



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Issued: September 14, 2007



**NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE AND
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

In the Matter of a Site Permit Application for the 20 MW
Glacial Ridge Wind Project in Pope County, Minnesota.

MPUC Docket No. IP6650/WS-07-1073

Tuesday, October 2, 2007 6:30 p.m.
Pope County Courthouse Community Room
130 East Minnesota Avenue
Glenwood, MN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that PlainStates Energy, on behalf of Glacial Ridge Wind Project, LLC, has applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a site permit to build and operate up to a 20 Megawatt (MW) large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) west of Brooten, Minnesota. The PUC accepted the site permit applications and issued a draft site permit on September 6, 2007.

The Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) Energy Facilities Permitting (EFP) staff will host a public information meeting at the date, time and location above to provide an overview of the proposed Project, the wind energy site permitting process and the PUC issued draft site permit for the Project. The public information meeting and a comment period will provide the public an opportunity to ask questions about and make comments on the Project, the process and the draft site permit.

Representatives of DOC and Glacial Ridge Wind Project, LLC, will be at the meeting to describe the proposed Project and answer questions.

Project Description

The Glacial Ridge Wind Project proposes to build eight Nordex N90, 2.5 MW wind turbine generators mounted on freestanding tubular steel towers. The towers will be 80 meters (262 feet) in height measured at the hub. The rotor diameter will be 90 meters (295 feet). The maximum overall height of the wind turbines will be approximately 125 meters (410 feet) above grade when one blade is in the vertical position.

An electrical system consisting of underground and overhead 34.5 kilovolt (kV) collection and feeder lines will deliver power to a Project substation to be built adjacent to the Great River Energy Williams Substation in Gilchrist Township, Section 12. Other associated facilities will include pad mounted step-up transformers and turbine access roads.

Proposed Site Location

The Project site is located in southeastern Pope County in portions of Chippewa Falls, Bangor, Gilchrist and Lake Johanna townships. Glacial Ridge Wind Project, LLC, has obtained wind development rights from landowners for approximately 670 acres within the Project boundary.

MPUC Site Permit Review Process

PlainStates Energy filed a site permit application for the Glacial Ridge Wind Project with the PUC on August 7, 2007 and an amended application on September 5, 2007. On September 6, 2007, the PUC accepted the applications as complete, made a preliminary determination that a permit may be issued and issued a draft site permit. The application and draft site permit are available from the web site and contacts listed below. Landowners and governments within the Project boundary will receive a copy of the application directly from Glacial Ridge Wind Project, LLC.

The DOC is now initiating the public participation process under the Wind Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216F) and the Wind Permitting Rules (Minnesota Rules Chapter 7836). Upon completion of the public participation process, the DOC will present the record of this matter to the PUC for a final permit decision.

Public Comments

The site permit application, draft site permit and the agency rules guiding the review process are available on the PUC website at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19288>

Interested persons may comment on the application and draft site permit at the public meeting or may submit written comments until 4:30 p.m. on **October 24, 2007**. Written comments can be sent by mail, fax or by email. Please include the following docket number (**IP6650/WS-07-1073**) on written comments. Written or fax comments should be directed to: Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198. Fax: 651-297-7891. You may register on this same web site to be added to the mailing list associated with this Project and to receive future notices by U.S. Mail.

DOC Project Contacts

Questions, comments and requests to add your name on the mailing list for the Glacial Ridge Wind Project may be directed to: Adam Sokolski, Tel: 651-296-2096; e-mail: adam.sokolski@state.mn.us and the mailing address above. Deborah Pile, with the DOC staff, has been appointed as the public advisor to assist and advise citizens on how to participate in the site permit process. She can be contacted at: Tel: 651-297-2375; toll free at: 800-657-3794; or e-mail: deborah.pile@state.mn.us and the mailing address above.

Questions about the Glacial Ridge Wind Project and site permit application can also be directed to the applicant by contacting Mr. John Ihle, PlainStates Energy at 701-232-4948.

Contested Case Hearing Request

Any person may request a contested case hearing in this matter. Minnesota Rule 7836.0900. All contested case hearing requests must be filed with the Department of Commerce in writing by 4:30 p.m. on **October 24, 2007**. The person requesting the contested case hearing must list the issues to be addressed in the hearing and the reasons why a contested case hearing is required to resolve those issues. The PUC shall order a contested case hearing if it finds that a material issue of fact has been raised and that the holding of the hearing will aid the PUC in making a final decision on the site permit application and draft site permit.