

January 20, 2021

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

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

Dear Mr. Kahl:

In accordance with Certification Provision No. 38(A) of the North Dakota Public Service Commission's ("Commission") Order issuing a Certificate of Site Compatibility for the Aurora Wind Project, Aurora Wind Project, LLC hereby files two (2) copies of this letter and the following documents:

- Fourth Certification of Benjamin Conor Branch, with accompanying Exhibits:
 - Exhibit A – Layout Comparison Map

Also enclosed is a flash drive containing GIS data. Electronic versions of this letter and the above-referenced documents are being filed with the Commission today via e-mail.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/71937373

Enclosures

cc: Jerry Lein (via e-mail, w/o enclosure)
Patrick Fahn (via e-mail, w/o enclosure)
Jaimee Antognazzi (via e-mail, w/o enclosure)
Jennifer Dean (via e-mail, w/o enclosure)
Jeremy Price (via e-mail, w/o enclosure)

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Aurora Wind Project, LLC
Aurora Wind Project – Williams County
Siting Application

Case No. PU-18-352

FOURTH CERTIFICATION OF BENJAMIN CONOR BRANCH

STATE OF KANSAS)
) ss.
COUNTY OF JOHNSON)

Benjamin Conor Branch, being first duly sworn upon oath, states and alleges as follows:

1. I am an Authorized Representative for the Aurora Wind Project (“Project”), which is owned by Aurora Wind Project, LLC (“Aurora Wind”). I am employed by Enel Green Power, which is assisting Aurora Wind with Project development. I have the authority to bind Aurora Wind with respect to the certifications made herein.

2. I provide this Fourth Certification pursuant to Provision No. 38 of the Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Wind Energy Conversion Facility Siting, which is part of the Commission’s Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, dated May 7, 2019 (“Order”), in the above-referenced docket.

3. In my Second Certification, dated May 1, 2020 (*see* Docket Item #148), Aurora Wind indicated that it would not be constructing permanent meteorological tower PPT-N-98 and associated facilities (collection lines/access road). However, Aurora Wind subsequently decided to construct permanent meteorological tower PPT-N-98 and associated facilities (collection lines/access road) instead of constructing permanent meteorological tower PPT-S-163 and associated facilities (collection lines/access road).

4. A figure comparing the current Project layout with the last Project layout filed with my Third Certification, dated July 30, 2020 (*see* Docket Item #158), is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

5. The change from permanent meteorological tower PPT-S-163 and associated facilities (collection lines/access road) to permanent meteorological tower PPT-N-98 and associated facilities was not submitted prior to construction. However, the location was included in the Project layout approved in the Commission's Order and complies with all requirements set forth in the Commission's Order, including applicable laws and rules designating the site.

6. Permanent meteorological tower PPT-N-98 and associated facilities are covered by the Archaeological Summary Report, filed on February 25, 2019 as Hearing Exhibit No. 16. The State Historical Society of North Dakota ("SHSND") issued a concurrence letter on the report on February 1, 2019 (*see* Hearing Exhibit No. 17, filed on February 25, 2019). No National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") eligible, potentially eligible, or unevaluated cultural resource sites will be impacted.

7. Permanent meteorological tower PPT-N-98 and associated facilities are covered by the Wetlands and Waterbodies Technical Memorandum, filed on February 25, 2019 as Hearing Exhibit No. 20. The Project layout modifications will not result in any permanent impacts to wetlands or waterbodies.

8. The Project layout modifications and associated construction activities did not affect any known exclusion or avoidance areas within the designated Project site.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

hch

Benjamin Conor Branch

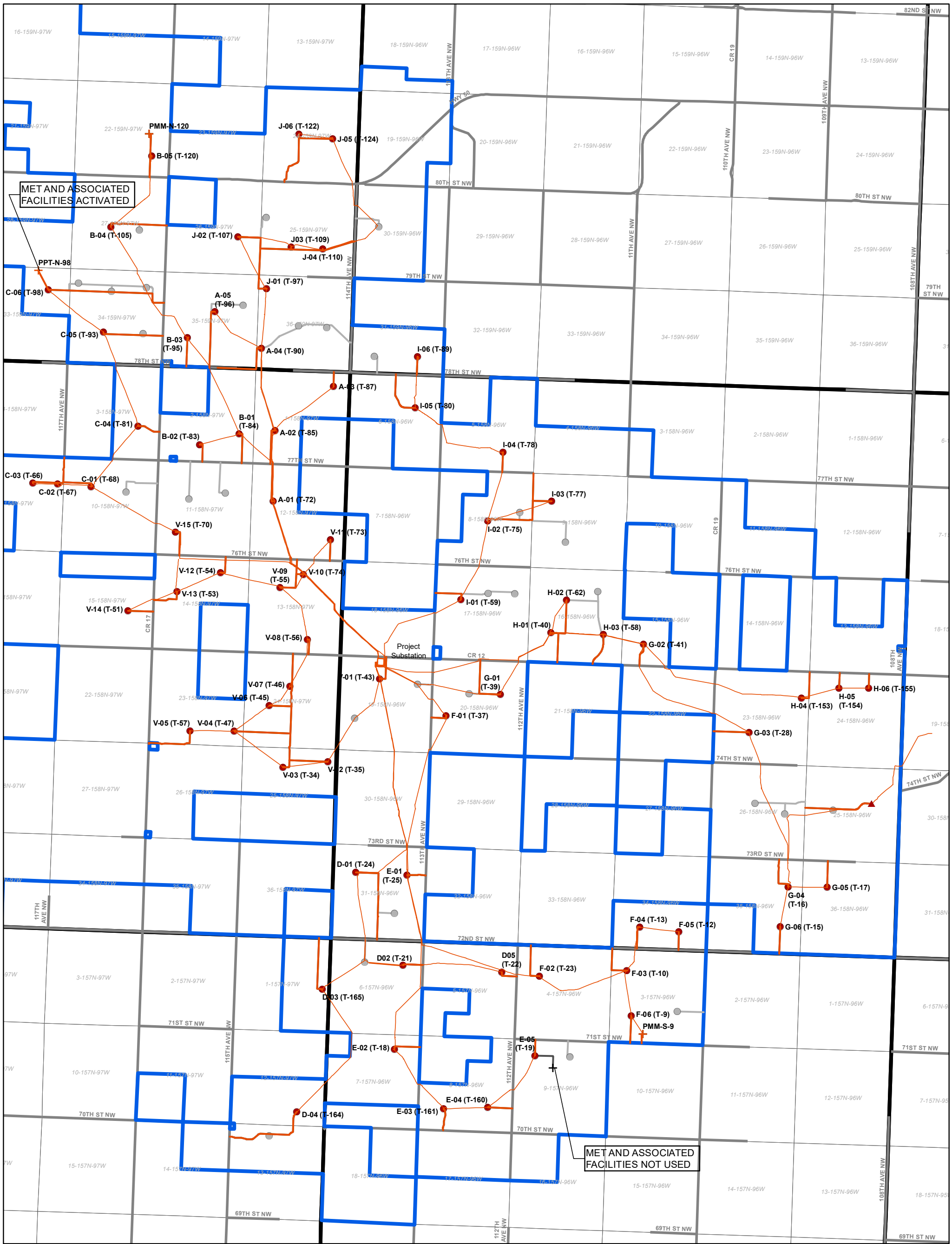
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 12 day of January, 2021.

Emma Elaine Bartshe
Notary Public



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Aurora Wind Project | A057R5 vs. As-Built



As-Built Design

- Turbine
- + MET Tower
- ▲ Radar Tower
- Access Road
- Underground Collection
- Project Substation

A057R5 Design

- Alternate Turbine
- + MET Tower
- ▲ Radar Tower
- Primary Access Road
- Alternate Access Road
- Project Substation

- Project Area
- Named County and State Roads (Williams County)
- Sections
- Townships



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Scale: 1:60,000

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane North Dakota North FIPS 3301 Feet

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Analyst: N10001789 Date: 1/13/2021

Exhibit A