

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC / Montana- Dakota Utilities Co.,  
a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
Transfer of Site Certificate  
Siting Application**

**Case No. PU-15-592**

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED AND REGULAR MAIL**

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **29<sup>th</sup>** day of **December, 2015**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

**Order**

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Daniel S. Kuntz  
Associate General Council  
MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
PO Box 5650  
Bismarck, ND 58506-5650  
**Cert. No. 7015 0920 0001 6791 8503**

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** further deposes and says that on the **29<sup>th</sup>** day of **December, 2015**, she deposited in the United States Mail, Bismarck, North Dakota, **2** envelopes by regular mail, with postage fully prepaid, securely sealed, each containing a photocopy of the same.

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Tamie A. Aberle  
Director of Regulatory Affairs  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
400 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501

David R. Moeller  
Senior Attorney  
ALLETE, Inc.  
30 W. Superior St.  
Duluth, MN 55802

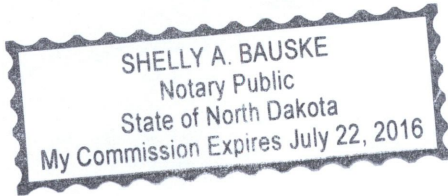
Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 29<sup>th</sup> day of **December, 2015**.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Shelly A Bauske*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

SEAL



**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC / Montana-Dakota Utilities  
Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
Transfer of Site Certificate  
Siting Application**

**Case No. PU-15-592**

**ORDER**

**December 16, 2015**

On August 14, 2014, in Case No. PU-11-601, the Commission issued First Amended Certificate of Site Compatibility Number 35 to Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC authorizing construction of a 150 MW Thunder Spirit Wind Energy Project in Adams County, North Dakota.

On June 30, 2015, in Case Nos. PU-14-843 and PU-14-844 the Commission issued an advance determination of prudence and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5870 to Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. (MDU) authorizing its purchase of the Thunder Spirit Wind Energy Project.

On July 22, 2015, in Case No. PU-15-592, MDU and Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC filed an application for transfer of Site Certificate Number 35 effective upon closing of the sale of the Thunder Spirit Wind Energy Project from Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC to MDU. Included with the application was an Affidavit of Jay Skabo, Vice President of Electric Supply, affirming that MDU agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the certificate.

On November 4, 2015, in Case No. PU-15-592 the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing that provided until December 8, 2015 for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No response was received. The notice identified the issues to be considered as whether MDU agrees and is able to comply with the terms and conditions of the site certificate issued to Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC and whether the requested transfer is compatible with the public interest.

MDU is a public utility that owns and operates a multi-state electric generation, transmission and distribution system. MDU provides retail electric and natural gas service to customers in North Dakota under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission.

The Commission finds that MDU agrees and is able to comply with the terms and conditions of the site certificate issued to Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC.

The Commission finds the requested certificate transfer is compatible with the public interest.

**ORDER**

The Commission Orders:

1. The joint application of MDU and Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC for transfer of site certificate is granted, and
2. First Reissued First Amended Site Certificate Number 35 is issued to MDU effective upon closing of the sale of the Thunder Spirit Wind Energy Project from Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC to MDU.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Randy Christmann**  
Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Julie Fedorchak**  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Brian P. Kalk**  
Commissioner

# **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

### **First Reissued First Amended Site Certificate Number 35**

*This is to certify that the Commission has designated a site for Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC for the construction operation and maintenance of a wind energy conversion facility and associated facilities in Adams County, North Dakota.*

*This certificate is issued in accordance with the Orders of the Commission in Case No. PU-11-601 dated August 14, 2014 and in Case No. PU-15-592 dated December 16, 2015 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in those orders.*

*Bismarck, North Dakota, December 16, 2015.*

**ATTEST:**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
**Executive Secretary**

  
**Commissioner**