

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc.
Clean Energy #1 Wind Pjc, Mercer & Morton Counties
Siting Application

Case No. PU-17-302

ORDER

November 16, 2017

Preliminary Statement

On August 29, 2012, in Case No. PU-11-662, the Commission issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order issuing Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 30 to ALLETE Clean Energy authorizing construction of an up to 100 MW Clean Energy #1 Wind Project in Morton and Mercer Counties, North Dakota.

On August 3, 2017, in Case No. PU-17-302, ALLETE Clean Energy filed an application for a First Amended Certificate of Site Compatibility Number 30. ALLETE Clean Energy proposes an amendment to increase total authorized project generating capacity from 100 MW to 106 MW. in order.

On August 16, 2017, the Commission deemed the application for a second amendment complete and issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. The notice provided until September for receiving written comments and requests for hearing. No requests for hearing were received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered in Case No. PU-17-302:

1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

Discussion

ALLETE Clean Energy proposes to install up to 50 wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 150 meters resulting in an increase in overall total name-plate generating capacity from 100 MW to 106 MW. The turbines are to be installed in previously approved turbine locations and there will be no changes to the project roads from previously approved design.

The Clean Energy #1 interconnection agreement allows delivery of 101.2 MW of power into the regional transmission grid. Increasing the name-plate generating capability from 100 MW to 106 MW will offset system losses to enable delivery of the full 101.2 MW interconnection entitlement.

The application submitted by ALLETE Clean Energy meets the site evaluation criteria required under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-22.

The location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities will produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota.

The proposed facilities are compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources.

The proposed facility locations will minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion.

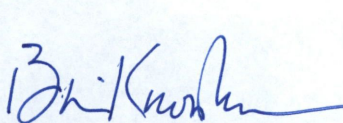
The proposed project is of such design, location, and purpose that it will produce minimal adverse effects.

Order

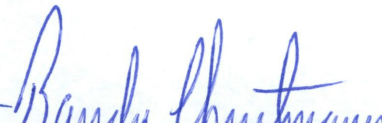
The Commission Orders:

1. First Amended Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 30 is issued to ALLETE Clean Energy authorizing construction of its proposed Clean Energy #1 Wind Project expansion.
2. Within the permitted area, ALLETE Clean Energy is authorized to site and construct 50 wind turbines, in previously approved locations, with a maximum blade tip height of 150 meters, increasing the total authorized project generating capacity from 100 MW to 106 MW.
3. All provisions and requirements in the Commission's August 29, 2012 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in Case No. PU-11-662 continue to apply except where altered by this Order.

Public Service Commission



Brian Kroshus
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Certificate of Site Compatibility for Energy Conversion Facility

First Amended Certificate Number 30

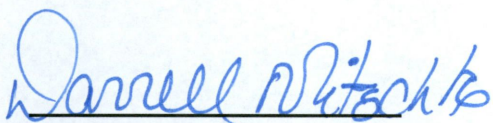
This is to certify that the Commission has designated an energy conversion facility site for Allele Clean Energy, Inc.'s Clean Energy #1 Wind Project consisting of up to 50 Wind turbine generators totaling approximately 106 MW of generating capacity and associated facilities in Mercer and Morton Counties of North Dakota.

The facility may be sited in this designated location in compliance with the energy conversion facility siting criteria. This certificate is issued in accordance with the Finding of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order of the Commission in Case No. PU-11-662 dated August 29, 2012 and Order in Case No. PU-17-302 dated November 16, 2017 and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in those orders.

Bismarck, North Dakota, November 16, 2017.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Executive Secretary



Commissioner