

August 3, 2017



Mr. Darrel Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Application to Amend the Certificate of Site Compatibility
Permit No. 30 for the Clean Energy #1 Wind Project.
Case No. PU-11-662

Executive Secretary Nitschke,

ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc., a subsidiary of ALLETE, Inc. (ALLETE Clean Energy), herewith files an original and seven (7) copies of its request to amend the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) Certificate of Site Compatibility Permit No. 30 (Permit No. 30) for the Clean Energy #1 Wind Project located in Morton and Mercer Counties, North Dakota. An affidavit of Wells McGiffert in support of this request is attached hereto.

ALLETE Clean Energy is requesting an amendment to Permit No. 30 to increase the nameplate (gross) generating capacity from approximately 100MW to 106MW. ALLETE Clean Energy has not finalized the selection for a final wind turbine for the project. ALLETE Clean Energy will utilize up to 50 wind turbines at the previously-permitted pad locations.

Background:

The Certificate of Site Compatibility for the Clean Energy #1 Wind project was filed under PU-11-662 by ALLETE Clean Energy on January 31, 2012.

On August 29, 2012, the North Dakota Public Service Commission issued the original Certificate of Site Compatibility Permit No. 30 for the Clean Energy #1 Wind project for the installation of up to 50 wind turbines and associated facilities totaling up to 100MW of generating capacity.

Permit Modification:

At this time, ALLETE Clean Energy is seeking to install up to 50 wind turbines totaling up to 106MW. ALLETE Clean Energy has not selected a wind turbine, but each turbine will have a maximum blade tip height of 150 meters. All turbines will be installed at locations previously approved by the commission with no changes to the previously approved design.

The Original Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 30 for the Clean Energy #1 Wind project allowed the installation of up to 50 wind turbines totaling up to 100MW of generating capacity. The MISO interconnection agreement for the Clean Energy #1 Wind project is for 101.2MW of net generating capacity and the project collector substation, step-up transformer and interconnection facilities will be sized for greater than 106MW of energy flow from the project. ALLETE Clean Energy is requesting the ability to install up to 106MW of gross (nameplate) generation under Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 30 to fully utilize its interconnect and account for electrical losses.

The 106MW of gross generation (nameplate) is measured at the base of the wind turbines while the MISO interconnection agreement controls the amount of energy or net generation to the transmission system at the point of interconnection. The project has electric losses between the point of generation and point of interconnection due to (1) auxiliary turbine loads, (2) padmount transformer losses, (3) underground collector cabling losses, (4) step-up transformer losses, (5) station service at the collector substation losses, and (6) transmission line losses between the collector substation and point of interconnection. Additionally, the project will utilize park control to ensure that the site doesn't exceed the MISO Large Generator Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) limit, including the calculated losses.

ALLETE Clean Energy requests an expedited review and approval of this amendment request so that remaining turbine equipment can be purchased to meet a December 2019 in-service date. ALLETE Clean Energy will file all required documents, drawings, and other compliance items as required under Permit No. 30.

ALLETE Clean Energy requests the Commission provide a Notice of Opportunity to request a hearing to interested parties and, if no hearing is requested within twenty days, to waive the hearing in accordance with §49-22-13(4), N.D.C.C. and 69-02-04-01, N.D.A.C.

Please refer all inquiries regarding this filing to:

Mr. John Hollingsworth
Project Development Manager
ALLETE Clean Energy
30 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
jhollingsworth@alletecleanenergy.com

Also, please send copies of all written inquiries, correspondence and pleadings to:

Mr. David Moeller
Senior Attorney
ALLETE Clean Energy
30 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
dmoeller@allete.com

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ALLETE Clean Energy provided an initial application deposit for Permit No. 30 that should be available to cover costs to facilitate the amendment request. In the event the Commission determines an additional fee is required to cover anticipated expenses of processing the Application, ALLETE Clean Energy shall remit such amount in accordance with North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22-22d.

ALLETE Clean Energy respectfully requests that this filing be accepted as being in full compliance with the filing requirements of this Commission.

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.

Sincerely,



John Hollingsworth
Project Development Manager

JH:sr
Enc.

Cc: David Moeller, ALLETE

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

In the Matter of the Application of ALLETE)
Clean Energy, Inc., a wholly owned)
subsidiary of ALLETE, Inc. to Amend the) Case No. PU-11-662
Certificate of Site Compatibility Permit No.)
30 for the Clean Energy #1 Project


AFFIDAVIT OF WELLS MCGIFFERT

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) :ss
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS)

1. I am Wells McGiffert for ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc. (“ALLETE Clean Energy”) a subsidiary of ALLETE, Inc., and I make this affidavit on the basis of my own personal knowledge and belief as to the matters contained herein.
2. The information contained in this request to modify the Certificate of Site Compatibility for the Clean Energy #1 Wind Project under Energy Conversion Facility No. 30 (“Certificate”) originally dated August 29, 2012 in the above-referenced Docket is true and is based upon my knowledge.
3. I am employed by ALLETE Clean Energy a subsidiary of ALLETE, Inc., 30 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802, as the Director of Business Development.
4. I am responsible for the development and construction of wind energy projects for ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc.
5. The purpose of my Affidavit is to provide evidence and support regarding ALLETE Clean Energy’s request to modify its Certificate for its Clean Energy #1 Wind Project located in Morton and Mercer Counties.
6. The Commission certified the Clean Energy #1 Wind Project “consisting of up to 50 wind turbines and associated facilities totaling up to 100MW generating capacity in Morton and Mercer Counties, North Dakota.”
7. ALLETE Clean Energy is requesting one modification to the Certificate which include: (1) an increase in overall total generating capacity to 106MW.


8. The Clean Energy #1 project will be constructed on previously sited and approved locations. There will be no changes to any previously approved locations and therefore no impacts with any exclusion or avoidance areas as defined under North Dakota law.

Subscribed and sworn this 3rd day of AUGUST, 2017.

By: 
Wells McGiffert
Director of Business Development

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of AUGUST, 2017.




NAME, Notary Public - *Susan ROMANS*
St. Louis County, Minnesota
My Commission Expires: Jan 31, 2020

OF COUNSEL:

Mr. David Moeller
Senior Attorney
ALLETE, Inc.
30 West Superior Street, MN 55802

Ms. Maggie Thickens
General Counsel
ALLETE Clean Energy
30 West Superior Street, MN 55802