

# Report Addendum

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**TO: Burke Wind, LLC**

**FROM: Atwell, LLC**

**DATE: November 27, 2018**

**RE: Burke County Wind Energy Center – Bat Habitat Assessment Addendum**

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Burke Wind, LLC (Burke Wind), a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, contracted Atwell, LLC (Atwell) to conduct a habitat assessment for bat species for the proposed Burke County Wind Energy Center (Project). This addendum provides an update to the Bat Habitat Assessment<sup>1</sup> report dated May 15, 2018, revised July 24, 2018, and submitted under Docket PU-18-344 on September 14, 2018. The Project was originally designed to produce up to 300 megawatts (MW) of renewable wind energy. Burke Wind has recently reduced the Project size from 300 MW to 200 MW. This has resulted in a reduced Project Area and the elimination of 38 wind turbine generators (WTGs) from the proposed Project. As revised, the Project will consist of the construction and operation of up to 68 General Electric (GE) 2.72 MW and eight (8) GE 1.715 MW WTGs (total of 76 WTGs). The GE 2.72-MW WTGs will have a 295-foot (90-meter) hub height and a 381-foot (116-meter) rotor diameter; and the GE 1.715-MW WTGs will have a 262-foot (80-meter) hub height and a 337-foot (103-meter) rotor diameter.

The reduced 200 MW Project Area covers 23,933 acres and remains fully within the former 300 MW Project Area. As the reduced Project Area is encompassed within the area evaluated in the Bat Habitat Assessment report, the discussion and results of the report are still reflective of the reduced Project Area and therefore, information contained within the original report is still applicable.

Within the 200 MW Project Area, forested habitat and riparian corridors are limited, fragmented, and occur primarily along the northern boundary of the Project Area near intermittent drainages. According to the 2011 National Land Cover Dataset<sup>2</sup>, deciduous forest comprises approximately 332 acres or 1.6 percent of the participating landowner parcels within the reduced Project Area. Wooded wetlands comprise 40.6 acres or 0.2 percent of the participating parcels within the reduced Project Area. Together, deciduous forest and wooded wetlands encompass roughly 1.8 percent of the total land use/land cover mapped within the participating landowner parcels of the reduced Project Area.

As stated in the Bat Habitat Assessment dated July 24, 2018, minimal impact to bat habitat is expected to occur as a result of the Project.

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<sup>1</sup> Atwell, "Bat Habitat Assessment for Burke County Wind Energy Center, Burke County, North Dakota, Prepared for Burke Wind, LLC" (Atwell, LLC, July 2018).

<sup>2</sup> CG Homer et al., "Completion of the 2011 National Land Cover Database for the Conterminous United States-Representing a Decade of Land Cover Change Information," *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing* 81, no. 5 (2015): 345–54.