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August 19, 2014



Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Director  
NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

In re: Sunflower Wind Project, LLC Ten-Year Plan  
Sunflower Wind Energy Project  
Our File No. 48-357-001

On behalf of Sunflower Wind Project, LLC ("Sunflower"), we hereby submit ten copies of Sunflower's Ten-Year Plan for the Sunflower Wind Energy Project pursuant to North Dakota Century Code § 49-22-04 and North Dakota Administrative Code Chapter 69-06-02.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Bjella".

BRIAN R. BJELLA

bw  
Enc.  
Ten-Year Plan to:  
County Auditors:  
Stark and Morton Counties  
Casey Willis  
Notice to:  
State Agencies and Officers designated in  
§ 69-06-01-05, N.D. Adm. Code.

**TEN YEAR PLAN: 2014 THROUGH 2024  
SUNFLOWER WIND PROJECT, LLC**

Pursuant to Section 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code (“NDCC”) and Chapter 69-06-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, Sunflower Wind Project, LLC (“Sunflower”) submits to the North Dakota Public Service Commission the following Ten Year Plan for years 2014 through 2024.

**§49-22-04 (1): A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing ten years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the ten year period.**

Sunflower is managed by Infinity Wind Power, LLC (“Company”). Sunflower contemplates operating a wind energy project with a total nameplate capacity of up to 110 megawatts (“MW”). The project is proposed to be located on land in Stark and Morton Counties, North Dakota. The first phase of the project would have a nameplate capacity of up to 110 MW and is targeted to be operational by the end of 2015. The infrastructure for the first phase of the project would consist of 48-65 wind turbine generators, up to one (1) permanent meteorological towers, buried 34.5 kV electrical collection lines, a project substation, an operations and maintenance facility, and approximately one (1) mile of 230 kV transmission line.

The Company does not anticipate the removal of these facilities during the ten year period.

**§49-22-04 (2): An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced with the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.**

The Sunflower Wind Project is proposed to be located on the border of Stark and Morton Counties just to the south of Highway 94. The town of Hebron is located approximately 4 miles to the north, while the town of Glen Ullin is located approximately 9 miles to the east.

The Company has no firm plans for additional development beyond what is outlined in this filing.

**§49-22-04 (3): A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.**

In September of 2009, Sunflower submitted an interconnection request to inject up to 201 MW onto the Western Area Power Authority (“WAPA”) electrical system. The proposed interconnection point is on WAPA’s Dickinson to Mandan 230 kV transmission line, which runs through the project area. Sunflower signed a Larger Generator Interconnection Agreement (“LGIA”) in May of 2014. In July of 2014, Sunflower elected to reduce the queue position to 110 MW.

Sunflower contemplates owning a substation on the project site that would connect at a new switchyard on the Dickinson to Mandan transmission line. A power purchase agreement for the Project was signed in the fall of 2013 with Basin Electric.

**§49-22-04 (4): A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to**

**identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.**

During the development of the Sunflower Wind Project, the Company has engaged the services of Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc. (“WEST”) and Tetra Tech, Inc. (“Tetra Tech”) to complete required biological, environmental, and land use studies for the project. The company has consulted with, or intends to consult with, the following agencies related to governmental authorizations that may be required for the project.

- Federal Aviation Administration
- United State Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Environmental Protection Agency
- North Dakota Public Services Commission
- North Dakota Department of Health
- North Dakota Department of Transportation
- North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
- North Dakota Department of Game and Fish
- Stark County
- Morton County

The Company has incorporated minimization and avoidance measures into the project’s design based on the biological and environmental studies completed to date. The intention of the project is to minimize environmental impacts to greatest degree possible while maximizing the efficiencies of the project. Baseline biological surveys were initiated by WEST in early 2013 based on guidance outlined in the USFWS’s *Wind Energy Guidelines*. The baseline environmental surveys are focused on evaluating avian and bat use as well as assessing for the presence or absence of sensitive species. Additional, cultural resource surveys have been completed for the Project. The results of these studies have been incorporated into the design of the project to minimize or avoid impacts to the applicable resource.

**§49-22-04 (5): A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing ten years and the underlying assumptions for the project, with that information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.**

The Company plans to sell the energy produced by the Sunflower Wind Project to Basin Electric pursuant to the power purchase agreement that was signed for the Project.

In addition, a regional need exists for renewable energy produced in North Dakota. Eleven of the MISO states currently have renewable portfolio standards. According to the MISO Transmission Expansion Plan for 2012, the MISO region needs to add between 4,484 and 11,290 MW of new capacity or 3,865 and 9,733 MW of demand reduction to meet the minimum Planning Reserve Margins in 2022. 9,912 MW of retirements are assumed to occur from 2015 onward due to EPA regulations. Depending on the projection scenario, MISO assumes anywhere from 13 to 60 GW of incremental wind penetration. Seventeen Multi-Value Projects have been integrated into MISO planning models, which will relieve a major part of MISO’s internal future congestion and deliver wind energy more efficiency.

Within North Dakota, the expansion of oil and gas operations within the Bakken Formation is anticipated to significantly increase future load growth. In 2012, the North Dakota Transmission Authority commissioned a study to forecast future load growth demands due to the increased development in the

Bakken Formation over a 20 year period. Based on modeled load growth projections, North Dakota alone is expected to need an additional 1,830 MW by 2017, 2400 MW by 2022, 2,769 MW by 2027, and 3,030 MW by 2032.

Given Sunflower's location within North Dakota, energy generated from the project can be utilized to meet future load growth projections within the region. Thus, the renewable energy that may be produced by the Sunflower Wind Project will help meet the significant regional need for renewable energy.



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Honorable Jack Dalrymple  
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State Health Officer  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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NORTH DAKOTA INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION  
Geological Survey  
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Bonnie Storbakken, Commissioner  
ND DEPT. OF LABOR DEPARTMENT  
AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
13th Floor, State Capitol  
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 406  
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Lance Gaebe, Land Commissioner  
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Mark Zimmerman, Director  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
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Mr. Scott Hochhalter  
Soil Conservation Specialist  
SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
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Bismarck, ND 58503-0585

Mr. Grant Levi  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
608 E. Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

Todd Sando, State Engineer  
STATE WATER COMMISSION  
900 East Boulevard, Dept. 770  
State Office Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

Commander  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
MINOT AIR FORCE BASE  
201 Summit Drive  
Minot, ND 58701

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
1513 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58504

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
Bismarck Airports District Office, BIS-ADO-600  
2301 University Drive, Building 23B  
Bismarck, ND 58504


NORTH DAKOTA TRANSMISSION AUTHORITY  
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405  
State Capitol, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

NORTH DAKOTA PIPELINE AUTHORITY  
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405  
State Capitol, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840


MORTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
210 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW  
Mandan, ND 58554

STARK COUNTY COMMISSION  
PO Box 130  
Dickinson, ND 58602

That she knew the persons served to be the persons named in the papers served and the persons intended to be served.

  
Beth Wald

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

  
Leslie Kriedeman, Notary Public  
Burleigh County, North Dakota  
My Commission Expires:

