

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.

Aurora Wind Project, LLC, has secured sufficient site control of land via long-term leases to accommodate the entire 300 MW wind energy facility.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN PRIOR MONTH

- ✦ Mechanical completion of 4 further collection feeders
- ✦ Substantial completion of buildout of the operation & maintenance building
- ✦ Radar tower installation and wiring of radar antenna system
- ✦ Ongoing COVID-19 response tracking and work adjustments- face covering usage mandatory on site and increased social distancing.
- ✦ Completion of Nordex turbine component deliveries
- ✦ Commissioning of 10/15 Vestas turbines.
- ✦ Ongoing SCADA and Plant Automation system testing and commissioning
- ✦ Topout completed for 55/71 turbines, thereof 35/71 completed with blades. Implemented recovery plan with additional shifts to catch up on installation. No impact on GAP PPA expected.
- ✦ Ongoing Nordex mechanical completion work.

FORECAST OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

- ✦ Ongoing Public road and Access Road reclamation work as long as weather allows
- ✦ Ongoing collection system connection work, testing and finalization of feeders.
- ✦ Pending energization of collection feeders.

168 PU-18-352 Filed 11/16/2020 Pages: 2

Aurora Wind Project Progress Report - ending October 2020 - revised
Aurora Wind Project, LLC

152 PU-18-351 Filed 11/16/2020 Pages: 2

Aurora Wind Project Progress Report - ending October 2020 - revised
Aurora Wind Project, LLC

- ✦ Ongoing Nordex Turbine installation with 3 cranes on site as well as installation of bypassed blades
- ✦ Ongoing mechanical completion works
- ✦ Finalization of Commissioning of Vestas turbines
- ✦ Commissioning of Nordex Turbines, possible delay in commissioning due to weather events
- ✦ Start of occupancy in Operation and Maintenance building
- ✦ ADLS system testing (FAA radio permit received 11/13) and installation of Turbine aviation lights
- ✦ Ongoing SWPPP compliance inspections
- ✦ Finalization of SCADA and plant automation installation work
- ✦ Continued and evolving COVID-19 response planning. Work is continuing on site, but by following social distancing, remote meetings, mandatory face covering usage and enhanced cleaning and separation of crews to limit exposure and risks

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. The incident occurred during blade tensioning at one of the Project's wind turbine generators. Based on Aurora's preliminary root cause investigation, it has been determined that the Project contractor's assembly crew did not properly follow the required installation method when tensioning the blades. As a result, the rotor went into overspeed, and touched the tower, damaging two blades.
- ✦ Aurora is still in the process of completing its root cause analysis (RCA) of the incident. Upon completion of the RCA, Aurora will develop a plan to remove the damaged components once wind conditions allow removal to be completed safely. The wind turbine will be repaired and put into service in the spring of 2021 – pending arrival of replacement components.