

August 9, 2019

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

**RE: Ruso Wind Partners, LLC – 230kV Transmission Line – Siting Application
McHenry & Ward Counties, North Dakota
Case No. PU-19-029**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Ruso Wind Partners, LLC (“Ruso Wind”) respectfully requests that the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) postpone indefinitely the McHenry County public hearing scheduled for August 19, 2019 in the above-referenced matter.

As noted in testimony at the June 17, 2019 public hearing in Ward County, Ruso Wind’s interconnection request was in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.’s (“MISO”) Detailed Planning Phase 2. Late this week, Ruso Wind received the MISO’s final Detailed Planning Phase 2 network upgrade cost determination, which was greater than \$500 million. As a result of the upgrade cost determination, Ruso Wind has withdrawn its interconnection request from the MISO queue effective as of August 9, 2019 and is exploring other interconnection options for the Project, including potentially interconnecting at the same location via the Southwest Power Pool.

Since Ruso Wind is not certain at this time whether it will pursue interconnection at the McHenry Substation, Ruso Wind believes it would be prudent to postpone the McHenry County hearing until it can be determined whether the hearing is necessary. Ruso Wind will provide the Commission with an update once it has determined a path forward.

In the meantime, Ruso Wind has submitted all post-hearing filings required for the Ruso Wind Project docket (PU-19-028), and Ruso Wind respectfully requests that the Commission move forward with issuing a decision in that docket.

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If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mollie M. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/67622952

cc: Judge Hope Hogan (via e-mail)
Zachary Pelham (via e-mail)
Jerry Lein (via e-mail)
Adam Renfandt (via e-mail)
Elizabeth Wash (via e-mail)
Morgan Berry (via e-mail)