

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Public Service Commission
Energy Conversion Facility Siting Criteria
Rulemaking

Case No. PU-19-36

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY REGULAR AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Geralyn R. Schmaltz deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **8th** day of **February 2019**, she deposited in the United States Mail, Bismarck, North Dakota, **4** envelopes by first class mail, fully prepaid, securely sealed each containing a photocopy of:

- **Notice of Intent to Amend Administrative Rules and Notice of Public Hearing**
- **Proposed Rule**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

See attached list

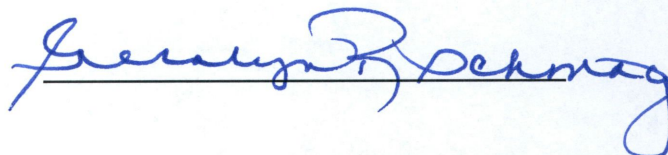
Geralyn R. Schmaltz further deposes and says that on the **8th day of February 2019**, she sent an electronic message to **63** addressees, each including an electronic copy in portable document format of the same document.

The electronic mails were addressed as follows:

See attached list

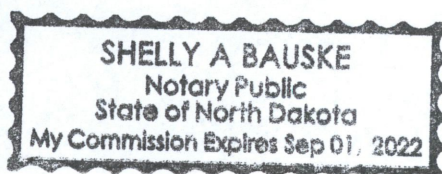
The addresses shown are the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office and electronic mail addresses.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **8th day of February 2019**.




Notary Public

(SEAL)



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Public Service Commission
Energy Conversion Facility Siting Criteria
Rulemaking

Case No. PU-19-36

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

February 6, 2019

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Public Service Commission will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to North Dakota Administrative Code to amend section 69-06-08-01 of the North Dakota Century Code.

A hearing will be held on the proposed rules at **1:30 p.m. Central Time on March 13, 2019, in the Commission Hearing Room, 12th floor, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota.** The proposed revisions to the North Dakota Administrative Code are as follows:

Case No. PU-19-36 - Section 69-06-08-01 - Energy Conversion Facility Siting Criteria

The Commission is proposing to amend North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-06-08-01 to remove prime and unique farmland, and irrigated land from being excluded from consideration for an energy conversion facility, and to clarify additional exclusion areas for a wind energy conversion facility.

The proposed amendments are not expected to have an impact on the regulated community in the excess of \$50,000.

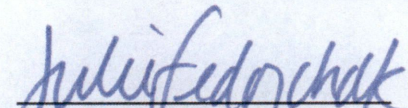
The proposed rules, any Regulatory or other analyses, and the statements concerning the Regulatory Analysis, Small Entity Regulatory Analysis and Economic Impact, and Takings Assessment may be reviewed at the Public Service Commission's offices on the 12th floor of the State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota. To obtain a copy of the proposed rule changes or the statements contact the Public Service Commission at 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 408, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480, 701-328-2400, toll free 1-877-245-6685, Relay North Dakota TTY 1-800-366-6888, or ndpsc@nd.gov. This information is also available on the commission's web site at www.psc.nd.gov under "Formal Actions/Case Search".

Interested persons may attend the hearing and may submit oral or written comments on the proposed rules. Oral or Written comments should be sent to Steve Kahl,

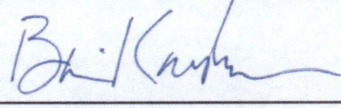
Interim Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 408, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480, or ndpsc@nd.gov. The comment period closes 10 days after the hearing. Comments must be received by the close of business on March 25, 2019 to be fully considered.

If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to disability, please contact the Public Service Commission at the above telephone number or address at least 24 hours prior to the public hearing.

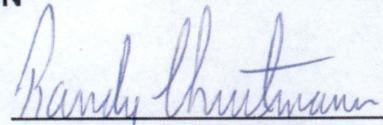
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner



Brian Kroshus
Chairman



Randy Christmann
Commissioner

**CHAPTER 69-06-08
CRITERIA**

Section	
69-6-8-1	Energy Conversion Facility Siting Criteria
69-6-8-2	Transmission Facility Corridor and Route Criteria

69-06-08-01. Energy conversion facility siting criteria.

The following criteria must guide and govern the preparation of the inventory of exclusion and avoidance areas, and the site suitability evaluation process.

1. **Exclusion areas.** The following geographical areas must be excluded in the consideration of a site for an energy conversion facility.
 - a. Designated or registered national: parks; memorial parks; historic sites and landmarks; natural landmarks; historic districts; monuments; wilderness areas; wildlife areas; wild, scenic, or recreational rivers; wildlife refuges; and grasslands.
 - b. Designated or registered state: parks; forests; forest management lands; historic sites; monuments; historical markers; archaeological sites; grasslands; wild, scenic, or recreational rivers; game refuges; game management areas; management areas; and nature preserves.
 - c. County parks and recreational areas; municipal parks; parks owned or administered by other governmental subdivisions; hardwood draws; and enrolled woodlands.
 - ~~d. Prime farmland and unique farmland, as defined by the land inventory and monitoring division of the soil conservation service, United States department of agriculture, in 7 C.F.R. part 657; provided, however, that if the commission finds that the prime farmland and unique farmland that will be removed from use for the life of the facility is of such small acreage as to be of negligible impact on agricultural productions, this exclusion does not apply.~~
 - ~~e. Irrigated land.~~
 - f. Areas critical to the life stages of threatened or endangered animal or plant species.
 - g. Areas where animal or plant species that are unique or rare to this state would be irreversibly damaged.
 - h. Areas within one thousand two hundred feet of the geographic

center of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch or launch control facility.

2. **Additional exclusion areas for wind energy conversion facilities.** The following geographical areas must be excluded in the consideration of a site for a wind energy conversion facility:

a. Areas within:

- (1) One and one-tenth times the height of the turbine from the nearest edge of an interstate or state roadway right of way;
- (2) One and one-tenth times the height of the turbine plus seventy-five feet from the centerline of any county or maintained township roadway;
- (3) One and one-tenth times the height of the turbine from the nearest edge of any a railroad right of way;
- (4) One and one-tenth times the height of the turbine from a the nearest edge of a one hundred fifteen kilovolt or higher transmission line right of way; and
- (5) One and one-tenth times the height of the turbine from the property line of a nonparticipating landowner and three times the height of the turbine from an inhabited rural residence of a nonparticipating landowner, unless a variance is granted. A variance may be granted if an authorized representative or agent of the permittee, the nonparticipating landowner, and affected parties with associated wind rights file a written agreement expressing all parties' support for a variance to reduce the setback requirement in this subsection. A nonparticipating landowner is a landowner that has not signed a wind option or an easement agreement with the permittee of the wind energy conversion facility as defined in North Dakota Century Code chapter 17-04.

3. **Avoidance areas.** The following geographical areas may not be approved as a site for an energy conversion facility unless the applicant shows that under the circumstances there is no reasonable alternative. In determining whether an avoidance area should be designated for a facility the commission may consider, among other things, the proposed management of adverse impacts; the orderly siting of facilities; system reliability and integrity; the efficient use of resources; and alternative sites. Economic considerations alone will not justify approval of these areas. A buffer zone

of a reasonable width to protect the integrity of the area must be included. Natural screening may be considered in determining the width of the buffer zone.

- a. Historical resources which are not designated as exclusion areas.
 - b. Areas within the city limits of a city or the boundaries of a military installation.
 - c. Areas within known floodplains as defined by the geographical boundaries of the hundred-year flood.
 - d. Areas that are geologically unstable.
 - e. Woodlands and wetlands.
 - f. Areas of recreational significance which are not designated as exclusion areas.
4. **Additional avoidance areas for wind energy conversion facilities.** A wind energy conversion facility site must not include a geographic area where, due to operation of the facility, the sound levels within one hundred feet of an inhabited residence or a community building will exceed fifty dBA. The sound level avoidance area criteria may be waived in writing by the owner of the occupied residence or the community building.
5. **Selection criteria.** A site may be approved in an area only when it is demonstrated to the commission by the applicant that any significant adverse effects resulting from the location, construction, and operation of the facility in that area as they relate to the following, will be at an acceptable minimum, or that those effects will be managed and maintained at an acceptable minimum. The effects to be considered include:
- a. The impact upon agriculture:
 - (1) Agricultural production.
 - (2) Family farms and ranches.
 - (3) Land which the owner demonstrates has soil, topography, drainage, and an available water supply that cause the land to be economically suitable for irrigation.
 - (4) Surface drainage patterns and ground water flow patterns.

- (5) The agricultural quality of the cropland.
 - b. The impact upon the availability and adequacy of:
 - (1) Law enforcement.
 - (2) School systems and education programs.
 - (3) Governmental services and facilities.
 - (4) General and mental health care facilities.
 - (5) Recreational programs and facilities.
 - (6) Transportation facilities and networks.
 - (7) Retail service facilities.
 - (8) Utility services.
 - c. The impact upon:
 - (1) Local institutions.
 - (2) Noise-sensitive land uses.
 - (3) Light-sensitive land uses.
 - (4) Rural residences and businesses.
 - (5) Aquifers.
 - (6) Human health and safety.
 - (7) Animal health and safety.
 - (8) Plant life.
 - (9) Temporary and permanent housing.
 - (10) Temporary and permanent skilled and unskilled labor.
 - d. The cumulative effects of the location of the facility in relation to existing and planned facilities and other industrial development.
6. **Policy criteria.** The commission may give preference to an applicant that

will maximize benefits that result from the adoption of the following policies and practices, and in a proper case may require the adoption of such policies and practices. The commission may also give preference to an applicant that will maximize interstate benefits. The benefits to be considered include:

- a. Recycling of the conversion byproducts and effluents.
- b. Energy conservation through location, process, and design.
- c. Training and utilization of available labor in this state for the general and specialized skills required.
- d. Use of a primary energy source or raw material located within the state.
- e. Not relocating residents.
- f. The dedication of an area adjacent to the facility to land uses such as recreation, agriculture, or wildlife management.
- g. Economies of construction and operation.
- h. Secondary uses of appropriate associated facilities for recreation and the enhancement of wildlife.
- i. Use of citizen coordinating committees.
- j. A commitment of a portion of the energy produced for use in this state.
- k. Labor relations.
- l. The coordination of facilities.
- m. Monitoring of impacts.
- n. A commitment to install lighting mitigation technology for wind energy conversion facilities subject to commercial availability and federal aviation administration approval.

History: Amended effective August 1, 1979; July 1, 2006; April 1, 2013; July 1, 2017; July 1, 2018.

General Authority: NDCC 28-32-02, 49-22-18

Law Implemented: NDCC 49-22-05.1, 49-22.1-03

69-06-08-02. Transmission facility corridor and route criteria.

The following criteria must guide and govern the preparation of the inventory of exclusion and avoidance areas, and the corridor and route suitability evaluation process. Exclusion and avoidance areas may be located within a corridor, but at no given point may such an area or areas encompass more than fifty percent of the corridor width unless there is no reasonable alternative.

1. **Exclusion areas.** The following geographical areas must be excluded in the consideration of a route for a transmission facility. A buffer zone of a reasonable width to protect the integrity of the area must be included. Natural screening may be considered in determining the width of the buffer zone.
 - a. Designated or registered national: parks; memorial parks; historic sites and landmarks; natural landmarks; monuments; and wilderness areas.
 - b. Designated or registered state: parks; historic sites; monuments; historical markers; archaeological sites; and nature preserves.
 - c. County parks and recreational areas; municipal parks; and parks owned or administered by other governmental subdivisions.
 - d. Areas critical to the life stages of threatened or endangered animal or plant species.
 - e. Areas where animal or plant species that are unique or rare to this state would be irreversibly damaged.
 - f. Areas within one thousand two hundred feet of the geographic center of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch or launch control facility.
 - g. Areas within thirty feet on either side of a direct line between intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch or launch control facilities to avoid microwave interference.

2. **Avoidance areas.** The following geographical areas may not be considered in the routing of a transmission facility unless the applicant shows that under the circumstances there is no reasonable alternative. In determining whether an avoidance area should be designated for a facility, the commission may consider, among other things, the proposed management of adverse impacts; the orderly siting of facilities; system reliability and integrity; the efficient use of resources; and alternative routes. Economic considerations alone will not justify approval of these areas. A

buffer zone of a reasonable width to protect the integrity of the area will be included unless a distance is specified in the criteria. Natural screening may be considered in determining the width of the buffer zone.

- a. Designated or registered national: historic districts; wildlife areas; wild, scenic, or recreational rivers; wildlife refuges; and grasslands.
 - b. Designated or registered state: wild, scenic, or recreational rivers; game refuges; game management areas; management areas; forests; forest management lands; and grasslands.
 - c. Historical resources which are not specifically designated as exclusion or avoidance areas.
 - d. Areas which are geologically unstable.
 - e. Within five hundred feet [152.4 meters] of a residence, school, or place of business. This criterion shall not apply to a water pipeline transmission facility.
 - f. Reservoirs and municipal water supplies.
 - g. Water sources for organized rural water districts.
 - h. Irrigated land. This criterion shall not apply to an underground transmission facility.
 - i. Areas of recreational significance which are not designated as exclusion areas.
3. **Selection criteria.** A corridor or route shall be designated only when it is demonstrated to the commission by the applicant that any significant adverse effects which will result from the location, construction, and maintenance of the facility as they relate to the following, will be at an acceptable minimum, or that those effects will be managed and maintained at an acceptable minimum. The effects to be considered include:
- a. The impact upon agriculture:
 - (1) Agricultural production.
 - (2) Family farms and ranches.
 - (3) Land which the owner can demonstrate has soil, topography, drainage, and an available water supply that cause the land to be economically suitable for irrigation.

(4) Surface drainage patterns and ground water flow patterns.

b. The impact upon:

(1) Sound-sensitive land uses.

(2) The visual effect on the adjacent area.

(3) Extractive and storage resources.

(4) Wetlands, woodlands, and wooded areas.

(5) Radio and television reception, and other communication or electronic control facilities.

(6) Human health and safety.

(7) Animal health and safety.

(8) Plant life.

4. **Policy criteria.** The commission may give preference to an applicant that will maximize benefits that result from the adoption of the following policies and practices, and in a proper case may require the adoption of such policies and practices. The commission may also give preference to an applicant that will maximize interstate benefits. The benefits to be considered include:

a. Location and design.

b. Training and utilization of available labor in this state for the general and specialized skills required.

c. Economies of construction and operation.

d. Use of citizen coordinating committees.

e. A commitment of a portion of the transmitted product for use in this state.

f. Labor relations.

g. The coordination of facilities.

h. Monitoring of impacts.

- i. Utilization of existing and proposed rights of way and corridors.
- j. Other existing or proposed transmission facilities.

History: Amended effective August 1, 1979; January 1, 1982; February 1, 1995; July 1, 2006; April 1, 2013.

General Authority: NDCC 49-22-18

Law Implemented: NDCC 49-22-05.1

Mike Paul
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
1717 E. Interstate Avenue
Bismarck ND 58503

RES Americas Development Inc.
11101 W 120th Ave. Ste 400 CO 80021
Broomfield CO 80021

Steve Doyon
Sunflower Wind Project, LLC
c/o Novatus Management, LLC 767 Third A
New York NY 10017

Bruce Kerr
Sunflower Wind Project, LLC
c/o Novatus Management, LLC 767 Third A
New York NY 10017

pseppanen@fageninc.com
Paul Seppanen

dmccourtney@allete.com
Daniel McCourtney
Allete
30 West Superior Street
Duluth MN 55802-2093

jbermel@avangrid.com
Jesse Bermel
Avangrid Renewables

JeanS@bepec.com
Jean Schafer
Basin Electric Power Company
1717 E. Interstate Avenue
Bismarck ND 58503

wboeshans@bnicoal.com
Wade Boeshans
BNI Coal, Ltd.
1637 Burnt Boat Dr.
Bismarck ND 58503

carp1091@qwestoffice.net
Robert Colton *failed delivery*
Carpenters Union
217 S Mandan St
Bismarck ND 58504-5516

cfurey@crowleyfleck.com
Casey Furey
Crowley Fleck PLLP

kdespea@entergy.com
Kimberly Despeaux *failed delivery*
Entergy
639 Loyola Avenue L-ENT-28F
New Orleans LA 70113

msmith@fredlaw.com
Mollie Smith
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
200 South Sixth Street Suite 4000
Minneapolis MN 55402-1425

Sara.bergan@stoel.com
Sara Bergan
Glacier Ridge Wind Farm

jmorrison@crowleyfleck.com
John Morrison
Tatanka Wind Power, LC
Crowley Fleck PLLP PO Box 2798
Bismarck ND 58502-5798

gkreitler@aubudon.org
Ginny Kreitler
Audubon
646 Lakeview Circle
Newtonn Square PA 19073

JeanS@bepec.com
Jean Schafer
Basin Electric Power Company
1717 E. Interstate Avenue
Bismarck ND 58503

dalen@bepec.com
Dale Niezwaag
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
1717 E Interstate Avenue
Bismarck ND

jtufits@capitalpower.com
Jena Tufts
Capital Power Corporation
9th Floor, EPCOR Tower 1200-10423 101 St
Edmonton AB T5H 0E9

bbjella@crowleyfleck.com
Brian R. Bjella
Crowley Fleck PLLP
PO Box 2798
Bismarck ND 58502-2798

rseide@cinci.rr.com
Richard Seide
Energy Market Consulting Partners, LLC
3770 Fallenrtree Lane
Cincinnati OH 45236

chriss@enxco.com
Chris Sternhagen
enXco
10 Second Street NE Suite 107
Minneapolis MN 55413-2236

melissa@geronimonenergy.com
Melissa Schmit *failed delivery*
Geronimo Energy
7650 Edinborough Way Suite 725
Edina MN 55435

salesdean@granddakotalodge.com
Dean Summers *failed delivery*
Grand Dakota Lodge
905 Park Ave
Dickinson ND 58601

tamie.aberle@mdu.com; karen.collins@mdu.com
Tamie Aberle
Great Plains Natural Gas Co.
400 N 4th St
Bismarck ND 58501

lbender@fredlaw.com
Lawrence Bender
Iberelrola Renewables, Inc.
Fredrikson & Byron P. A. 1133 College Dr
Bismarck ND

bthumm@itctransco.com
Brian Thumm, P.E. *failed delivery*
ITC
27175 Energy Way
Novi MI 48377

jmetzger@just-wind.com
Jeff Metzger
Just Wind LLC

kdlrkdv1@stellarnet.com
News Director
KDLR AM and KDVL, KQZZ FM Radio
Box 190
Devils Lake ND 58301-0190

news@ksjbam.com
News Director
KSJB AM and KSJZ FM Radio
PO Box 5180
Jamestown ND 58402-5180

doug.darling@lrsc.edu
Doug Darling
Lake Region State College
1801 College Drive N
Devils Lake ND 58301

msmith@fredlaw.com
Mollie Smith
Lindhahl Wind Project
Fredrikson & Byron P. A. 200 South Sixth
Minneapolis MN 55402-1425

dmoeller@allete.com
David Moeller
Minnesota Power
30 West Superior Street
Duluth MN 55802-2093

taltmann@mrenergy.com
TASHA ALTMANN
MISSOURI RIVER ENERGY SERVICES
3724 W AVERA DR
SIOUX FALLS SD 57108

lrossmccalib@greenergy.com
Laureen Ross McCailib
Great River Energy *failed delivery*
12300 Elm Creek Blvd.
Maple Grove MN 55369-4718

cwillis@infinitywind.com
Casey Willis *Sold to Engie*
~~Infinity Wind~~
Casey.Willis@engie.com

don.sturtevant@simplot.com
Don Sturtevant, PE
J R Simplot Company One Capital Center
999 Main Street PO Box 27
Boise ID 83707-0027

mike.wamboldt@kljeng.com
Mike Wamboldt, PE
Kadmas Lee & Jackson
PO Box 1157
Bismarck ND

kmains@wi.rr.com
Kavita Maini
KM ENERGY CONSULTING LLC
961 N LOST WOODS RD
OCONOMOWOC WI 53066

kzzynews@stellarnet.com
News Director
KZZY FM Radio
P O Box 190
Devils Lake ND 58301-0882

sandi.tabor@kljeng.com
Sandi Tabor
Lignite Energy Council
PO Box 2277
Bismarck ND 58502-2277

cityofmaddock@gondtc.com
Kevin Winson
Maddock Municipal Utilities
Box 276
Maddock ND 58348-0276

mhennes@minnkota.com
Mike Hennes *failed delivery*
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.
1822 Mill Road PO Box 13200
Grand Forks ND 58208-3200

tamie.aberle@mdu.com
Tamie Aberle
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co
400 North 4th Street
Bismarck ND 58502-1457

jhuibregtse@nd.gov
Jared Huibregste
N D Water Commission
900 E Boulevard
Bismarck ND 58505

BenDAntonio@nescoe.com
Ben D'Antonio
New England States Committee on Electric

regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

pbeithon@otpco.com
Pete Beithon
Otter Tail Corporation
PO Box 410
Fergus Falls ND 56537

kaward@otpco.com
Kim Ward
Otter Tail Power Company

lhauer@otpco.com
Lindsay Hauer *failed delivery*
Otter Tail Power Company

mark.randall@pnewind.com
Mark Randall
PNE Wind USA, Inc.
150 North Michigan Avenue Suite 1500
Chicago IL 60601

aanderson@solasenergyconsulting.com
Aron Anderson
Solas Energy Consulting

jessica n johnson@fws.gov
Jessica Johnson
US Fish & Wildlife Service
3425 Miriam Ave
Bismarck ND 58501

carlee@usnd.org
Carlee McLeod
Utility Shareholders of North Dakota
PO Box 1856
Bismarck ND 58502

hfuglest@ndarec.com
Harlan Fugelsten
ND Assn Rural Electric Cooperatives
PO Box 727
Mandan ND 58554-0727

Julie.Voeck@nexteraenergy.com
Julie Voeck
NextEra Energy Resources

rbuckley@orionrenewables.com
Reid Buckley
ORION Renewable Energy Group
155 Grand Avenue Suite 706
Oakland CA 94612

mosterman@otpco.com
Mikayla Osterman
Otter Tail Power Company

jhrdlicka@otpco.com
Jana Hrdlicka
Otter Tail Power Company

jfyhrie@otpco.com
Jessica Fyhrie
Otter Tail Power Company

warren@han.midco.net
Warren Enyart
Rolette Power Development LLC

vrlaning@nd.gov
Vernon Laning
State Representative
4121 78th Avenue NE
Bismarck ND 58503

ndfieldoffice@fws.gov
US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
3425 MIRIAM AVE
BISMARCK ND 58501-7926

jkapsner@vogellaw.com
John Kapsner
Vogel Law Firm
P O Box 2097
Bismarck ND 58502-2097

lloyd@wapa.gov
Lloyd
Western Area Power Administration
PO Box 1173
Bismarck ND 58502-1173

mark.nisbet@xcelenergy.com
Mark Nisbett
Xcel/Northern States Power
Box 2747
Fargo ND 58102

dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com
Dave Sederquist
Xcel Energy
2302 Great Northern Dr PO Box 2747
Fargo ND 58108-2747