

interoffice
MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioner Randy Christmann
Commissioner Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner Brian Kroshus

From: Sara Cardwell, Public Utility Analyst
SJC

Subject: PU-16-042 Brady Wind II, LLC, Brady II Wind Energy Center – Hettinger & Stark
Tree and Shrub Replacement Plan

Date: April 5, 2017

On March 30, 2017, Brady Wind II, LLC, filed a tree and shrub replacement plan in compliance with the Commission's Order and the Certification Relating to Order Provisions, Wind Energy Conversion Facility Siting with accompanying Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications that the Company signed for this project.

The table below summarizes the number and type of trees and shrubs removed as well as the replacement numbers and types.

Landowner	Trees & Shrubs Removed	Number	Replacement Trees & Shrubs	Number
Herberholz	Green Ash	19	Juniper	38
Koller	Siberian Elm	5	Juniper	10
Koller	Siberian Peashrub	38	Common Chokecherry	76
Total		62		124

The replacement species were reviewed by Company contractors as well as the North Dakota Forest Service and the Slope-Hettinger Soil Conservation District. The replacement species are considered suitable to North Dakota growing conditions and are commonly recommended for tree plantings by the North Dakota Forest Service. The plantings will occur in the spring or early summer of 2017. The Slope-Hettinger Soil Conservation District will arrange to cultivate the planting areas and prepare the soil for planting, install weed barriers and plant the replacement trees and shrubs. Both the Siberian Elm and Siberian Peashrub are considered invasive species and were not recommended for replanting.

Junipers and Common Chokecherry are considered native to western North Dakota and are therefore considered good replacement species. The North Dakota Forest Service does not currently recommend planting green ash do to the susceptibility of this species to the emerald ash borer. The insect has not yet been found in North Dakota but has been found in Minnesota so further planting is to be avoided to help prevent the possible loss of these trees in the future. This plan meets the Commissions 2 for 1 replanting requirements.

A motion to approve this plan will be on the agenda for your consideration at the April 13, 2017 Commission meeting.