

210 MW Bison 4 Wind Project, Minnesota Power (PSC Case No. PU-13-127)

Permit Compliance Review

NDPSC Contract No.: PU-688-13-EE

Reporting Period: November 22nd, 2014 – September 11, 2015

Prepared By: Houston Engineering, Inc. / Josh Kadrmaz, Environmental Engineer and Bart Schultz,
Project Manager

General:

Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) was contractually hired by the North Dakota Public Services Commission (NDPSC) to complete the construction inspection activities, as part of the 210 MW Bison 4 Wind Project, (PSC Case No. PU-13-127). The following is a summary of the work completed to date and complete the permit compliance review. Summary Report #3 represents the final environmental compliance site visit. This site visit which was conducted on September 11, 2015 following completion of construction.

Summary of Activities / Items Completed to Date:

HEI met Tim Mork, Bison Wind Energy Center, at the site. We traveled throughout the completed Bison 4 complex and reviewed the progress towards revegetation of disturbed areas. The western network of turbines (west of 56th Avenue) was reviewed as this was the last section of the project to be constructed.

With only a few minor exceptions, the disturbed areas had reestablished continuous vegetation. In most areas, the previously disturbed areas were indistinguishable from adjacent undisturbed areas. In areas where vegetation had not yet reestablished, there was evidence of repairs including reseeded or new gravel. See photos.

Tim stated that they will continue to maintain these areas with mowing, weed control, reseeded, or surface repairs, as needed. Tim also stated that they are working closely with the adjacent land owners to address any of their concerns.

Compliance

Only minor areas of erosion were observed. Evidence of progress in stabilizing problem areas was noted. No indications of stormwater violations were observed.

Future Activities for the next reporting period:

No additional inspections are planned.

Photos



Photo 1:
Looking west
from 57th Ave at
Collector line
crossing.
Turbine 451 is
on the right of
the photo.



Photo 2:
Looking east
from 57th Ave at
Collector line
crossing.
Turbine 439 is
the closest one in
view.



Photo 3: Partial
revegetation of
area near
Turbine 441



Photo 4: Cattle grazing the new vegetation near Turbine 444.



Photo 5: revegetation progress near Turbine 441.



Photo 6: revegetated collector line ROW.



Photo 7: small area of erosion, deposited in the field near Turbine 456.



Photo 8: Looking south along revegetated ROW, north of Turbine 464.



Photo 9: Collector line ROW with 2015 crop of sunflowers planted over it.



Photo 10:
Collector line
ROW with 2015
crop of
sunflowers
planted over it.

Field Data

Bison 4 6077-004

Date 9-11-15	Day Friday
Hours Worked	
Working Days Charged	Total Working Days to Date
Reasons for Time not Charged	

Weather

Sunny

Engineering Staff

Josh Kadrmaz, HEI

Work in Progress

0905 Onsite @ Bison 4 facility
0930 Begin tour of western portion with Tim Mark
1200 Finished tour. A few areas of erosion were noted and would get addressed by Tim. Majority of disturbed areas had been reclaimed. No major issues observed.
1210 leave site

Contractor's Labor Force

Tim Mark, Bison Wind Energy Center - Allete

Contractor's Equipment Summary

Project Visitors

55543

55790



Project Manager Signature