

**TO:** North Dakota Public Service Commission

**FROM:** Georg Becker-Birck, AURORA WIND PROJECT, LLC

## DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY

The Aurora Wind Project is located in Williams County, North Dakota, northwest of Tioga. U.S. Highway 2 passes a few miles south of the site providing excellent transportation access.

The site is located in a rural setting dominated by crop fields.

## SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN PRIOR MONTH

- ✦ Ongoing civil reclamation work and seeding.
- ✦ Ongoing turbine commissioning and finetuning.
- ✦ Completed repairs of main power transformer and substation after two incidents caused by part manufacturing quality issues.
- ✦ Punchlist work on newly commissioned WTG.
- ✦ Commissioning completed for 15/15 Vestas turbines and 55/56 Nordex turbines.
- ✦ Completed GIA COD declaration under the Interconnection agreement for 298.8MW.

## FORECAST OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

- ✦ Ongoing civil reclamation work and seeding.
- ✦ Finalization of punch list work
- ✦ Ongoing monthly SWPPP compliance inspections.
- ✦ As construction is complete and the project now enters the operational phase, this is intended to be our last construction update report.

## Notable events -

- ✦ On October 30, 2020 Wind turbine F-4 had an incident during mechanical completion, resulting in no injuries, but in damage of 2 blades and to the exterior of the nacelle. Components are being removed. Replacement components are arriving in early June, installation is planned in June 2021.

- ✦ The Project's Main Power Transformer (MPT) 2 registered a fault and tripped offline on 3.3.21. Investigation showed an internal fault in the transformer resulting in an internal arc. The transformer was repaired and placed back in service.
- ✦ On 4/3/21 a voltage transformer – a voltage measurement device – failed and damaged further equipment, resulting in a substation outage. The preliminary cause was determined to be a manufacturing defect. Upon completion of repairs, the substation was again energized on 4/20/21.