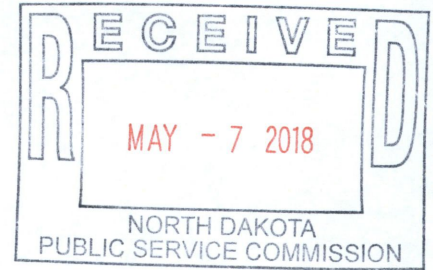




May 7, 2018



Mr. Jerry Lein
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505

**RE: Notification of Intent to Resume Construction Thunder Spirit Phase Two
Case Nos. PU-11-601, PU-15-592, and PU-17-192**

Dear Mr. Lein:

ALLETE Clean Energy (ACE) acquired development rights for the Thunder Spirit Wind project (Thunder Spirit) from Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Montana-Dakota) on December 22, 2016.

The original project owner Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC received a Certificate of Site Compatibility from the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) under Case No. PU-11-601 on October 9, 2013 for Thunder Spirit. Thunder Spirit consists of up to 75 turbine locations with a total generating capacity of 150 megawatts (MW).

A Supplemental Order to the Certificate of Site Compatibility was issued on August 14, 2014 which authorized Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC to site/construct wind turbines at 43 proposed locations and retained 31 previously-approved locations for a Phase 2 installation of the remaining 150 MW included in the project's Certificate of Site Compatibility. The First Reissued First Amended Site Certificate Number 35 was issued to Montana-Dakota upon sale from Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC to Montana-Dakota in Case No. PU-15-592.

The first phase of Thunder Spirit was completed on December 30, 2015. 43 wind turbines were placed into commercial operation totaling 107.5 MW of installed capacity.

ACE is hereby providing notice to the PSC Phase 2 construction of Thunder Spirit (PU-11-601) located in Adams County, North Dakota under its Second Reissued First Amended Site Certificate Number 35 (Case Nos. PU-11-601, PU-15-592, and PU-17-192). In May 2018, ACE will begin construction of 16 wind turbines, access roads, and underground collection for Thunder Spirit.

ACE will procure all necessary permits and agreements under Case No. PU-17-592, the engineering for project roads will be submitted to the PSC prior to construction activities commencing.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>21 PU-17-192 Filed: 5/7/2018 Pages: 2 Notification of Intent to Resume Construction</p> | <p>37 PU-15-592 Filed: 5/7/2018 Pages: 2 Notification of Intent to Resume Construction</p> |
| | <p>163 PU-11-601 Filed: 5/7/2018 Pages: 2 Notification of Intent to Resume Construction</p> |



Thunder Spirit Wind, LLC | 30 West Superior St. | Duluth, MN | 55802

Please acknowledge receipt by stamping or initialing the duplicate copy of this letter attached hereto and returning the same in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (218) 355-3249 or jhollingsworth@alletecleanenergy.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ John Hollingsworth

John Hollingsworth
Project Development Manager