

July 25, 2018

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: Meadowlark Wind I LLC's Ten Year Plan for 2018-2028
Case No. PU-18-_____**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On June 29, 2018, two Ten Year Plans were inadvertently switched during the filing and service to the Auditor. The correct Plan is enclosed for filing and service, along with an updated Certificate of Service.

Electronic copies of the enclosed documents were filed with the Commission today via e-mail. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/bd
Enclosures

cc: Darlene Carpenter, McHenry County Auditor (w/encls.)

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2 PU-18-248 Filed 07/25/2018 Pages: 5
Corrected 2018 Ten Year Plan
Meadowlark Wind I LLC
Mollie Smith, Fredrikson&Byron, P.A.

TEN YEAR PLAN: 2018-2028
Meadowlark Wind I LLC

June 2018

In accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-22-04 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-02, Meadowlark Wind I LLC (“Meadowlark Wind”), submits the following Ten Year Plan for years 2018 through 2028.

- (1) *A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing ten years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the ten-year period.*

Meadowlark Wind is a Delaware limited liability company, authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota. Meadowlark Wind is developing an up to 102 megawatt (“MW”) wind energy conversion facility known as the New Frontier Wind Energy Project (“Project”) located in McHenry County, North Dakota. On April 25, 2012, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order (“Order”) granting Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 29 to Meadowlark Wind for the Project (*see* Case No. PU-11-69), and on May 10, 2017, the Commission issued an Order of Continuing Suitability with respect to the Project. Meadowlark Wind began construction of the Project in May 2018, and plans to complete construction of the Project this year.

An approximately 15-mile-long 115 kilovolt (“kV”) generator lead line will be constructed in order to interconnect the Project to the transmission grid at the McHenry Substation, located just west of Voltaire, North Dakota.

Meadowlark Wind does not currently own or operate any transmission or generation facilities, and will not be removing any facilities from service during the next ten years. In addition, with the exception of the Project and associated 115 kV generator lead line, Meadowlark Wind does not plan to own or operate any other facilities within the State of North Dakota during the timeframe of this plan.

- (2) *An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced within the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.*

At this time, the Project is the only facility Meadowlark Wind plans to construct in the next five years. The Project is located in the southwest corner of McHenry County.

As set forth in the Order, the Project was sited in compliance with the Commission’s siting criteria, including the exclusion and avoidance area criteria referenced in N.D.C.C. § 49-22-05.1 and identified in N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-08. Maps of the Project’s designated site, and additional detail regarding the Project site, are provided in Case No. PU-11-69.

- (3) *A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.*

Meadowlark Wind will interconnect the Project to Great River Energy's ("GRE") McHenry substation via a to-be-built 15-mile 115 kV transmission line. A Generator Interconnection Agreement was executed with GRE and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") in September 2012. Meadowlark Wind's Interconnection Application and MISO's administration of the application are consistent with MISO's Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserves Market Tariff, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and per the operating policies of the Electric Reliability Organization designed to facilitate the administration of efficient energy markets.

- (4) *A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.*

Meadowlark Wind utilized qualified environmental personnel to study and identify avoidance and exclusion areas within the Project site, in accordance with N.D.C.C. Ch. 49-22 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-08. Meadowlark Wind also coordinated with federal, state and local agencies and governmental units regarding the Project, and will obtain all required permits and approvals. Additional information regarding Meadowlark Wind's agency and entity contacts, and efforts to identify and minimize any potential environmental issues, is provided in Case No. PU-11-69.

- (5) *A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing ten years and the underlying assumptions for the projection, with that information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.*

Corporate and industrial ("C&I") customers are interested in renewable energy, and corporate procurement is an emerging driver for significant new demand. Consider that 2015 was a record-setting year for corporate renewables: 3.2 GW of utility-scale renewable transactions were signed by corporate buyers, and the capacity of wind power purchase agreements ("PPAs") signed by corporate customers exceeded that associated with utility purchases.¹ 1.24 GW of corporate renewable energy was procured in the first half of 2017, with

¹ Greentech Media, June 22, 2016, *Corporate Power-Purchase Agreements: Proceed Carefully When Buying Renewable Energy*, <https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/Corporate-Power-Purchase-Agreements-Proceed-Carefully-When-Buying-Renewabl> (accessed June 24, 2016).

many large companies instituting sustainability measures relating to renewable energy procurement and demanding that such measures be implemented throughout their supply chains.²

Meadowlark Wind has executed a 12-year fixed price contract with Morgan Stanley Capital Group, Inc. Under the contract, which was executed on August 29, 2017, Meadowlark Wind will swap the market revenue from a fixed volume of the Project's generation for a fixed price payment over a 12-year term.

Thus, the up to 102 MW of renewable energy produced by Meadowlark Wind's Project will help meet an identified need for renewable energy.

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² Greentech Media, June 30, 2017, *The Latest Trends in Corporate Renewable Energy Procurement*, <https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/the-latest-trends-in-corporate-renewable-energy-procurement#gs.ukIe8EQ> (accessed June 26, 2018).

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Case No. PU-18-___

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF A TEN
YEAR PLAN BY MEADOWLARK WIND I
LLC**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Mollie M. Smith, being first duly sworn, does depose and state that on July 25, 2018, she served the following document:

Ten Year Plan: 2018-2028

by placing a true and correct copy of said document in an envelope addressed as follows:

Ms. Darlene Carpenter
McHenry County Auditor
407 Main Street South, Room 201
Towner, ND 58788

and depositing the same, with postage prepaid, in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota.


Mollie M. Smith