

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power Company
150 MW Foxtail Wind Project - Dickey County
Public Convenience and Necessity**

Case No. PU-17-387

ORDER

February 27, 2018

On October 27, 2017, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to acquire and operate a proposed 150 MW Foxtail Wind Project in Dickey County, North Dakota.

On November 16, 2017, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until December 27, 2017 for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No response was received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered in this matter:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of the facilities.
2. Whether the applicant is fit, willing, and able to provide service.

NSP is an investor-owned utility headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota and authorized to provide public utility service in North Dakota under the regulatory jurisdiction of this Commission. NSP provides electric service to approximately 90,000 retail electric customers in and around Fargo, Grand Forks, and Minot, North Dakota. NSP owns and operates a multi-state electric generation, transmission and distribution system with more than 250 MW of wind turbine generators, 250 miles of transmission lines and 14 substations in North Dakota.

The Foxtail Wind Project was selected from proposals received in response to a request for proposal issued by NSP during 2016. The Foxtail Wind Project is being developed by an affiliate of NextEra Energy, Inc. at a location in Dickey County approximately twenty miles west of Ellendale, North Dakota. NSP will purchase the development project from NextEra and plans to begin construction during 2018 with an in-service date anticipated during September, 2019.

In Case No. PU-17-120, NSP's application for an Advance Determination of Prudence for the Foxtail Wind Project, NSP analysis indicates the project will result in significant energy cost savings for NSP customers. NSP's modeling indicates that the project could provide system-wide cost savings of up to \$161 million.

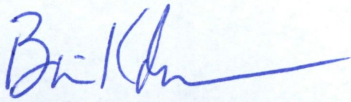
Public Convenience and Necessity will be served by construction and operation of the facilities. NSP is fit, willing and able to provide service.

Order

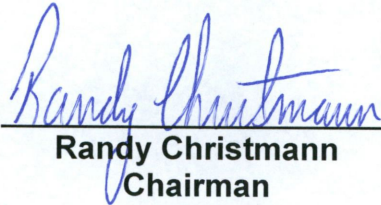
The Commission Orders:

1. NSP's application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Foxtail Wind Project is granted
2. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5916 is issued to NSP authorizing it to acquire, construct and operate the Foxtail Wind Project in Dickey County, North Dakota.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Brian Kroshus
Commissioner



Randy Christmann
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Certificate Number 5916

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Northern States Power Company, to acquire, construct and operate the Foxtail Wind Project in Dickey County, North Dakota.

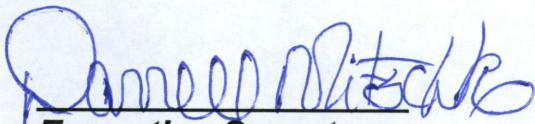
This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated February 27, 2018 in Case No. PU-17-387, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

This certificate is conditioned upon Northern States Power Company securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

Bismarck, North Dakota, February 27, 2018.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner