



September 9, 2014

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



Subject: Wilton IV Ten-Year Plan (Case No. PU-11-646)

Dear Mr. Nitschke,

On behalf of Wilton Wind IV, LLC and in accordance with NDCC 49-22-04, Tetra Tech is pleased to submit the Wilton Wind IV 2014 Ten Year Plan. A hard copy is being mailed to you to be included in Case No. PU-11-646.

Contact: Melissa Hochmuth
Phone: (561) 694-4638
Email: Melissa.Hochmuth@nee.com

Sincerely,

TETRA TECH, INC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'AnneMarie Griger'.

Anne-Marie B. Griger, AICP
Project Manager

Wilton Wind IV, LLC

700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408

TEN YEAR PLAN

Section A: Energy Conversion Facility

Please see Section C.

Section B: Energy Conversion Facilities under Construction

1. Description: N/A
2. Status and Timetable: N/A

Section C: Proposed Energy Conversion Facilities on Which Construction is Intended Within the Ensuing Five Years

1. Location: The Wilton IV Wind Energy Center (“Wilton IV” or the “Project”) is a proposed wind development project located approximately 25 miles northeast of Bismarck in Burleigh County, ND.
2. Size and Type: Wilton IV is projected to have 58 GE 1.7 MW wind turbines. The Project includes an electrical collection system that will transport energy from the 58 turbine feeders to the Project’s collector substation. A proposed 230kV aboveground transmission line will connect the collector substation to the existing Wilton/Baldwin substation and 230 kV transmission line owned by Central Power Electric Cooperative.
3. Proposed Timetable: Wilton IV has an expected commercial operations date of December 2015. Once operational, Wilton IV would contribute approximately 100 MW of renewable energy to the power grid. The Project is not expected to retire in the next ten years – the estimated retirement date is December 2046.
4. Pollutants: Wind energy generates no air or water pollution.

Section D: Proposed Energy Conversion Facilities During the Next Ten-Year Time Period

1. Location: Please see Section C.
2. Size and Type: Please see Section C.
3. Proposed Timetable: Please see Section C.

Section E: Existing Transmission Facilities (Electric)

N/A

Section F: Existing Transmission Facilities (Pipeline)

1. Location: N/A

2. Type and Capacity: N/A
3. In service dates: N/A
4. Projected Retirement Dates: N/A

Section G: Proposed Transmission Facilities on Which Construction is Intended Within the Ensuing Five Years (Electric)

1. Location: Please see Section C.
2. Geographic Service Area: Please see Section C.
3. Facility Description: Please see Section C.
4. Proposed Timetable: Please see Section C.

Section H: Proposed Transmission Facilities on Which Construction is Intended Within the Ensuing Five Years (Pipeline)

1. Location: N/A
2. Geographic Service Area: N/A
3. Facility Description: N/A
4. Proposed Timetable: N/A

Section I: Proposed Transmission Facilities During the Next Ten-Year Time Period (Electric and Pipeline)

1. Location: Please see Section C.
2. Probable Type: Please see Section C.
3. Proposed Timetable: Please see Section C.

Section J: Regional Coordination

1. Once operational, Wilton IV will contribute approximately 100 MW of renewable energy to the power grid.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

Section K: Environmental Information

Wilton Wind IV, LLC has conducted multiple environmental studies prior to construction of the facility and is in the process of meeting all environmental requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Wilton IV has conducted avian surveys, native prairie surveys, and wetland surveys early in the development process to support a Project design that avoids sensitive habitats to the extent practicable. Wilton IV is also committed to environmental compliance during project construction and operation.

- a. Construction crews, including contractors, will be required to undertake an environmental training class prior to commencing work onsite. The class would cover such topics as

wetland protection, avian species recognition, minimization of impacts to sensitive areas, waste management and other pertinent topics.

- b. Wilton IV will avoid all identified sensitive resources during siting, construction, maintenance and operations to the maximum extent practicable. Where it would not be possible to completely avoid a sensitive area, Wilton IV would utilize site-specific mitigation measures to minimize adverse effects.
- c. Crews will use and maintain silt fencing, straw bales, ditch blocks and other appropriate erosion control measures during access road construction and electrical line trenching on sloped ground or at ephemeral drainage crossings within the Project Area to further minimize erosion and related environmental impacts.
- d. Introduction of noxious weeds will be mitigated through prompt re-vegetation of non-cropland with approved regionally native species seed or restoration of prior land use. A Clean Vehicle Program would be initiated that would require the inspection and washing of vehicles and construction equipment from outside the Project area to remove adhered soils and plant debris prior to entry into the Project site. Wilton IV will document any noxious weeds during routine inspections and will implement measures to remove and control the spread of noxious weeds throughout the life of the project.
- e. Appropriate erosion control measures will be installed and maintained to avoid deposition of sediment in wetlands near Project facilities.
- f. Wilton IV will bury collection lines from the turbines to the collection substation to avoid collision risk. The eastern half of the proposed overhead transmission line would be outfitted with bird diverters and the poles with perch deterrents.
- g. Wilton IV will establish a post-construction monitoring program during spring and fall whooping crane migration seasons (spring: April 1 to May 15; fall: September 10 to October 31) for 3 years post-construction to detect the possible presence of whooping cranes within the Project area. A certified biologist would serve as the trained whooping crane observer during these studies. On-site operations personnel will also be trained in whooping crane recognition and response procedures for post-construction monitoring.
- h. Wilton IV has developed a Wildlife Response and Reporting System (WRRS), whereby any dead or injured birds found within Project boundaries by Project employees would be marked and their locations reported immediately to the on-duty Plant Lead/Site Supervisor. The carcass or injured bird would not be moved or removed by any individual who does not have the appropriate permits.
- i. Wilton IV will conduct post-construction mortality monitoring surveys for 1 year following construction of the Project.
- j. Wilton IV has developed a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (BBCS), so that information gathered and experience gained from post-construction monitoring informs knowledge of the impacts of the wind farm and is incorporated into adaptive management of the site. Similar plans were previously developed for the three Existing Projects.
- k. The layout of the proposed Project has been designed so that no permanent impacts to jurisdictional wetland areas would occur. As a result, direct effects on roosting whooping cranes, nesting or foraging interior least terns, or nesting piping plovers would be reduced. Also, avoiding wetland impacts would generally reduce potential impacts to migratory birds and sensitive habitat.
- l. Wilton IV is proposing in its lighting plan to use the minimum number of aviation hazard lights acceptable to the FAA. Wilton IV has also agreed to install motion-activated

lighting or down-shielded lighting on other Project facilities that require lighting at night (i.e., the collection substation) to avoid the potential to draw birds and bats toward the facility.

Section L: Projected Demand for Services

1. Ten-year historical growth and forecast: N/A
2. Meet projected needs: N/A
3. Identify load centers, fuel sources: N/A

If you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact:

Melissa Hochmuth
Project Manager
NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408
Phone: (561) 694-4638
Email: Melissa.Hochmuth@nexteraenergy.com