

**TEN YEAR PLAN: 2019-2029**  
**Ruso Wind Partners, LLC**

**May 2019**

In accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-22-04 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-02, Ruso Wind Partners, LLC (“Ruso Wind”), submits the following Ten Year Plan for years 2019 through 2029.

- (1) *A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing ten years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the ten-year period.*

Ruso Wind is a Delaware limited liability company, authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota. Ruso Wind is developing an up to 205 megawatt (“MW”) wind energy conversion facility known as the Ruso Wind Project (“Wind Project”) and an associated 230-kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line to connect the Wind Project to the grid (“Transmission Line”). The Wind Project will be located approximately one mile west of the City of Ruso in Ward and McLean Counties, North Dakota. The Transmission Line will be approximately 10 miles in length and extend from the Wind Project substation in Ward County to a to-be-constructed switching station that will be constructed, owned, and operated by Great River Energy (“GRE”), and located in McHenry County, North Dakota. Ruso Wind plans to commence construction of the Wind Project and Transmission Line as early as Third Quarter 2019 and achieve commercial operation by the end of 2020.

Other than the Wind Project and Transmission Line, Ruso Wind does not have any transmission or generation facilities located in North Dakota, and the projects will have an estimated life of greater than 10 years. As such, Ruso Wind does not have any plans to decommission any transmission or generation facilities within the timeframe of this plan.

- (2) *An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced within the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.*

As noted above, Ruso Wind is pursuing development of the above-referenced Wind Project and Transmission Line, and proposes to have both projects constructed and in-service by the end of 2020. The proposed Wind Project footprint is located in Ward and McLean Counties, North Dakota. The anticipated route for the Transmission Line will extend from the Wind Project substation to its planned point of interconnection at the GRE switching station to be constructed in Section 5, Township 151 North, Range 80 West, McHenry County, North Dakota

Ruso Wind has retained qualified environmental consulting firms to evaluate the proposed Wind Project site and Transmission Line corridor and route so as to ensure compliance with the exclusion and avoidance area criteria referenced in N.D.C.C. § 49-22-05.1 and

identified in N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-08. Maps depicting the study areas for the Wind Project and the Transmission Line are attached as **Exhibit A**.

- (3) *A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.*

Ruso Wind is in the process of identifying an offtaker for the Wind Project's output. Energy produced by the Wind Project may help local utilities to continue to meet applicable renewable energy standards. Ruso Wind has submitted an interconnection application for 200 MWs to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. ("MISO"). MISO has three study stages. For Ruso Wind, MISO is currently in the second phase of the study process. The expected date for Generator Interconnection Agreement ("GIA") execution is second quarter of 2020.

- (4) *A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.*

Ruso Wind has engaged the services of qualified environmental consulting firms to study and identify avoidance and exclusion areas within the proposed Wind Project site and Transmission Line corridor and route, in accordance with N.D.C.C. Ch. 49-22 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-08. Ruso Wind has obtained all necessary Conditional Use and Special Use permits from the affected Counties and Townships. In addition, Ruso Wind has filed applications for a Certificate of Site Compatibility, Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for the Wind Project and Transmission Line with the North Dakota Public Service Commission. Ruso Wind has consulted with applicable local, state, and federal agencies and entities in connection with siting and development of the Wind Project and Transmission Line, and Ruso Wind will continue to coordinate with agencies and entities, as appropriate, throughout the development, construction, and operation of the Wind Project and Transmission Line.

- (5) *A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing ten years and the underlying assumptions for the projection, with that information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.*

As discussed above, Ruso Wind is in the process of identifying an offtaker for the Wind Project's output. However, the Wind Project is anticipated to meet area demand for electricity. In addition, energy produced by the Project may help local utilities to continue to meet applicable renewable energy goals and/or standards.

In 2010, the North Dakota Department of Commerce, EmPower ND Commission, published the Comprehensive State Energy Policy 2010-2025, which recommended a capacity of

wind generation up to 5,000 MW by 2020.<sup>1</sup> The state had a total of 2,996 MW of installed wind capacity at the end of 2017.<sup>2</sup>

In 2007, the North Dakota Legislature enacted a statutory provision adopting the national "25x'25" initiative, which establishes a goal of having not less than twenty-five percent of the total energy consumed within the United States come from renewable resources by January 1, 2025.<sup>3</sup> Additional renewable resources will be needed to meet the 25x'25 initiative.

A need also exists for renewable energy produced in North Dakota to meet state renewable portfolio standards. Eleven of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") states currently have either mandated or voluntary renewable portfolio standards or policies.<sup>4</sup> Under current state standards, total United States renewable portfolio standard demand will increase from 290 terawatt hours ("TWh") in 2018 to 540 TWh in 2030.<sup>5</sup> Given existing renewable energy capacity, an additional 180 TWh increase in renewable resources will be required to meet demand through 2030.<sup>6</sup> In addition, the regional transmission grid is being expanded to deliver wind generation in a cost-effective manner; specifically, MISO's Multi-Value Project ("MVP") Portfolio enables 41 million megawatt hours ("MWh") of wind energy per year to meet renewable energy mandates and goals.<sup>7</sup>

In summary, the renewable energy produced by Ruso Wind's proposed Wind Project and transmitted to the grid via Ruso Wind's proposed Transmission Line will help meet the national 25x'25 initiative and the regional need for renewable energy.

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<sup>1</sup> North Dakota Department of Commerce. Undated. EmPower North Dakota. Comprehensive State Energy Policy 2010-2025. Accessed online December 13, 2018. Retrieved from <https://commerce.nd.gov/>.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Energy. 2018. 2017 Wind Technologies Market Report. Accessed online December 13, 2018. Retrieved from <https://www.energy.gov/eere/wind/downloads/2017-wind-technologies-marketreport>.

<sup>3</sup> See N.D.C.C. § 17-01-01.

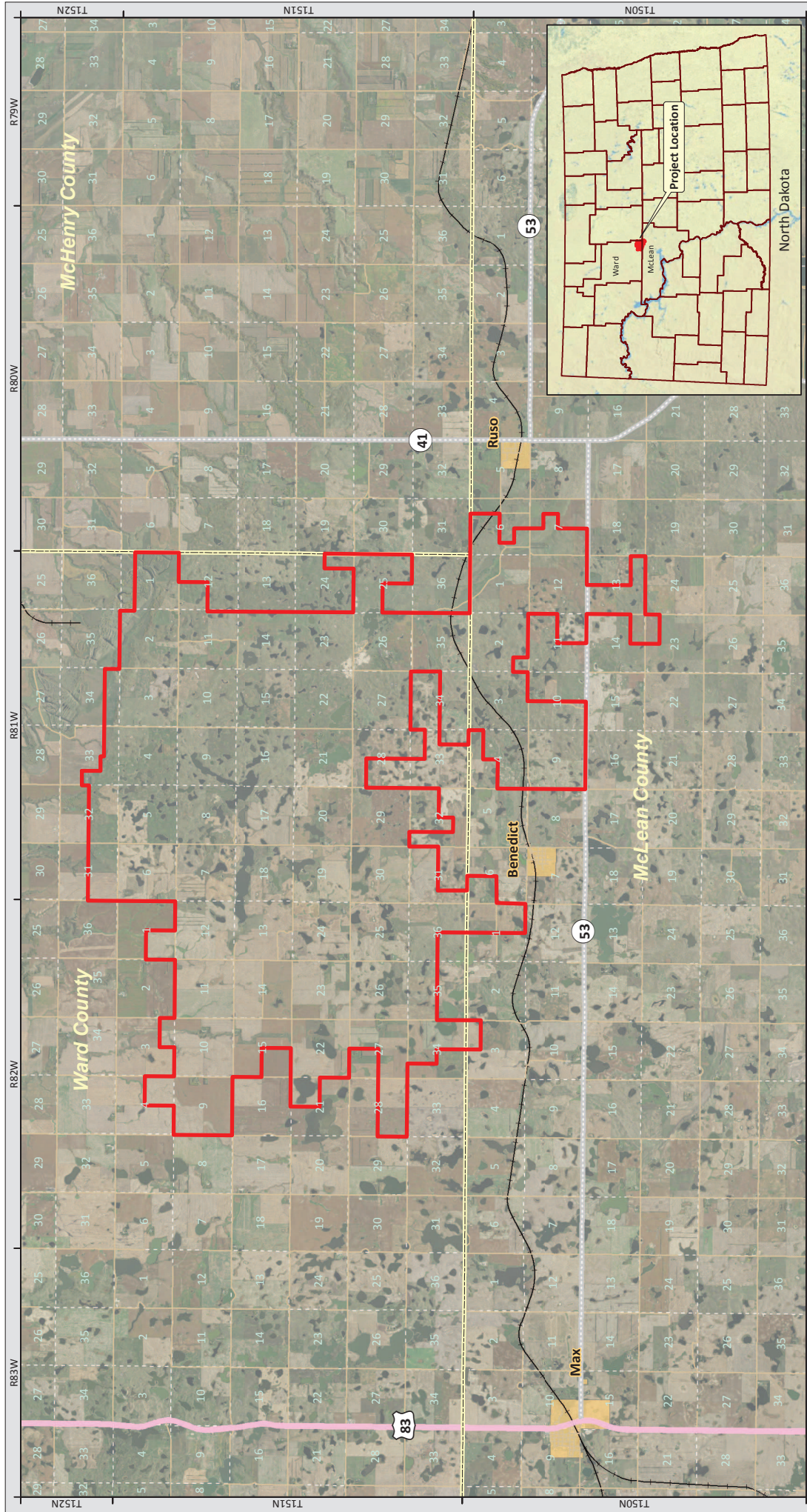
<sup>4</sup> *MTEP18 MISO Transmission Enhancement Plan*, at 182. Accessed online May 17, 2019. Retrieved from <https://cdn.misoenergy.org/MTEP18%20Full%20Report264900.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, *U.S. Renewable Portfolio Standards 2018 Annual Status Report* (November 2018), at 20.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 21.

<sup>7</sup> *MTEP18 MISO Transmission Enhancement Plan*, at 42.

# EXHIBIT A

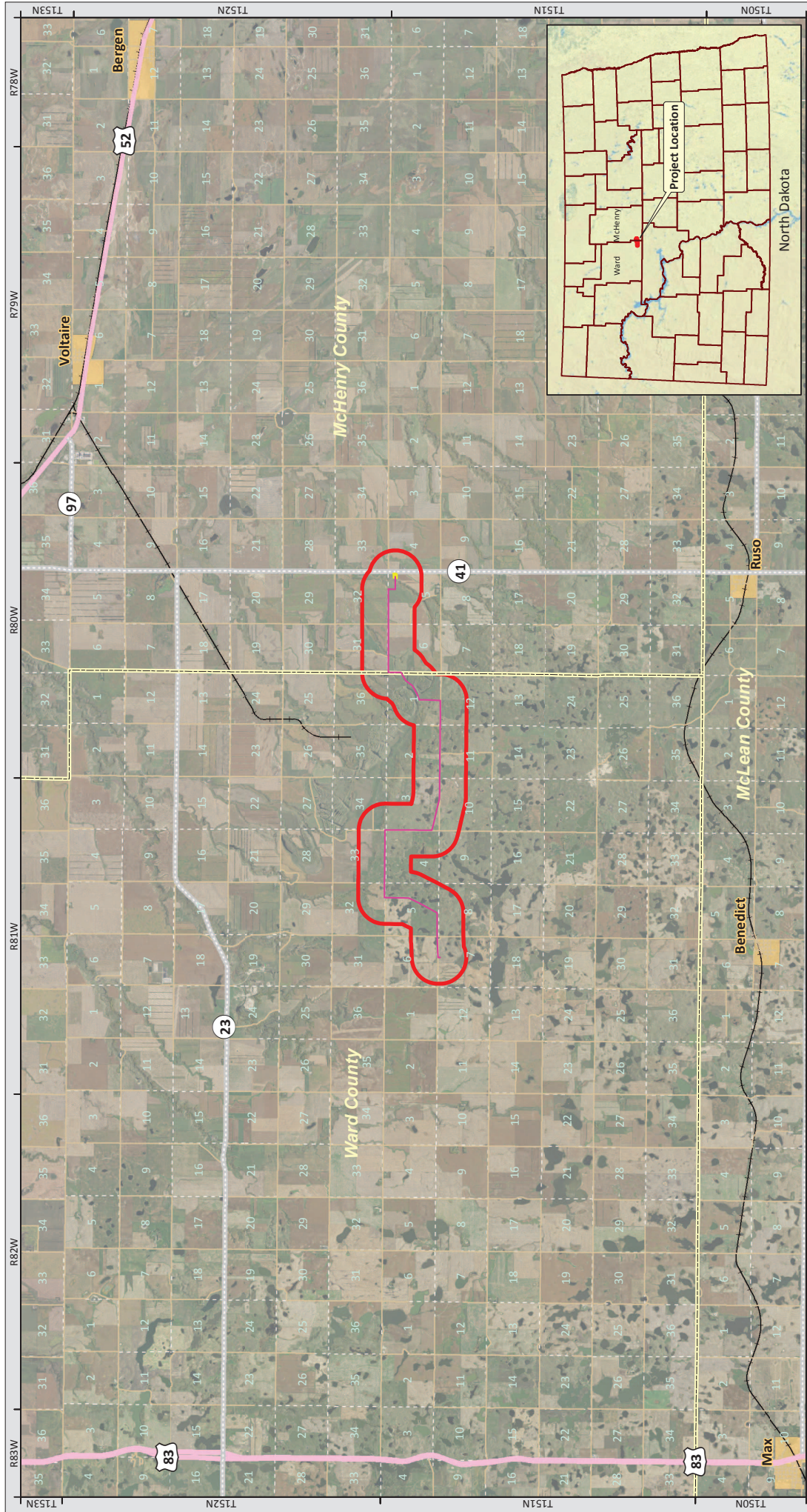


KLJ Project Number: 1805-00886  
 Date Created: 12/20/2018 | Created By: JDP

## Exhibit 1: Project Location Map Ruso Wind Project Counties of Ward & McLean, ND

- Project Area
- State Highway
- US Highway
- Railroads
- Sections
- County Boundary

# EXHIBIT A



KLJ Project Number: 1805-00886  
Date Created: 12/17/2018 | Created By: JDP

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**Exhibit 1: Project Location Map**

**Ruso Wind Transmission Line Project & Switching Station**

Counties of Ward & McHenry, ND

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Project Corridor
  Project Route
  Switching Station
  State Highway
  US Highway
  Sections
  County Boundary