

December 1, 2023

Via Electronic Mail & Hand Delivery

Mr. Steve Kahl
Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480
ndpsc@nd.gov

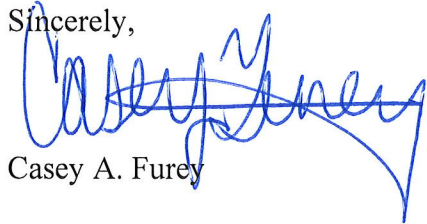
**In re: Northern Divide Wind, LLC
Northern Divide Wind Energy Center
Northern Divide 345-kV Transmission Line
Case Nos. PU-19-376 & PU-19-377
Our File No. 035218-000045**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

On behalf of Northern Divide Wind, LLC, please find enclosed for filing in Case Nos. PU-19-376 and PU-19-377 eight copies of Northern Divide Wind, LLC's letter supplementing its Final Tree and Shrub Mitigation Report filed on August 25, 2023, and its follow-up letter filed on September 19, 2023.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Casey A. Furey

CAF/lh
Enc.

cc: Victor Schock (via e-mail)
Tracy Davis (via e-mail)

209 PU-19-376 Filed 12/01/2023 Pages: 4
Letter Supplementing the Final Tree and Shrub Mitigation Report Filed
on August 25, 2023 and Follow-Up Letter Filed on September 19, 2023
Northern Divide Wind, LLC
Casey Furey, Crowley Fleck, PLLP

201 PU-19-377 Filed 12/01/2023 Pages: 4
Letter Supplementing the Final Tree and Shrub Mitigation Report Filed
on August 25, 2023 and Follow-Up Letter Filed on September 19, 2023
Northern Divide Wind, LLC
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**Northern Divide Wind, LLC
700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408**

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Mr. Steve Kahl
Executive Director
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RE: Final Tree and Shrub Mitigation Report
Northern Divide Wind, LLC
Case Nos. PU-19-376 and PU-19-377

Dear Mr. Kahl:

On August 25, 2023, Northern Divide Wind, LLC (“Northern Divide”) filed its Final Tree and Shrub Mitigation Report in the above-captioned cases for the Northern Divide Wind Energy Center and the Northern Divide 345 kilovolt (“kV”) Transmission Line (collectively, the “projects”), describing its compliance with the Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan (“Plan) approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) on April 14, 2021. On September 19, 2023, Northern Divide submitted a follow-up letter to provide additional information regarding its tree and shrub mitigation efforts to date. Northern Divide is submitting this additional letter to clarify the tree and shrub survival information provided in its September 19 letter.

As explained in the September 19 letter, a total of 5,072 trees and shrubs were removed during construction. Northern Divide’s Plan provided that the trees and shrubs would be replaced at a minimum 2:1 ratio, with a minimum of 10,144 trees and shrubs to be replanted. Northern Divide planted a total of 11,006 trees and shrubs. At the end of Year 2, Northern Divide calculated an overall survival percentage of 54.76%, although the survival percentage varied significantly among the different landowners’ properties. An updated summary table is provided below for the tree and shrub replantings on each landowner’s property.

Landowner	Total Planted	Total Surviving at End of Year 2	Cumulative Percent Success
Douglass Ness	1,926	1,439	74.71 %
Darrell Dihle	1,925	88	4.57 %
Alex Brodal	1,926	1,633	84.79 %
Jeff Larson	1,357	634	46.72 %
James Elsbernd	1,512	1,044	69.05 %

Embarc Farm LLP	1,195	311	26.03 %
Rodney Olsen	528	224	42.42 %
LeRoy and Marcia Schroeder	94	20	21.28 %
Brad Dibble	222	61	27.48 %
Hank's Difficult Decisions	88	0	0 %
Norman Westernness	185	101	54.59 %
Linda and Ower Enget	48	Not counted ^a	N/A
Total Planted	11,006		
Total Required	10,144	5,555	54.76%

^a No visual survey conducted during monitoring, due to landowner/access issues

As also explained in its September 19 letter, Northern Divide submits that its replanting effort has successfully achieved the purpose of its Plan, in particular given the drought conditions that have been experienced in the project area since the planting occurred in May 2021. Specifically, the six months after planting saw a 2.5-inch precipitation deficit from the 20-year mean precipitation in Burke County, North Dakota, resulting in adverse growing conditions to the trees and shrubs during a critical time in their initial growth. To give the trees and shrubs a better chance of survival, Northern Divide's consultant, ECT, added supplemental nutrient-rich potting soil and a synthetic moisture retaining polymer around the roots during the planting of each tree or shrub in Year 1 and Year 2. Landowners receiving trees and/or shrubs were advised to provide supplemental watering to increase survivability. Additionally, after July 2021 precipitation data was reviewed, ECT conducted a supplemental watering effort for all plantings in August 2021, in an attempt to supplement the low precipitation experienced in Year 2.

Throughout the tree and shrub replanting process, Northern Divide and ECT have sought to work with landowners to ensure and support the survival of the replanted trees and shrubs. Northern Divide and ECT have undertaken planting efforts that were appropriate for the growing conditions and precipitation faced during this period, and Northern Divide submits that these efforts have provided and will continue to provide long-term benefits to landowners, wildlife, and the environment, consistent with Northern Divide's Plan and the Commission's policies and requirements on tree and shrub mitigation.

North Dakota Public Service Commission
December 1, 2023
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Sincerely,

/s/ Alexander K. Vineyard

Alexander Vineyard
Regional Wind Site Manager
NextEra Energy Resources, LLC

On behalf of Northern Divide Wind, LLC