

June 1, 2016

Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Avenue – Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Re: Renewable & Recycled Energy Objective Report

Executive Secretary:

Enclosed is the 2015 North Dakota Renewable Energy and Recycled Energy Objective report per N.D. Century Code Chapter 49-02-34.

This report is filed on behalf of the following members of Minnkota Power Cooperative and Northern Municipal Power Agency:

- Cass County Electric Cooperative
- Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative
- Nodak Electric Cooperative
- Grafton Municipal Utilities
- Park River Municipal Utilities

Please contact me at (701) 795-4261 if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,
MINNKOTA POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.



Craig Rustad
Accounting Manager

Copy:

Marshal Albright, Cass County Electric Cooperative
Duane Otto, Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative
Mylo Einarson, Nodak Electric Cooperative
Chris West, Grafton Municipal Utilities
Dennis Larson, Park River Municipal Utilities
Jerald Pederson, Hawley Public Utilities
Darryl Tveitbakk, NMPA

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2015 Renewable and Recycled Energy Objective report

Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.

**2015 North Dakota Renewable and Recycled Energy Objective
(North Dakota Century Code 49-02-34)**

**Reported to:
North Dakota Public Service Commission**

**Reported by:
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Minnkota)
Northern Municipal Power Agency (NMPA)**

Date: June 1, 2016

This report is filed on behalf of the following cooperatives and municipals in North Dakota:

- Cass County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Grafton Municipal Utilities
- Park River Municipal Utilities

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-02-34 (2009) provides that, "Commencing on June 30, 2009, retail providers shall report annually on the provider's previous calendar year's energy sales. This report shall include information regarding qualifying electricity delivered and renewable energy and recycled energy certificates purchased and retired as a percentage of annual retail sales and a brief narrative report that describes steps taken to meet the objective over time and identifies any challenges or barriers encountered in meeting the objective. The last annual report must be made on June 30, 2016. Retail providers shall report to the public service commission, which shall make data and narrative reports publicly available and accessible electronically on the internet. Distribution cooperatives may aggregate their reporting through generation and transmission cooperatives and municipal utilities may aggregate their reporting through a municipal power agency."

1. Total North Dakota retail sales for 2015*:

	<u>MWh</u>
Retail Sales of Cooperatives (Minnkota)	
Cass	1,030,810
Cavalier	29,373
Nodak	<u>976,445</u>
	2,036,628
 Retail Sales of Municipals (NMPA)	
Grafton	16,105
Park River	<u>4,284</u>
	20,389
 Total ND Retail Sales	2,057,017
 Times Objective Percentage	<u>10%</u>
 REC's	205,702

*Reflects subtraction for North Dakota WAPA sales

2. Steps taken to meet the objective:

Starting with the construction of the first commercial-scale turbines near Valley City and Petersburg in 2002, Minnkota has been a leader in the growth of wind energy in North Dakota.

In 2007 Minnkota, along with Otter Tail Power, approached FPL Energy (now NextEra Energy) about the development of wind resources in North Dakota. This has resulted in the construction of large scale wind farms at Langdon and Ashtabula, North Dakota. As of December 31, 2015, the nameplate capacity of these facilities was 566.0 MW. Of that amount, Minnkota has 357 MW under long-term contracts representing over 30% of member load on a kWh basis.

Minnkota's wind contracts are sufficient to meet the 2015 North Dakota renewable energy objective for the three Minnkota associated cooperatives and two NMPA municipals located in North Dakota. In 2015, Minnkota, on behalf of the Minnkota/NMPA joint system, owned or purchased energy from wind turbines equal to over 30% of its member/owner's retail sales.