

June 21, 2024

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

**RE: Sunflower Wind Project, LLC's Ten Year Plan for 2024-2034
Case No. PU-24-___**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Enclosed for filing are two copies of the following documents:

1. Sunflower Wind Project, LLC's Ten Year Plan: 2024-2034;
2. Notice of Filing Ten Year Plan: 2024-2034; and
3. Certificate of Service.

Electronic versions of the above-referenced documents and this letter were filed with the Commission today via e-mail.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/82724951
Enclosures

cc: Stacey Fitts (w/ encls. via e-mail)

TEN YEAR PLAN: 2024-2034
Sunflower Wind Project, LLC

June 2024

In accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-22-04 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-02, Sunflower Wind Project, LLC (“Sunflower”), submits the following Ten Year Plan for years 2024 through 2034.

- (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.*

Sunflower is a Delaware limited liability company, authorized to do business in the State of North Dakota. Sunflower owns and operates a 104 megawatt (“MW”) wind energy conversion facility known as the Sunflower Wind Farm Project (“Project”), located in Stark and Morton Counties, North Dakota, approximately four miles south of the town of Hebron and approximately nine miles west of the town of Glen Ullin.

On March 4, 2014, Stark County issued a Conditional Use Permit for the Project. On March 10, 2014, Morton County issued a Special Use Permit for the Project. On June 25, 2014, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order granting Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 39 to Sunflower for the Project, and on January 7, 2015, the Commission issued the Supplemental Order granting First Amended Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 39 to Sunflower for the Project (together, “Order”) (*see* Case No. PU-14-105). Sunflower began construction of the Project in 2015, and the Project was placed in-service in December 2016.

Other than the Project, Sunflower does not have any transmission or generation facilities located in North Dakota, and the Project will have an estimated life of greater than 10 years. As such, Sunflower 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, the Project was placed in-service in December 2016. The Project is located in Stark and Morton Counties, North Dakota, approximately four miles south of the town of Hebron and approximately nine miles west of the town of Glen Ullin.

As set forth in the Commission’s Orders (referenced above), the location of the Project complies with the Commission's siting criteria, including 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 of the Project’s site, and additional detail regarding the site, are provided in Case No. PU-14-105.

Sunflower has no plans to construct additional energy conversion facilities or transmission facilities in the next five years.

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

Sunflower has a long-term power purchase agreement with Basin Electric Power Cooperative (“Basin Electric”). Energy is delivered from the physical point of interconnection on the Western Area Power Administration (“WAPA”) Dickinson to Mandan 230 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line, which runs through the Project area. The Project has an interconnection agreement with WAPA. The power produced by Sunflower helps Basin Electric and its membership meet the demand for electricity.

- (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.*

Sunflower has designed a Project that optimizes the wind resource, minimizes the impact on land resources and potentially sensitive areas and follows the energy conversion facility siting criteria outlined in NDAC Section 69-06-08-01 and applicable local requirements. Sunflower employed qualified environmental consulting firms to study and identify avoidance and exclusion areas within the Project site, in accordance with N.D.C.C. Ch. 49-22 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-08. As discussed above, Stark County issued a Conditional Use Permit for the Project on March 4, 2014, Morton County issued a Special Use Permit for the Project on March 10, 2014, and the Commission issued Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 39 on June 25, 2014 and First Amended Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 39 for the Project on January 7, 2015 (*see* Case No. PU-14-105). Throughout Project development and construction, Sunflower consulted with applicable local, state, and federal agencies and entities, and will continue to do so, as appropriate.

Additional information regarding Sunflower’s agency and entity contacts, and efforts to identify and minimize any potential environmental issues, is provided in Case No. PU-14-105.

- (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, Sunflower has a long-term power purchase agreement with Basin Electric for the entire output of the Project. The renewable energy produced by the Project can be used by Basin Electric to meet the load requirements of Basin Electric’s members.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF A
TEN YEAR PLAN BY SUNFLOWER
WIND PROJECT, LLC**

Case No. PU-24-___

**NOTICE OF FILING TEN YEAR PLAN
2024-2034**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Sunflower Wind Project, LLC, in accordance with N.D.C.C. § 49-22-04 and N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-06-02, filed a Ten Year Plan for the years 2024 through 2034 with the North Dakota Public Service Commission on June 21, 2024, and the Morton County and Stark County Auditors on June 21, 2024.

Dated this 21st day of June, 2024.

FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A.



By _____

MOLLIE M. SMITH, ND Bar #06714
Attorney for Sunflower Wind Project, LLC
60 South Sixth Street, Suite 1500
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4400
(612) 492-7270

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the following document:

NOTICE OF FILING TEN-YEAR PLAN: 2024-2034

was served on the 21st day of June, 2024 by placing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, properly addressed to the following:

North Dakota Aeronautics Commission
P.O. Box 5020
Bismarck, ND 58502-5020

North Dakota Office of Attorney General
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 125
Bismarck, ND 58505-0040

North Dakota Department of Agriculture
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 602
Bismarck, ND 58505-0020

North Dakota Department of Health
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 325
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

North Dakota Department of Labor and Human Rights
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 406
Bismarck, ND 58505-0340

North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education
State Capitol, 15th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 270
Bismarck, ND 58505-0610

North Dakota Department of Commerce
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 6
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057

Energy Infrastructure and Impact Office
North Dakota Department of Trust Lands
1707 North 9th Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Office of Governor Doug Burgum
State of North Dakota
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001

North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

State Historical Society of North Dakota
612 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission
State Capitol Building
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
1st Floor - Judicial Wing, Rm. #117
Bismarck, ND 58505-0300

Job Service North Dakota
P.O. Box 5507
Bismarck, ND 58506-5507

North Dakota Department of Trust Lands
1707 North 9th Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department
Liberty Memorial Building
604 E Boulevard Ave, Dept. 750
Bismarck, ND 58505

Natural Resources Conservation Service
North Dakota NRCS State Office
220 East Rosser Avenue
Federal Building
Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

North Dakota Department of Water Resources
1200 Memorial Highway, Dept. 770
Bismarck, ND 58504

United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-7926

United States Army Corps of Engineers
North Dakota Regulatory Office
3319 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504

Federal Aviation Administration
United States Department of Transportation
800 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20591

North Dakota Transmission Authority
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

North Dakota Pipeline Authority
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality
4201 Normandy Street
Bismarck, ND 58503-1324

North Dakota Geological Survey
600 East Boulevard Avenue,
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

North Dakota Forest Service
State Headquarters - Molberg Center
307 - 1st Street East
Bottineau, ND 58318-1100

Federal Bureau of Land Management
Montana/Dakotas State Office
5001 Southgate Drive
Billings, MT 59101

Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse
3400 Defense Pentagon, Room 5C646
Washington, DC 20301 – 3400

20th Airforce 91st Missile Wing
196 Missile Ave.
Minot AFB, ND 58705-5006

Minot Air Force Base
196 Missile Ave.
Minot AFB, ND 58705-5006

Grand Forks Air Force Base
757 Tuskegee Amn. Blvd.
Grand Forks Air Force Base, ND, 58205
Building 418, East Entrance

Morton County Board of Commissioners
c/o Dawn Rhone, County Auditor
210 2nd Ave NW
Mandan, ND 58554

Stark County Board of Commissioners
c/o Karen Richard, County Auditor
PO Box 130
Dickinson, ND 58602-0130

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mollie M. Smith".

MOLLIE M. SMITH

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF A
TEN YEAR PLAN BY SUNFLOWER
WIND PROJECT, LLC**

Case No. PU-24-_____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Mollie M. Smith, being first duly sworn, does depose and state that on June 21, 2024, she served the following document:

Ten Year Plan: 2024-2034

by placing a true and correct copy of said document in envelopes addressed as follows:

Dawn Rhone
Morton County Auditor
210 2nd Ave NW
Mandan, ND 58554

Karen Richard
Stark County Auditor
PO Box 130
Dickinson, ND 58602-0130

and depositing the same, with postage prepaid, in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota.



Mollie M. Smith