

February 22, 2022

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Patrick Fahn
Director, Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**Re: Aurora Wind Project, LLC
345 kV Transmission Line – Williams & Mountrail Counties
Siting Application
Case No. PU-18-351**

**Aurora Wind Project, LLC
Aurora Wind Project – Williams County
Siting Application
Case No. PU-18-352**

Dear Mr. Fahn:

Aurora Wind Project, LLC (“Aurora”) submits this letter in response to your Letter Regarding Tree and Shrub Mitigation (“Letter”), dated February 10, 2022.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission’s (“Commission”) May 7, 2019 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in Case No. PU-18-352, issued Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 59 for the Aurora Wind Project. The Commission’s May 29, 2019 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in Case No. PU-18-351 issued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 210 and Route Permit No. 220 for the Aurora Wind Project’s 345 kilovolt transmission line. On May 5, 2021, the Commission approved the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plans filed by Aurora in the above-referenced dockets, and based on 2021 drought conditions, allowed one-year extensions for replacement plantings.

In your Letter, you ask if Aurora would want to switch to compliance with the March 13, 2019 version of the Commission’s Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications, rather than the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plans approved by the Commission on May 5, 2021. Aurora would like to adopt the March 13, 2019 Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications. In accordance with this, Aurora

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requests that the Commission amend the May 7, 2019 and May 29, 2019 Orders to incorporate the March 13, 2019 version of the Commission's Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications.

Aurora appreciates your cooperation in this matter. An electronic copy of this letter is being filed with the Commission today via e-mail, with two (2) hard copies following via Federal Express.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mollie M. Smith".

MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/bd/75296806

cc: Steven Kahl, North Dakota Public Service Commission (via e-mail and Federal Express)
Joe Carroll (via e-mail)