

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 COVID-19 response tracking and work adjustments- face covering usage mandatory on site and increased social distancing.
- ✦ Ongoing Nordex mechanical completion work – 68/71 WTG completed.
- ✦ Topout completed for 70/71 turbines, thereof 69/71 completed with blades.
- ✦ Installation of received spare parts
- ✦ Punchlist work on newly commissioned WTG
- ✦ Commissioning completed for 15/15 Vestas turbines and 48/56 Nordex turbines.
- ✦ Partial GIA COD declaration under the Interconnection agreement for 125 MW. PPA COD declaration for “The GAP” PPA for 90MW
- ✦ WTG F4 – damaged during installation – was disassembled and placed on the ground without incidents.

FORECAST OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH

- ✦ Installation of last turbine H2 and mechanical completion
- ✦ Commissioning of remaining turbines
- ✦ Finalization of punch list work
- ✦ Ongoing monthly SWPPP compliance inspections during winter.
- ✦ Removal of site camp and laydown yard, removal of construction equipment
- ✦ Reclamation of civil work will continue after the frost period has ended.

- ✦ Continued COVID-19 response. Work is continuing on site, but 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 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. The turbine was removed and lowered to the ground in February 2021 – components will be removed from site shortly. Replacement components were ordered – a complete turbine will be shipped as a replacement and is planned to be installed in June 2021.
- ✦ The Project's Main Power Transformer (MPT) 2 registered a fault and tripped offline on 3.321. Based on Aurora's preliminary analysis, it appears to be a possible internal fault in the transformer. As a result, MPT 2 has been affected with 144MW capacity offline. In the interim, Aurora will install a cross tie between Bus 1 and Bus 2 to finish commissioning of turbines on Bus 2. This will allow 30MW of generation from Bus 2, for a total capacity between Bus 1 and Bus 2 limited to 155MW of production capacity (overall capacity is 298.8MW). Further, Aurora plans to bring a temporary main power transformer from another wind project to the project site. Aurora has submitted a transport request for the temporary unit