In the Matter of the Application of Wapsipinicon Wind Project, LLC for a Certificate of Need for a Large Energy Facility, a 105 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) in Mower County, Minnesota

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT SCOPING DECISION
PUC Docket No. IP-6670/CN-08-334

The above matter has come before the Director of the Office of Energy Security (OES) for a decision on the scope of the Environmental Report (ER) to be prepared on the proposed Wapsipinicon Wind Project Large Wind Energy Conversion System proposed for Mower County, Minnesota. Staff of the OES, Energy Facilities Permitting unit (EFP) held a public meeting on July 22, 2008, to discuss the project with the public and to solicit input into the scope of the ER to be prepared. The public was offered until August 4, 2008, to submit written comments regarding the scope of the ER. Having received two comments on the matter and consulted with EFP staff, I hereby make the following Scoping Order that the ER shall address the following matters:

ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED

1.0 Wapsipinicon Wind Project Description [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, A]

2.0 Alternatives to be Evaluated [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, B]

2.1 No-build Alternative
2.2 A Generic 100 MW Wind Project
2.3 A 38.5 MW Biomass Plant

3.0 Human and Environmental Impacts [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, C, D]

3.1 Emissions [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, A]

- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.2 Hazardous air pollutants and VOCs [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, B]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.3 Visibility impairment [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, C]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.4 Ozone formation [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, D]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.5 Fuel availability and delivery [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, E]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.6 Associated transmission facilities [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, F]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.7 Water appropriations [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, G]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.8 Wastewater [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, H]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.9 Solid and hazardous wastes [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, I]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

3.10 Noise [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 2, J]
- No-build alternative
- 100 MW wind project
- 38.5 MW biomass plant
- Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

4.0 Mitigation measures [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, E]

4.1 No-build alternative
4.2 100 MW wind project
4.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
4.4 Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

5.0 Feasibility and availability of alternatives [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, F]

5.1 No-build alternative
5.2 100 MW wind project
5.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
5.4 Wapsipinicon North Wind Farm

6.0 Required permits [Minn. Rule 7849.7060, subp. 1, G]

SCHEDULE

The Environmental Review will be completed in August 2008.

Signed this 5 day of August, 2008

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY

Edward A. Garvey

Edward Garvey, Director