

May 14, 2025

Via Electronic Mail & Hand Delivery

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

In re: Oliver Wind IV, LLC
Oliver Wind IV Wind Energy Center – Oliver County
Oliver Wind IV 345-kV Transmission Line – Oliver & Mercer Counties
Siting Applications
Case Nos. PU-23-317 and PU-23-318
Our File No. 035218-000083

Dear Mr. Kahl:

On behalf of Oliver Wind IV, LLC and in response to questions received from Commission Staff, I am writing to provide additional information regarding the Oliver Wind IV, LLC (Oliver Wind IV) Tree and Shrub Mitigation Plan (the Plan), filed on April 28, 2025 and supplemented on May 2, 2025 in the above-referenced matters.

1. Status of Remaining Landowner Waivers

There are three remaining landowners that are designated as “opt out” in the Plan. Oliver Wind IV has obtained a written waiver from one of these landowners, which is attached to this submission, and is continuing to work with the remaining landowners to obtain written waivers.

2. Consultation Efforts Made with Landowners and the USDA-NRCS-North Dakota

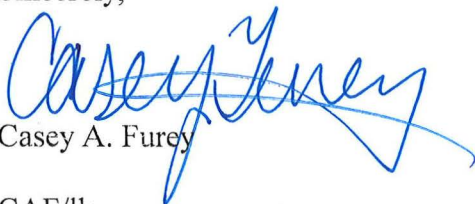
Oliver Wind IV provides the following timeline of efforts to engage with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service for North Dakota (NRCS):

- In February 2025, Oliver Wind IV’s contractor, ECT, began performing initial work to prepare tree and shrub spacing and weed mat specifications. ECT confirmed the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) in early March 2025 to confirm species that could be planted in the area of the Oliver Wind IV Wind Energy Center and Transmission Line, based on the FOTG requirements and local soil types.

- ECT confirmed with its subcontractor, Prairie View, what species were available and how many of each species could be obtained on March 4, 2025.
- Beginning on March 13, 2025, ECT [and Oliver Wind IV] met with the Oliver County Soil Conservation District to discuss the proposed tree and shrub plantings.
- On March 14, 2025, ECT reached out to the Oliver County NRCS to request approval of the tree and shrub list to be presented to landowners. ECT modified the planned plantings based on recommendations from the Oliver County NRCS, and following these recommendations, further coordinated with Prairie View to confirm species availability in the area.
- On March 20, 2025, ECT provided a revised planting list to the Oliver County NRCS, once verification of availability was received from Prairie View, to procure additional plants.
- On March 25, 2025, Oliver County NRCS responded with additional questions, which ECT responded to on March 27, 2025.
- Following the receipt of this input from the Oliver County NRCS, ECT began reaching out to landowners on March 27, 2025. Initial contact with landowners included discussing tree and shrub removal that occurred on their property and inquiring whether they would like them to be replaced on a 2:1 basis at no cost to them. If landowners indicated that they wanted trees and shrubs replaced, ECT provided the landowner with a selection of approved NRCS trees and shrubs, based on soil types on their property. All NRCS-approved species were available for the landowners' selections. Landowners that opted in to have trees and shrubs replanted were able to choose the quantity and species to be planted on their properties.
- Based upon feedback from landowners regarding available species types and the desire expressed by landowners for additional evergreens, on April 11, 2025, ECT verified with Prairie View whether additional evergreens would be available for planting. Once Prairie View verified it could obtain additional evergreens, ECT confirmed to each landowner that opted in for tree and shrub planting the ability to select additional evergreens.
- ECT was generally communicating with landowners at least every 4-7 days at minimum between March 27 and April 22, 2025, and in some cases, communications with landowners were occurring daily during this period.
- Once landowners had made planting selections, ECT developed specific planting plans for each landowner, ensuring that landowners had the final say regarding the location of plants, spacing of plants, and spacing of rows. Maps of planting plans were sent to landowners for verification, and once ECT received final verification from the landowner, ECT finalized the planting plan for submittal to the Commission.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Casey A. Furey

CAF/lh

Enc.

cc: Brian Johnson (via email)
Robert Frank (via email)
Tracy Davis (via email)
Erik Edison (via email)

WAIVER AND REFUSAL

Upon execution of this form I/We, Marvin Beckman, hereby exercise my/our right to **waive and refuse** my/our option to have the trees and shrubs on my/our property (described below) and on my/our right-of-way replaced pursuant to *North Dakota Public Service Commission Order, Case No. PU-23-317, Exhibit 13 and Case No. PU-23-318, Exhibit 14*. Instead, I/we opt to have the replacement trees and shrubs planted off my/our property and right-of-way. The referenced *North Dakota Public Service Commission Order* is attached to this Waiver and Refusal.

I/We acknowledge that I/we fully understand the terms set forth in this form, and I/we hereby waive and refuse the replacement of the trees and shrubs as described in the preceding paragraph freely and voluntarily, without any inducement, assurance, or guarantee being fully made to me allowed by law.

Property Owner(s) Legal Name(s) (Print)

Marvin Beckman

Address of Property in Question

1645 48th AVE SW

Hannover, ND 58543

Marvin Beckman
Signature(s)

5-13-2025
Date

Witness

Kurt Deiter

5-13-2025
Date