



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Department of Commerce



Issued: June 13, 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE

**In the Matter of the Site Permit Application of Prairie Wind Energy, LLC
for a 100 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Otter Tail County**

PUC Docket Number: IP-6844/WS-10-438

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Prairie Wind Energy, LLC (PWE) has applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a site permit to build and operate a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) of 100 megawatts (MW) in Otter Tail County. The Commission issued an order accepting the site permit application on June 8, 2011.

Project Description

The Project is located approximately one mile from the community of Parkers Prairie in Otter Tail County, west of State Highway (SH) 29 and north of SH 235. The Project site is located in the townships of Parkers Prairie, Elmo, Effington and Folden (see attached map). The Project Boundary encompasses approximately 23,921 acres, of which approximately 8,000 acres are under site control. The current design for the project includes:

1. A wind turbine layout consisting of up to 41 Nordex 2.4 MW N117 WTGs for a total project capacity of 98.4 MW;
2. Associated facilities, including gravel access roads, an electrical collection system, permanent meteorological towers, one step-up substation, a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system and an O&M building.

The project does not have an associated transmission system, as the project would connect at 115 kV into a proposed Great River Energy Graven Lake Substation along SH 29 and CR 138. The Applicant's goal is to complete the construction of the project and achieve commercial operation by December 31, 2012.

Site Permit Review Process

The Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting unit (EFP), on behalf of the Commission, is initiating the permit review process for this Project under the Wind Siting Act (Minnesota Statute 216F) and Wind Permitting Rules (Minnesota Rules 7854). Upon completion of this process, the EFP will present the record of this matter to the Commission for a final permit decision.

EFP is currently soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing the draft site permit for the Project. Based on comments received, EFP staff will prepare and submit a draft site permit to the Commission for consideration. If the Commission issues a draft site

permit for public review and comment, a public meeting will be held in the Project area, and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional comments. Persons on the EFP mailing list for the Project will receive notice of all public and Commission meetings.

Mailing List

Persons interested in adding their names to the EFP Project Mailing List for this project should contact the state permit manager or public advisor identified below, or register online at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=30591>.

Public Comments

The EFP is soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing a draft site permit for this Project. Such issues include unique characteristics of the proposed site or Project that should be considered and items that may be missing or mischaracterized in the site permit application. Interested persons may comment until **June 30, 2011**. Please include the Project docket number (IP-6844/WS-10-438) on all comments. Comments can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the EFP State Permit Manager identified below. Comments can also be entered on the Commission's website at <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us> under the heading Public Participation.

Project Documents

The site permit application and other documents relevant to the proposed Project are available on the Commission's website: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=30591> and on the Department of Commerce's eDocket website at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the docket number 10-438).

Physical copies of the application are also available for review at the auditor's office in Otter Tail County, the city offices in Parkers Prairie, and at the township clerks of Effington, Elmo, Folden and Parkers Prairie townships.

Project Contacts and Information

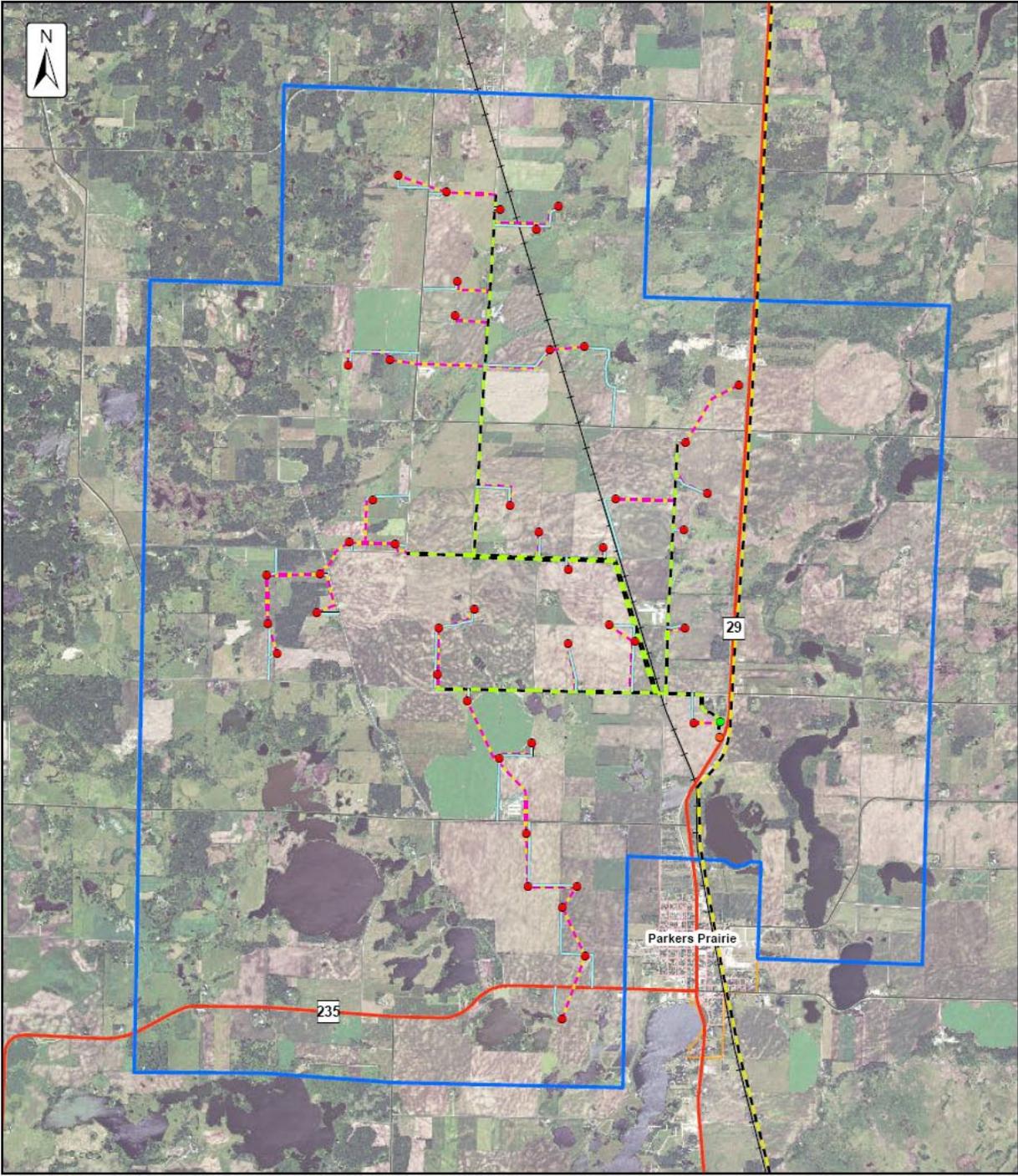
If you have questions about the permit process please contact:

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Questions about the Project and site permit application can also be directed to the applicant by contacting Terry Carlson of Prairie Wind Energy, LLC at (218) 338-4875 or tjabcarl@midwestinfo.net.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.



- Wind Turbines
- Future Office - Laydown Yard
- Future Substation - TAP
- Overhead Power 115 kV
- Overhead Power 34.5 kV
- Underground Transmission
- Access Roads
- MNDOT Interstate
- MNDOT_US_hwys
- MNDOT_State_hwys
- MNDOT Railroad
- Urban Areas
- Project Area



Prairie Wind Energy Project Area and Facilities



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Minnesota Department of Commerce
Notice of Application Acceptance**

Docket No. IP6844/WS-10-438

Dated this 13th of June, 2011

/s/Sharon Ferguson

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