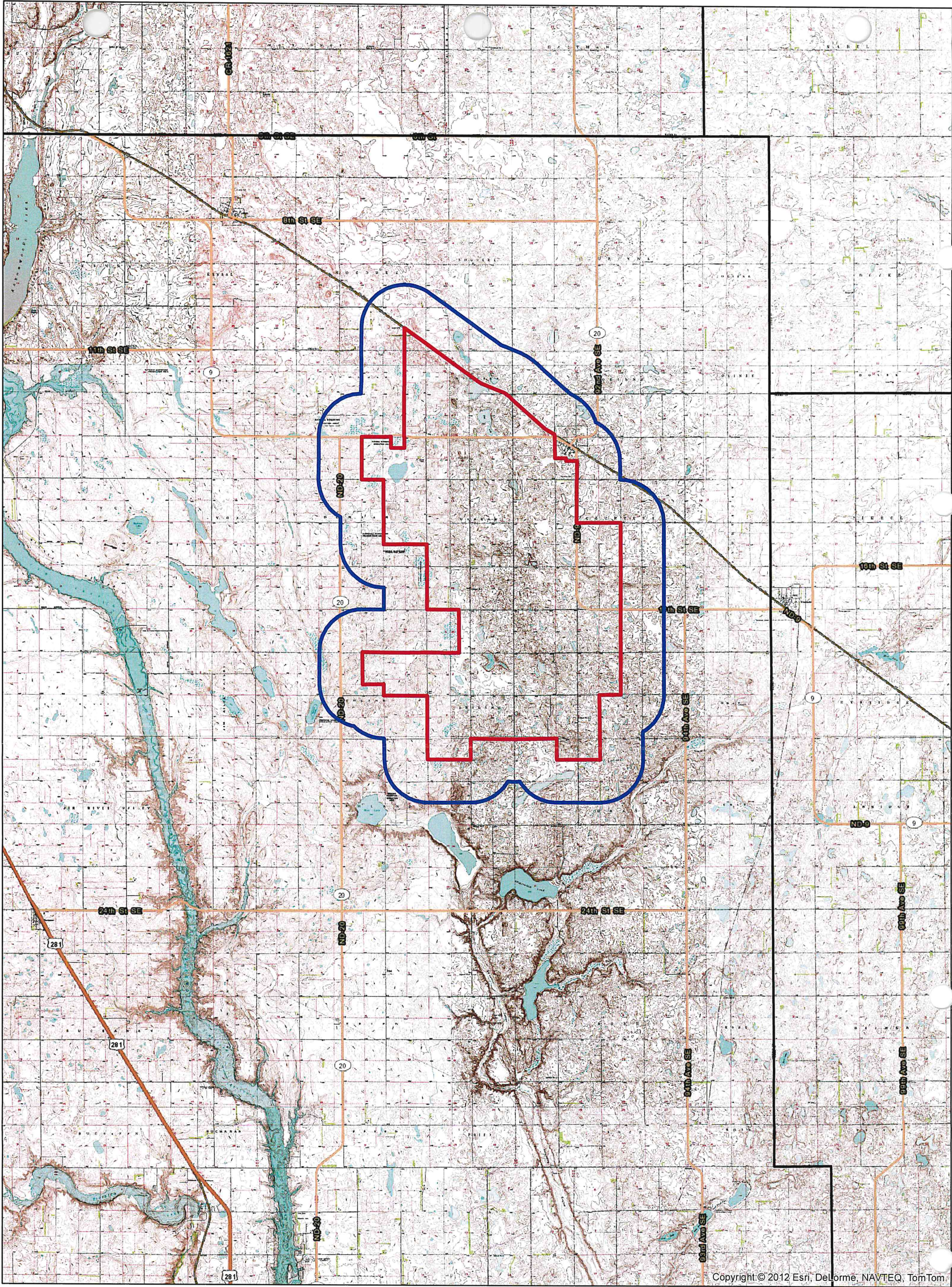
Structure Type	ID	Structure Height (ft)	Elevation (ft)	Total Height (ft)	Lat DMS	Lon DMS	Lat DD	Lon DD
Wind Turbine	1	499	1558.4	2057.4	47° 7' 13.995" N	98° 37' 32.907" W	47.120554	-98.625808
Wind Turbine	2	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 7' 14.117" N	98° 37' 51.664" W	47.120588	-98.631018
Wind Turbine	3	499	1561.68	2060.7	47° 7' 17.531" N	98° 37' 12.083" W	47.121536	-98.620023
Wind Turbine	4	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 7' 34.733" N	98° 33' 36.404" W	47.126315	-98.560112
Wind Turbine	5	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 7' 35.065" N	98° 33' 19.886" W	47.126407	-98.555524
Wind Turbine	6	499	1561.68	2060.7	47° 7' 36.255" N	98° 34' 12.609" W	47.126738	-98.570169
Wind Turbine	7	499	1561.68	2060.7	47° 7' 36.588" N	98° 33' 56.091" W	47.12683	-98.565581
Wind Turbine	8	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 7' 36.776" N	98° 34' 46.505" W	47.126882	-98.579585
Wind Turbine	9	499	1568.24	2067.2	47° 7' 36.911" N	98° 34' 29.409" W	47.12692	-98.574836
Wind Turbine	10	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 7' 42.263" N	98° 38' 0.270" W	47.128406	-98.633408
Wind Turbine	11	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 7' 47.676" N	98° 37' 45.201" W	47.12991	-98.629223
Wind Turbine	12	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 7' 49.103" N	98° 37' 29.625" W	47.130306	-98.624896
Wind Turbine	13	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 7' 50.248" N	98° 37' 12.697" W	47.130625	-98.620194
Wind Turbine	14	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 7' 49.937" N	98° 35' 27.848" W	47.130538	-98.591069
Wind Turbine	15	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 7' 51.293" N	98° 35' 11.820" W	47.130915	-98.586617
Wind Turbine	16	499	1541.99	2041	47° 8' 5.045" N	98° 33' 18.175" W	47.134735	-98.555049
Wind Turbine	17	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 8' 5.884" N	98° 33' 34.636" W	47.134968	-98.559621
Wind Turbine	18	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 8' 10.409" N	98° 34' 53.477" W	47.136225	-98.581521
Wind Turbine	19	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 8' 12.407" N	98° 34' 20.953" W	47.13678	-98.572487
Wind Turbine	20	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 8' 12.715" N	98° 34' 37.530" W	47.136865	-98.577092
Wind Turbine	21	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 8' 25.355" N	98° 37' 51.628" W	47.140376	-98.631008
Wind Turbine	22	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 8' 29.279" N	98° 37' 36.570" W	47.141466	-98.626825
Wind Turbine	23	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 8' 31.756" N	98° 37' 21.098" W	47.142154	-98.622527
Wind Turbine	24	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 8' 33.717" N	98° 35' 21.604" W	47.142699	-98.589334
Wind Turbine	25	499	1541.99	2041	47° 8' 33.660" N	98° 35' 5.576" W	47.142683	-98.584882
Wind Turbine	26	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 8' 38.341" N	98° 34' 50.665" W	47.143984	-98.58074
Wind Turbine	27	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 8' 43.573" N	98° 34' 35.663" W	47.145437	-98.576573
Wind Turbine	28	499	1555.12	2054.1	47° 8' 54.814" N	98° 34' 12.232" W	47.148559	-98.570065
Wind Turbine	29	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 8' 55.447" N	98° 33' 55.943" W	47.148735	-98.56554
Wind Turbine	30	499	1564.96	2064	47° 8' 59.643" N	98° 33' 33.408" W	47.149901	-98.55928
Wind Turbine	31	499	1558.4	2057.4	47° 9' 0.654" N	98° 33' 16.903" W	47.150182	-98.554695
Wind Turbine	32	499	1541.99	2041	47° 9' 2.431" N	98° 32' 44.745" W	47.150675	-98.545762
Wind Turbine	33	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 9' 3.202" N	98° 33' 1.290" W	47.150889	-98.550358

Wind Turbine	34	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 9' 38.936" N	98° 36' 0.355" W	47.160815	-98.600099
Wind Turbine	35	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 9' 41.188" N	98° 36' 23.482" W	47.161441	-98.606523
Wind Turbine	36	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 9' 45.559" N	98° 34' 12.435" W	47.162655	-98.570121
Wind Turbine	37	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 9' 46.561" N	98° 33' 56.042" W	47.162934	-98.565567
Wind Turbine	38	499	1541.99	2041	47° 9' 46.839" N	98° 33' 36.014" W	47.163011	-98.560004
Wind Turbine	39	499	1558.4	2057.4	47° 9' 47.334" N	98° 35' 28.476" W	47.163148	-98.591243
Wind Turbine	40	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 9' 48.026" N	98° 33' 19.975" W	47.16334	-98.555549
Wind Turbine	41	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 9' 49.867" N	98° 33' 3.901" W	47.163852	-98.551084
Wind Turbine	42	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 9' 50.616" N	98° 32' 47.796" W	47.16406	-98.54661
Wind Turbine	43	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 9' 56.526" N	98° 35' 16.110" W	47.165702	-98.587808
Wind Turbine	44	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 10' 11.040" N	98° 36' 33.255" W	47.169733	-98.609237
Wind Turbine	45	499	1555.12	2054.1	47° 10' 11.256" N	98° 35' 59.616" W	47.169793	-98.599893
Wind Turbine	46	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 10' 11.402" N	98° 36' 16.099" W	47.169834	-98.604472
Wind Turbine	47	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 12.603" N	98° 37' 25.504" W	47.170167	-98.623751
Wind Turbine	48	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 12.957" N	98° 37' 58.206" W	47.170266	-98.632835
Wind Turbine	49	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 10' 13.028" N	98° 37' 42.035" W	47.170286	-98.628343
Wind Turbine	50	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 10' 22.538" N	98° 33' 31.645" W	47.172927	-98.55879
Wind Turbine	51	499	1555.12	2054.1	47° 10' 22.655" N	98° 33' 14.380" W	47.17296	-98.553994
Wind Turbine	52	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 10' 22.960" N	98° 32' 58.192" W	47.173044	-98.549498
Wind Turbine	53	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 10' 22.896" N	98° 32' 42.008" W	47.173027	-98.545002
Wind Turbine	54	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 10' 23.738" N	98° 33' 56.857" W	47.173261	-98.565794
Wind Turbine	55	499	1555.12	2054.1	47° 10' 24.722" N	98° 35' 28.625" W	47.173534	-98.591285
Wind Turbine	56	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 32.209" N	98° 35' 14.617" W	47.175614	-98.587394
Wind Turbine	57	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 35.076" N	98° 34' 59.106" W	47.17641	-98.583085
Wind Turbine	58	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 10' 40.964" N	98° 34' 44.593" W	47.178046	-98.579054
Wind Turbine	59	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 43.974" N	98° 35' 54.026" W	47.178882	-98.59834
Wind Turbine	60	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 10' 44.190" N	98° 36' 10.514" W	47.178942	-98.602921
Wind Turbine	61	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 10' 44.879" N	98° 36' 26.767" W	47.179133	-98.607435
Wind Turbine	62	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 10' 45.001" N	98° 36' 44.657" W	47.179167	-98.612405
Wind Turbine	63	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 10' 47.078" N	98° 37' 38.107" W	47.179744	-98.627252
Wind Turbine	64	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 10' 47.700" N	98° 37' 54.496" W	47.179917	-98.631804
Wind Turbine	65	499	1541.99	2041	47° 10' 47.935" N	98° 34' 30.092" W	47.179982	-98.575026
Wind Turbine	66	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 2.371" N	98° 37' 9.378" W	47.183992	-98.619272
Wind Turbine	67	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 2.529" N	98° 37' 26.321" W	47.184036	-98.623978

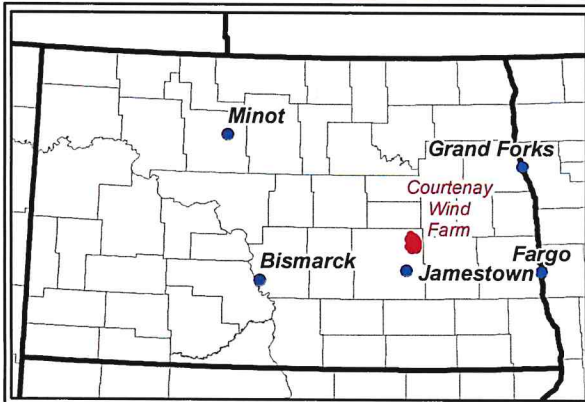
Wind Turbine	68	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 11' 2.172" N	98° 34' 15.768" W	47.183937	-98.571047
Wind Turbine	69	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 3.053" N	98° 33' 23.706" W	47.184181	-98.556585
Wind Turbine	70	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 10.402" N	98° 35' 16.217" W	47.186223	-98.587838
Wind Turbine	71	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 10.864" N	98° 35' 0.204" W	47.186351	-98.58339
Wind Turbine	72	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 30.867" N	98° 36' 37.351" W	47.191908	-98.610375
Wind Turbine	73	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 32.337" N	98° 36' 21.578" W	47.192316	-98.605994
Wind Turbine	74	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 11' 33.616" N	98° 37' 54.039" W	47.192671	-98.631678
Wind Turbine	75	499	1555.12	2054.1	47° 11' 33.653" N	98° 37' 37.819" W	47.192681	-98.627172
Wind Turbine	76	499	1545.28	2044.3	47° 11' 33.959" N	98° 37' 21.334" W	47.192766	-98.622593
Wind Turbine	77	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 34.355" N	98° 37' 5.244" W	47.192876	-98.618123
Wind Turbine	78	499	1541.99	2041	47° 11' 34.687" N	98° 36' 5.681" W	47.192969	-98.601578
Wind Turbine	79	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 11' 34.781" N	98° 34' 14.006" W	47.192995	-98.570557
Wind Turbine	80	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 34.711" N	98° 33' 28.260" W	47.192975	-98.55785
Wind Turbine	81	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 37.278" N	98° 35' 49.781" W	47.193688	-98.597161
Wind Turbine	82	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 36.885" N	98° 33' 58.098" W	47.193579	-98.566138
Wind Turbine	83	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 11' 40.880" N	98° 39' 15.353" W	47.194689	-98.654265
Wind Turbine	84	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 11' 42.493" N	98° 38' 43.151" W	47.195137	-98.64532
Wind Turbine	85	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 11' 42.668" N	98° 38' 59.578" W	47.195185	-98.649883
Wind Turbine	86	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 11' 44.057" N	98° 38' 25.982" W	47.195571	-98.64055
Wind Turbine	87	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 11' 55.471" N	98° 35' 20.280" W	47.198742	-98.588967
Wind Turbine	88	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 3.214" N	98° 35' 6.285" W	47.200893	-98.585079
Wind Turbine	89	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 12' 4.375" N	98° 36' 45.365" W	47.201215	-98.612601
Wind Turbine	90	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 4.606" N	98° 34' 50.008" W	47.20128	-98.580558
Wind Turbine	91	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 4.867" N	98° 35' 56.641" W	47.201352	-98.599067
Wind Turbine	92	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 6.822" N	98° 38' 56.322" W	47.201895	-98.648978
Wind Turbine	93	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 12' 7.288" N	98° 39' 13.626" W	47.202025	-98.653785
Wind Turbine	94	499	1541.99	2041	47° 12' 7.348" N	98° 38' 22.475" W	47.202041	-98.639576
Wind Turbine	95	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 7.495" N	98° 38' 39.770" W	47.202082	-98.64438
Wind Turbine	96	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 12' 7.102" N	98° 36' 13.220" W	47.201973	-98.603672
Wind Turbine	97	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 7.639" N	98° 36' 29.852" W	47.202122	-98.608292
Wind Turbine	98	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 12' 7.513" N	98° 34' 34.117" W	47.202087	-98.576144
Wind Turbine	99	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 12' 8.151" N	98° 34' 17.988" W	47.202264	-98.571663
Wind Turbine	100	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 9.082" N	98° 38' 2.182" W	47.202523	-98.63394
Wind Turbine	101	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 9.346" N	98° 37' 43.303" W	47.202596	-98.628695

Wind Turbine	102	499	1548.56	2047.6	47° 12' 8.614" N	98° 34' 1.860" W	47.202393	-98.567183
Wind Turbine	103	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 10.929" N	98° 37' 24.504" W	47.203036	-98.623473
Wind Turbine	104	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 11.578" N	98° 37' 7.434" W	47.203216	-98.618732
Wind Turbine	105	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 29.873" N	98° 36' 44.508" W	47.208298	-98.612363
Wind Turbine	106	499	1541.99	2041	47° 12' 33.065" N	98° 37' 59.862" W	47.209185	-98.633295
Wind Turbine	107	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 12' 33.801" N	98° 39' 11.729" W	47.209389	-98.653258
Wind Turbine	108	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 12' 33.752" N	98° 38' 55.488" W	47.209376	-98.648747
Wind Turbine	109	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 34.286" N	98° 38' 38.977" W	47.209524	-98.64416
Wind Turbine	110	499	1541.99	2041	47° 12' 34.341" N	98° 38' 22.569" W	47.209539	-98.639602
Wind Turbine	111	499	1522.31	2021.3	47° 12' 34.673" N	98° 35' 56.598" W	47.209631	-98.599055
Wind Turbine	112	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 12' 35.120" N	98° 36' 30.072" W	47.209755	-98.608353
Wind Turbine	113	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 35.253" N	98° 36' 13.010" W	47.209792	-98.603614
Wind Turbine	114	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 12' 50.498" N	98° 37' 4.839" W	47.214027	-98.618011
Wind Turbine	115	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 12' 52.185" N	98° 39' 49.287" W	47.214496	-98.663691
Wind Turbine	116	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 12' 52.016" N	98° 37' 21.271" W	47.214449	-98.622575
Wind Turbine	117	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 12' 53.214" N	98° 39' 33.224" W	47.214782	-98.659229
Wind Turbine	118	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 13' 4.840" N	98° 39' 21.098" W	47.218011	-98.655861
Wind Turbine	119	499	1519.03	2018	47° 13' 5.056" N	98° 38' 37.915" W	47.218071	-98.643865
Wind Turbine	120	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 13' 11.075" N	98° 36' 46.065" W	47.219743	-98.612796
Wind Turbine	121	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 13' 11.842" N	98° 36' 30.254" W	47.219956	-98.608404
Wind Turbine	122	499	1522.31	2021.3	47° 13' 13.839" N	98° 36' 14.585" W	47.220511	-98.604051
Wind Turbine	123	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 13' 17.273" N	98° 35' 59.356" W	47.221465	-98.599821
Wind Turbine	124	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 13' 18.447" N	98° 35' 43.392" W	47.221791	-98.595387
Wind Turbine	125	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 13' 19.928" N	98° 35' 27.123" W	47.222202	-98.590868
Wind Turbine	126	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 13' 24.883" N	98° 37' 5.834" W	47.223579	-98.618287
Wind Turbine	127	499	1532.15	2031.2	47° 13' 24.938" N	98° 37' 22.242" W	47.223594	-98.622845
Wind Turbine	128	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 13' 40.400" N	98° 38' 37.039" W	47.227889	-98.643622
Wind Turbine	129	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 14' 8.928" N	98° 36' 45.944" W	47.235813	-98.612762
Wind Turbine	130	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 14' 9.165" N	98° 37' 22.964" W	47.235879	-98.623045
Wind Turbine	131	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 14' 9.212" N	98° 36' 29.673" W	47.235892	-98.608242
Wind Turbine	132	499	1528.87	2027.9	47° 14' 9.390" N	98° 36' 13.437" W	47.235942	-98.603732
Wind Turbine	133	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 14' 9.677" N	98° 37' 6.857" W	47.236021	-98.618571
Wind Turbine	134	499	1538.71	2037.7	47° 14' 9.498" N	98° 35' 56.908" W	47.235972	-98.599141
Wind Turbine	135	499	1515.75	2014.8	47° 14' 41.049" N	98° 38' 37.474" W	47.244736	-98.643743

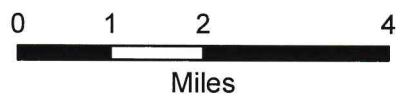
Wind Turbine	136	499	1522.31	2021.3	47° 14' 41.165" N	98° 38' 21.378" W	47.244768	-98.639272
Wind Turbine	137	499	1551.84	2050.8	47° 14' 43.514" N	98° 37' 25.861" W	47.245421	-98.62385
Wind Turbine	138	499	1519.03	2018	47° 14' 43.460" N	98° 37' 9.669" W	47.245406	-98.619352
Wind Turbine	139	499	1535.43	2034.4	47° 14' 43.848" N	98° 37' 42.189" W	47.245513	-98.628386
Wind Turbine	140	499	1525.59	2024.6	47° 14' 43.993" N	98° 37' 58.243" W	47.245554	-98.632845
Meteorological Tower	0	262	1528.9	1790.9	47° 8' 40.769" N	98° 34' 59.831" W	47.144658	-98.583286
Meteorological Tower	1	262	1538.7	1800.7	47° 8' 38.524" N	98° 35' 15.089" W	47.144035	-98.587525
Meteorological Tower	2	262	1542	1804	47° 8' 32.889" N	98° 37' 47.208" W	47.142469	-98.62978
Meteorological Tower	3	262	1525.6	1787.6	47° 13' 0.778" N	98° 39' 37.504" W	47.216883	-98.660418



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- Study Area
- Project Area
- County



Source: NGS USA Topo (2011), Ventyx, ESRI et al: World Transportation (2012)



Stutsman County, ND

FIGURE 1
Project Vicinity

Courtenay Wind Farm
Stutsman County, North Dakota



From: Heidi Riddle <heidi_riddle@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:43 AM
To: Patrick Smith
Subject: RE: Wetland Survey Methodology Review

Thanks Patrick.

From: Patrick Smith [<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com><<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:36 AM
To: Heidi Riddle; Neil Shook; Jay L. Hesse; Kimberely Gorman; Heather J. Droel (Geronimo Wind); GWE ConferenceLine (Resource)
Cc: Bellrichard, Kathy
Subject: RE: Wetland Survey Methodology Review

Hi Heidi,

I'm working on assembling notes from the call.

Patrick Smith

Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email: patrick@geronimoenergy.com<<mailto:patrick@geronimoenergy.com>>

Geronimo Energy

50 Edinborough Way, Suite 725

Edina MN 55435

From: Heidi Riddle [mailto:heidi_riddle@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:00 AM
To: Patrick Smith; Neil Shook; Jay L. Hesse; Kimberely Gorman; Heather J. Droel (Geronimo Wind); GWE ConferenceLine (Resource)
Cc: Bellrichard, Kathy
Subject: RE: Wetland Survey Methodology Review

I have been at a workshop, just getting back in the office today. Are there call notes? Is there anything that ES needs to follow up on?

Thanks, Heidi

Heidi Riddle

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services

3425 Miriam Ave

Bismarck, ND 58501

701-355-8503

From: Patrick Smith [<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com><<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>>]
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2013 5:47 PM
To: Neil_Shook@fws.gov<mailto:Neil_Shook@fws.gov>; heidi_riddle@fws.gov<mailto:heidi_riddle@fws.gov>; Jay L. Hesse; Kimberely Gorman; Heather J. Droel (Geronimo Wind); GWE ConferenceLine (Resource)
Cc: 'Bellrichard, Kathy'
Subject: Wetland Survey Methodology Review

Hi Folks,

Here is a draft agenda for the meeting:

Agenda

- I. Introductions
 - a. TTI Team
 - b. FWS Role
- II. Survey
 - a. Design
 - b. Corridor Width
 - c. Identification of public data
 - d. Identification of FWS data
- III. Wetland Methodology
 - a. FWS Definition of Wetlands
 - b. Wetland Documentation
- III. Next Steps
 - a. Schedule a site visit
 - b. Avoidance Documentation/No Effect

Patrick Smith

Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000

Cell: 651-308-9823

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email: patrick@geronimoenergy.com<mailto:patrick@geronimoenergy.com>

Geronimo Energy

7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725

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From: Patrick Smith <Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>
nt: Monday, June 10, 2013 9:19 AM
To: Shook, Neil
Cc: Patrick Smith; Gorman, Kim (Kim.Gorman@tetrattech.com); Heidi Riddle (heidi_riddle@fws.gov); Jay L. Hesse; Heather L. Wayne; Paul Halko
Subject: Re: Courtenay Wetland Survey Coordination

Perfect! I'll get back with the survey group and identify a time for tomorrow.

Sent while on the move. Please excuse the brevity and any typos.

On Jun 10, 2013, at 7:16, "Shook, Neil" <neil_shook@fws.gov<mailto:neil_shook@fws.gov>> wrote:

Patrick

Can make Tuesday, tomorrow work for a phone call. I have an appointment 10am-12pm. Other than that I can make whatever time is best for you.

Thanks

Neil

On Sun, Jun 9, 2013 at 8:41 PM, Patrick Smith <Patrick@geronimoenergy.com<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>> wrote:

Hi Neil,

I think we can make that work if we can do a phone call Tuesday so that we are on the same methodology page. Then we could make early next week work for a site visit and target the more complex questions.

Sent while on the move. Please excuse the brevity and any typos.

On Jun 9, 2013, at 17:43, "Neil Shook"

neil_shook@fws.gov<mailto:neil_shook@fws.gov><mailto:neil_shook@fws.gov<mailto:neil_shook@fws.gov>>>
wrote:

Hi Patrick

I will look these over. Unfortunately Friday will not work. Is there a chance that the following week would work for your team?

Thanks

Neil

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 6, 2013, at 11:58 AM, Patrick Smith

Patrick@geronimoenergy.com<<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>><<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com><<mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>>>> wrote:

Hi Neil,

We are gearing up for our wetland surveys, Per our conversation a couple weeks ago, attached is a preliminary layout for the project with our survey corridors. Once we are done with our survey we will be adjusting our layout with the goal of avoiding any wetlands identified within parcels that the Service has wetland easements on. We were wondering if you would be able to meet with the survey team next Friday the 14th on site to discuss the surveys and take a look at the site? Having input from you while we are doing work on the parcels with wetland easements would be invaluable. I've copied Kim Gorman with Tetra Tech here, she is helping coordinate the team out to the site and might be able to help with scheduling if next Friday is difficult for you to make.

Best Regards,

Patrick

Patrick Smith

Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000

Cell: 651-308-9823

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email:

patrick@geronimoenergy.com<<mailto:patrick@geronimoenergy.com>><<mailto:patrick@geronimoenergy.com><<mailto:patrick@geronimoenergy.com>>>>

Geronimo Energy

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<SurveyDAerial_060613.pdf>

--

Neil Shook

Refuge Manager

Chase Lake NWR/WMD/PP

5924 19th ST SE

Woodworth, ND 58496

701.752.4218x1

"Be the person that your dog thinks you are!"

"Unless someone like you cares a whole lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not!"-The Lorax

From: Patrick Smith <Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>
nt: Thursday, June 06, 2013 11:59 AM
To: Neil_Shook@fws.gov
Cc: Gorman, Kim (Kim.Gorman@tetrattech.com); Heidi Riddle (heidi_riddle@fws.gov); Jay L. Hesse; Heather L. Wayne
Subject: Courtenay Wetland Survey Coordination
Attachments: SurveyDAerial_060613.pdf

Hi Neil,

We are gearing up for our wetland surveys, Per our conversation a couple weeks ago, attached is a preliminary layout for the project with our survey corridors. Once we are done with our survey we will be adjusting our layout with the goal of avoiding any wetlands identified within parcels that the Service has wetland easements on. We were wondering if you would be able to meet with the survey team next Friday the 14th on site to discuss the surveys and take a look at the site? Having input from you while we are doing work on the parcels with wetland easements would be invaluable. I've copied Kim Gorman with Tetra Tech here, she is helping coordinate the team out to the site and might be able to help with scheduling if next Friday is difficult for you to make.

Best Regards,

Patrick

Patrick Smith

Director of Env. Planning

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Cell: 651-308-9823

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email: patrick@geronimoenergy.com

 Geronimo Energy

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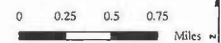
Edina MN 55435

2013.01.28 4:10:44 PM (anonymous\kourtenay)\\projects\2013\1311\field - TFCM\MS - kmj\kourtenay

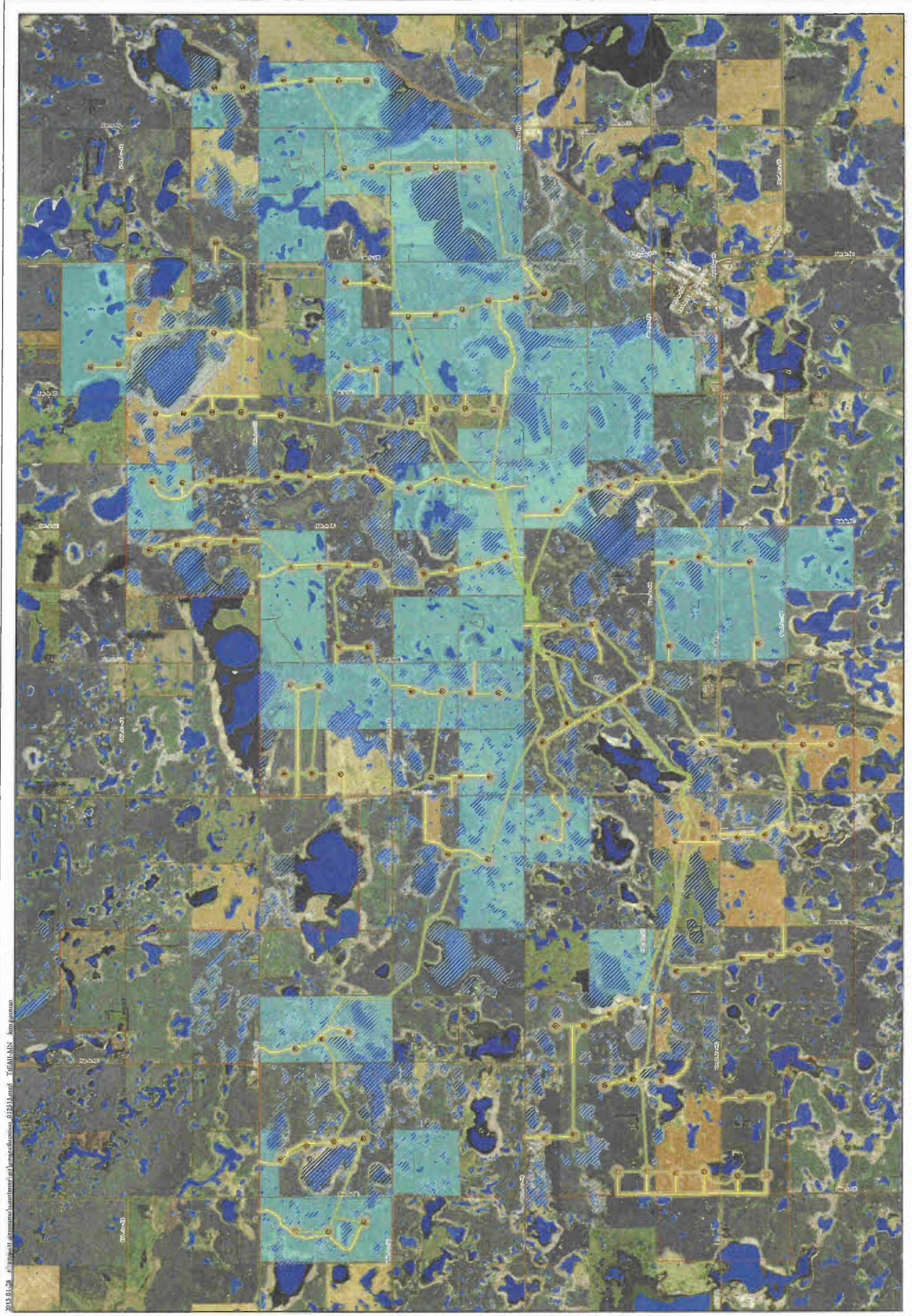
Source: Map adapted from data provided by NAIP 2012 Aerial Photography (Stutsman County), USFWS NWI, Desktop wetland data (Westwood), USFWS Wetland Estimation, and Project facility information provided by GreenTime Energy.



- Proposed Turbine Location
- Proposed Access Road
- Proposed Collection Line
- Proposed Substation
- Project Boundary
- Survey Corridor
- USFWS Wetland Exemption
- NWI
- Desktop Wetland
- Road



Field Survey
 Courtenay Wind Farm Project
 Stutsman County, North Dakota



From: Synowczynski, Deborah
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 3:46 PM
To: Copy Service
Subject: Meeting Follow Up

From: Patrick Smith
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 8:38 PM
To: Heidi Riddle
Cc: Heather L. Wayne; Gorman, Kim; Schindler, Kate
Subject: Re: Meeting Follow Up

Great, thanks Heidi. Please let us know if the service has any additional thoughts; as soon as the roads clear we are going to get out there.

On Mar 18, 2013, at 4:32 PM, "Heidi Riddle" <heidi_riddle@fws.gov> wrote:

Patrick,

Thank you for the responses to my questions. I talked with Carol Aron, our piping plover biologist, and she indicated that as long as your existing surveys clearly demonstrate that the wetlands within the wind farm footprint are marginal at best, she does not have any additional recommendations for surveys. I would just caution that wetland conditions at the time of the surveys should be considered - could wetter or drier conditions yield different suitability, ie, more shoreline, less vegetation? Meaning that unsuitable conditions this year may become more suitable at some point throughout the life of the project.

Thanks and let me know if you have any questions,
Heidi

From: Patrick Smith [mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 2:22 PM
To: Heidi Riddle
Cc: Heather L. Wayne; Gorman, Kim; Schindler, Kate
Subject: RE: Meeting Follow Up

Hi Heidi,

Thanks for the follow up and the check of the service database! I've put answers to your questions are below in green, after reading through them please let me know if you have any edits to the minutes. Regarding the Plover issue – we plan on being out on site in the very near future and want to be able incorporate your plover expert's thoughts into our surveys; because it is a tight time frame with spring migration and the project's development schedule we could get into a situation where feedback is received too late to be of use. As of now we will proceed with the information we have at hand but if we are to incorporate her comments we will need them in the next week to week and a half, would it be okay if we followed up with her directly?

Best Regards,

Patrick

Patrick Smith
Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000
Cell: 651-308-9823
Fax: 952-988-9001
Email: patrick@geronimowind.com

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7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
Edina MN 55435

From: Heidi Riddle [mailto:heidi_riddle@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:29 PM
To: Patrick Smith
Cc: Heather L. Wayne; Gorman, Kim; Schindler, Kate
Subject: RE: Meeting Follow Up

Hi Patrick,

I scanned the meeting notes quickly, and I did notice a couple of things that I thought we discussed – Was Geronimo/TetraTech going to provide us with a landcover map/assessment? This is included in the Tier 2 report, please let us know if you have any questions about it. Also, the whooping crane habitat assessment? We are waiting on data from the Service regarding the 2011 and 2012 migrations to complete the report, once it is complete we will send it along. The Service office we are waiting on is not your office but if you have access to the data and can share it that would speed things along.

Your eagle nest survey protocol references the 2011 Draft Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance as the source for selecting a 2-mile buffer, but the Guidance document recommends site-specific surveys on and within 10 miles of the project footprint, so I'm wondering about the discrepancy? Page 12 of the DECPG indicate that other approaches may be acceptable and evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A 10-mile distance is used "because the Service has defined the area nesting population for golden eagles to be the 'number of pairs of golden eagles known to have a nesting attempt during the preceding 12 months within a 10-mile radius of a golden eagle nest.'" Golden eagles are not anticipated to occur within the Project Area based on their range (<http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/grasbird/goea/goea.htm>). Because of these reasons and because the site lacks any of the features identified in Appendix D that are identified as risk factors (i.e. topographic features that are conducive to soaring and/or create potential flight corridors, proximity to potential foraging sites, and presence of perch structures or roost sites) it was our opinion that a 10 mile search area would not add value to our understanding of the sites biology. Confirming this you note the Service doesn't have any records of nests in a 10 mile radius and, while not comprehensive, the geographic area you are searching would likely include service land and easements for which I anticipate the service would have recorded nests if nests were present. We are always open to additional information but right now we want to focus our limited resources on surveys that add significant value to the assessment of the site; a 10 mile search radius is something we don't see as justified in this case based on the information I've highlighted.

As a follow-up item, I said I would review our eagle database. According to the database, there are no known eagle nests within 10 miles of your project footprint.

I have also followed up with the plover biologist, but I cannot give a timeframe for her feedback at this point. I'll contact you if she needs additional information or if a conference call might be necessary.

Regards,
Heidi

From: Patrick Smith [mailto:Patrick@geronimoenergy.com]

Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 3:42 PM

To: Heidi Riddle (heidi_riddle@fws.gov)

Cc: Heather L. Wayne; Gorman, Kim (Kim.Gorman@tetrattech.com); Schindler, Kate (Kathleen.Schindler@tetrattech.com)

Subject: Meeting Follow Up

Hi Heidi,

Thanks again for the meeting. Attached are the minutes we have from it, let me know if we missed anything. I'm also attaching the draft stick nest survey protocol, it is essentially what we talked about in our meeting. We will be implementing it in the next couple weeks unless you have any additional comments or recommendations on it. One item we want to follow up on before we hit the ground in the spring is connecting with the person who handles piping plovers in your office, would you be able to connect us with them?

Bet Regards,

Patrick

Patrick Smith
Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email: patrick@geronimowind.com

Geronimo Energy
7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
Edina MN 55435

From: Patrick Smith <Patrick@geronimoenergy.com>
nt: Friday, March 08, 2013 3:42 PM
To: Heidi Riddle (heidi_riddle@fws.gov)
Cc: Heather L. Wayne; Gorman, Kim (Kim.Gorman@tetrattech.com); Schindler, Kate (Kathleen.Schindler@tetrattech.com)
Subject: Meeting Follow Up
Attachments: CY_FWSMeetingMinutes_02222013_Draft_02272013PKSr2.docx; Stick Nest Survey Protocol (2).pdf; StickNest_030313.pdf

Hi Heidi,

Thanks again for the meeting. Attached are the minutes we have from it, let me know if we missed anything. I'm also attaching the draft stick nest survey protocol, it is essentially what we talked about in our meeting. We will be implementing it in the next couple weeks unless you have any additional comments or recommendations on it. One item we want to follow up on before we hit the ground in the spring is connecting with the person who handles piping plovers in your office, would you be able to connect us with them?

Bet Regards,

Patrick

Patrick Smith

Director of Env. Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000

Fax: 952-988-9001

Email: patrick@geronimowind.com

 Geronimo Energy

7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725



Courtenay Wind Farm
FWS Coordination Meeting #2
02/22/2013 at 10:00 AM
Bismark, ND
Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Geronimo Energy:

Patrick Smith-Director of
Environmental Services
Jay Hesse-Courtenay Wind Farm
Project Manager*
Heather Wayne-Environmental
Associate*
Justin Pickar-Director of
Development*
(* by phone)

USFWS:

Jeff Towner
Neil Shook
Heidi Riddle

Tetra Tech:

Kate Schindler

Materials:

Attachment 1: Agenda
Attachment 2: Geronimo's Tier 1 summary
Attachment 3: Tetra Tech Tier 2 report
Attachment 4: Tetra Tech Tier 3 fall survey report

- **Courtenay Wind Farm (CWF)**
 - Geronimo is developing CWF, a 200.5 MW wind energy project in Stutsman County, North Dakota;
 - Geronimo is a small Minnesota-based renewable energy company started in 2008;
 - Geronimo has developed 240mw of wind energy;
 - Geronimo is partnered with Enel Green Power, the second largest renewable energy developer globally;
 - Landscape of CWF is comprised mostly of row crops and wetlands;
 - Noted previous meeting and written communications from 2011 regarding Courtenay.
- **Tier 1 Assessment**
 - Jeff noted that many developers do not perform an initial evaluation of development options;
 - Geronimo is committed to using the Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines (LBWEGS) to shape development of the Courtenay Project;
 - Tier 1 of Geronimo's assessments looked at three alternatives selected because they were three opportunities Geronimo had for near term interconnection. Near term interconnection is necessary for a project to be commercially viable.
 - Courtenay Project
 - Cleveland/Grayson project
 - Sheridan Hills Project
 - Geronimo referred to their table for more detail on their tier 1 evaluation;



Courtenay Wind Farm
FWS Coordination Meeting #2
02/22/2013 at 10:00 AM
Bismark, ND
Meeting Notes

- Service staff agreed that scoping projects to what was currently viable made sense;
- Geronimo selected CWF due to an initial environmental assessment that involved habitat and species knowledge, including the information that FWS had provided on CWF and the other two projects.
- **Tier 2 Assessment**
 - Geronimo contracted with Tetra Tech to provide environmental services to the project including performing a tier 2 and tier 3 assessment
 - TTI had provided their tier 2 report in advance of the meeting and reviewed basic methodology.
 - Discussion focused on piping plover review, FWS intends to provide the site photos and report to internal piping plover expert for review
 - FOLLOW UP – Call with FWS plover person regarding further habitat assessment for piping plovers
- **Tier 3**
 - Scope
 - Migratory Birds
 - Critical Species
 - Review of fall work
 - Critical Species:
 - No Sandhill or Whooping Cranes observed in fall migration
 - No Piping Plovers observed
 - One species of habitat fragmentation concern (Northern Harrier) observed
 - Go Forward
 - Critical Species
 - Spring and Summer surveys
 - Bat Surveys
 - Service asked about assessing and addressing habitat fragmentation
 - Geronimo will evaluate and address in their BBCS
- **Threatened and Endangered Species**
 - Importance of closely assessing the possible presence of threatened and endangered species as Courtenay Wind Farm moves forward
 - Also examine what that assessment will mean for the likelihood of take, both physical and in terms of habitat.
- **FWS Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines**
 - Incorporation and full consideration of FWS Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines into CWF's biological studies and mitigative measures
 - FWS Habitat conservation plans are under development for whooping cranes and piping plover
- **Species-specific conversations with Geronimo and FWS**



Courtenay Wind Farm
FWS Coordination Meeting #2
02/22/2013 at 10:00 AM
Bismark, ND
Meeting Notes

- Species-specific follow-up conversations regarding whooping cranes and piping plover may be appropriate
- **Whooping Cranes**
 - Service staff remarked that early scientific data support the belief that whooping cranes will avoid and navigate around wind turbines.
 - At this time, Geronimo (in conjunction with TT) continues to assess the possible presence of whooping cranes and their habitat at/near CWF
 - Consider two judgments:
 - Potential for lethal take by turbine strike
 - Modification of wetland roosting habitat by turbines
- **Eagles**
 - Geronimo is considering a detailed desktop habitat search, followed by a more in depth nest search
 - FWS Staff agreed that this is an acceptable methodology
 - FOLLOW UP – FWS may be able to provide information about and locations of known eagle nests
- **Bats**
 - FWS not sure about bat data in CWF's area, believes there are more bats in the Valley City/River area.
 - Not a lot of available data about North Dakota bat populations
 - GWE will plan on doing some baseline monitoring to understand bat populations and data in the CWF area.
 - FWS staff remarked that bats are probably a lower priority in this area than in other areas of North Dakota.
 - FWS and Geronimo are not sure if other North Dakota wind energy projects have filed bat-related reports with the PSC.
- **Mitigative measures**
 - Compensatory mitigation may be a viable option, especially when adjusting for a habitat modification affect.
 - FWS has examples projects to share regarding compensatory mitigation
 - Basin Electric's Minot project worked in conjunction with the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, which in turns coordinates with the FWS
- **Habitat fragmentation and mitigation**
 - FWS would like to understand potential for fragmentation, and recommends avoiding impacts if possible, or mitigation if avoidance is not possible
 - Will further discuss how Geronimo plans to address habitat fragmentation
 - Northern Harrier and Sedge Wren are species of habitat fragmentation concern that likely occur within the Project Area based on the habitat observed during the Tier 2 site visit
 - Geronimo provided land cover maps based on publicly available data. No ground trothing has occurred yet.
- **Land Ownership and Easements**
 - FWS does not have fee title at this time within CWF



Courtenay Wind Farm
FWS Coordination Meeting #2
02/22/2013 at 10:00 AM
Bismark, ND
Meeting Notes

- As of the time of writing, FWS' current land interests in CWF are wetland easements
- Potential coordination with FWS regarding the construction of roads that could affect FWS related wetlands and waters.
- **Temporary impacts versus permanent impacts**
 - Geronimo tries to avoid permanent impacts from a design standpoint
 - Service staff acknowledged that temporary impacts that stay within a road right-of-way are generally not an issue
 - Permanent impacts may initiate an exchange process for easements
- **Wetlands**
 - FWS may have some helpful maps (Exhibit A to Wetland Easements), but the maps do not delineate the wetlands
 - FWS generally relies on the company or the company's consultants for delineations
 - When turbine sites are better known by CWF, FWS would be willing to walk the site with Geronimo or TTI to help identify wetlands
 - FOLLOW UP – Spring Wetland Review on parcels that both Courtenay and FWS have easements.
- **Power Purchase Agreement**
 - Various interested parties
 - Geronimo is confident, believes CWF is a very real project
 - FWS likes to gauge how much time to invest in a project
 - Ideally start minimal construction in late 2013, and ramp up construction in April 2014
 - Discussion of the requirements of the expiring production tax credit
- **Breeding bird study methodology**
 - Typically the methodology is determined by the individual company or their consultant. This is acceptable.
- **Transmission Line**
 - Geronimo will be studying the area around the transmission line associated with CWF
 - Transmission line route is not finalized at this time, land acquisition efforts are still active
 - Transmission line marking
 - FWS Staff remarked that they usually leave the decision of what markers to use up to the company. Does not usually recommend specific line marking equipment.
 - WAPA may be issuing a study regarding the effectiveness or various marking equipment, if FWS receives this they will forward it on.



March 4, 2013

Ms. Heidi Riddle
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

**Subject: Proposed Eagle Nest Survey Protocol
Courtenay Wind Farm Project – Stutsman County, North Dakota**

Dear Ms. Riddle:

Tetra Tech has been contracted by Geronimo Energy (GE) to provide environmental support for their proposed Courtenay Wind Farm project in Stutsman County, North Dakota (the Project). The Project is located approximately 15 miles north of the Jamestown, North Dakota in northeast Stutsman County and will consist of approximately 120 turbines.

Geronimo is committed to environmental due diligence and intends to conduct eagle nest surveys of the Project Area (the area where Project facilities will be developed), proposed transmission line route, and a buffer area per recommendations in your March, 18, 2011 review of the Project. Because the breeding range of the golden eagle does not extend into Stutsman County, the survey will focus on identifying bald eagle nests. The area that will be evaluated will include the Project Area, proposed transmission line route, and a two-mile buffer of each. A two-mile buffer was chosen based on research of bald eagle territory size cited within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Draft Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance. Aerial photographs from 2012 will be reviewed to identify potential bald eagle nesting habitat within the evaluation area. A biologist will conduct field reconnaissance of areas containing potential nesting habitat from the nearest public right-of-way using binoculars and a spotting scope. The field reconnaissance will be conducted in the spring before deciduous trees have leafed out to allow visibility of nests. If bald eagle nests are identified, the biologist will record the location of the nests and take photographs of the nests. Other raptor nests, such as red-tailed hawk nests, will also be recorded. The biologist will use a standardized data collection form to record species, activity status, nest height, nest condition, nest substrate and other relevant data for the nest. The results of the nest survey will be compiled within the Tier 3 spring avian survey report, which will be provided to your office for review.

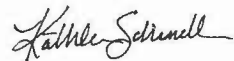
TETRA TECH Inc.

2001 Killebrew Drive, Suite 141, Bloomington, MN 55425
Tel 612-643-2200 Fax 612-643-2201 www.tetrattech.com

Proposed Eagle Nest Survey Protocol
March 4, 2013
Page 2

Geronimo would appreciate your review of the protocol described above and a response indicating your approval of the protocol. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 612-643-2240.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Schindler".

Kate Schindler
Biologist
kate.schindler@tetrattech.com

Enclosures: Figure 1 – Project Area, Transmission Line Route, and Two-mile Buffer

CC: Patrick Smith – Geronimo Energy

From: Heidi Riddle <heidi_riddle@fws.gov>
nt: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:21 AM
To: Patrick Smith
Subject: Whooping crane habitat
Attachments: image001.jpg; image002.jpg; Armbruster 1990.pdf; Austin and Richert 2002-A Comprehensive Review WC Habitat data1943-99.pdf; Howe 1989-Migration of Radio-marked Whooping Cranes from Aransas-Wood Buffalo Population.pdf

Hi Patrick,

I'm sending you some papers on whooping crane stopover habitat. Like I said on the phone last week, I would recommend assessing wetland habitat within the project footprint and a minimum ½ mile buffer around the outside, and quantify the number of wetlands/acres that are suitable.

Also, risk of piping plover strikes should be considered.

You will need to consider the "take" risk, and whether or not take is likely to occur. If so, we recommend completing an EIS.

We can talk more during our meeting. Does Friday, Feb. 22 still work for you?

Thanks, Heidi

Heidi Riddle

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office

3425 Miriam Avenue

Bismarck ND 58501

Ph: 701.250.4481, or 701.355.8503

Fax: 701.355.8513

Email: heidi_riddle@fws.gov<mailto:heidi_riddle@fws.gov>

coneflower

From: Heidi_Riddle@fws.gov
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 4:40 PM
To: Patrick Smith
Subject: RE: PIPL Crit Hab

Patrick,

It appears that many of the action items for the Northern Great Plains breeding population are ongoing, so it is unclear about completion, but yes, they are in progress.

Does that answer your question?

Thanks, Heidi

~~~~~

Heidi Riddle  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office  
3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck ND 58501  
Office: 701.250.4481  
Direct Line: 701.355.8503  
Fax: 701.355.8513  
Email: [heidi\\_riddle@fws.gov](mailto:heidi_riddle@fws.gov)

Heidi Riddle/R6/FWS/DOI

08/13/2012 04:22 PM To  
Patrick Smith <[Patrick@geronimowind.com](mailto:Patrick@geronimowind.com)> cc Subject  
RE: PIPL Crit  
HabLink<<Notes://FW6BISMARCK/862571B000551954/DABA975B9FB113EB852564B5001283EA/51D6112ADEA017E187257A59006464B3>>

I'll have to check on that with Carol Aron, our plover biologist, when she gets back in the office next week.

~~~~~

Heidi Riddle
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office

3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck ND 58501
Office: 701.250.4481
Direct Line: 701.355.8503
Fax: 701.355.8513
Email: heidi_riddle@fws.gov

Patrick Smith <Patrick@geronimowind.com>

08/13/2012 01:16 PM To
"Heidi Riddle@fws.gov" <Heidi_Riddle@fws.gov> cc Subject
RE: PIPL Crit Hab

Thanks Heidi,

I was looking through the species action plan for the Piping Plover and noticed a number of projects planned for North Dakota. The plan was done in 2009, has there been any progress on any of the items listed?

Patrick Smith
Dir. of Environmental Planning

Phone: 952-988-9000
Fax: 952-988-9001
Email: patrick@geronimowind.com

Geronimo Wind Energy
7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
Edina MN 55435

From: Heidi_Riddle@fws.gov [mailto:Heidi_Riddle@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2012 12:35 PM
To: Patrick Smith
Subject: PIPL Crit Hab

Here you go, I think this includes CH in MT, SD and MN as well, but maybe it will be useful in your other projects.

I'll send you some more info on surveys soon.

Thanks, Heidi

~~~~~  
Heidi Riddle  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

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