



2610 YH Hanson Ave, PO Box 370, Albert Lea, MN 56007
507-373-3930 Fax 507-377-1354 www.albertleaeconomicdevelopment.com

Appendix B
Exhibit B-1
Page 1 of 1

November 1, 2007

Dean Baumgardner
Wind Capital Group
2886 Marledge Court
Madison, WI 53711

Mr. Baumgardner,

I have enjoyed getting to know you and Wind Capital, working with you on the Bent Tree Wind Farm in Freeborn County. Everything you have done has been top notch and I am hearing nothing but positive feedback from the City of Albert Lea, Freeborn County, and the landowners with whom you have met.

Dave Brunsvold and I have been meeting with the City of Albert Lea to work through some issues with tower placement and the airport. The good news is that Dave is doing a great job and I don't see any "turbulence" regarding the airport.

The Albert Lea Economic Development Agency recognizes the value that the Bent Tree Wind Farm will bring to our area. It will create jobs and grow the tax base and provide a new income stream for the landowners.

I look forward to working with you as this project moves forward. Don't hesitate to call on us to help.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Dorman".

Dan Dorman

County Administration - Government Center
411 So. Broadway, P.O. Box 1147, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007-1147

507/377-5116
Fax 507/377-5109

November 1, 2007

Dean Baumgardner, AICP
Wind Capital Group
2886 Marledge Court
Madison, WI 53711

Mr. Baumgardner,

Thank you for the interest Wind Capital Group has shown in locating a wind farm in Freeborn County. As you aware, we have a great potential for wind energy and look forward to working with you and the Wind Capital Group in the process.

The Freeborn County Board of Commissioners is very proud of their record of support for renewable projects. Freeborn County is home to the POET Glenville East ethanol plant and the Soy-Mor biodiesel plant. There are also current plans and discussions taking place with POET regarding the construction of a new ethanol plant to be located in Freeborn County.

The Board is extremely interested in the development of wind energy. Freeborn County recognizes the potential of this renewable energy source along with the positive impact a wind farm would have on the county.

If there is any assistance that my office can give please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



John W. Kluever
County Administrator

DAN SPARKS

Senator District 27

317 State Capitol Building
75 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
Phone: 651-296-9248
E-Mail: sen.dan.sparks@senate.mn



Senate

State of Minnesota

November 29, 2007

Dean Baumgardner
Wind Capital Group
2886 Marledge Court
Madison, WI 53711

Mr. Baumgardner:

As a legislator from Southern Minnesota, I have always been interested in advancing the development of renewable energies, especially wind. In fact, I have sponsored legislation in the past that would require utilities to use 25% of its power from renewable energy sources. I would like to give my support to the efforts of Wind Capital and the Bent Tree Wind Farm Project in Freeborn County.

Renewable energy, wind farms in particular, are great for the community, environment, and the local economy. Not only do they provide a clean and renewable source of energy, but they provide a lucrative tax base that improves the lives of everyone in the community and surrounding areas. I am hopeful that the success of the Bent Tree Wind Farm will help develop other community wind farms in the area, spreading the benefits throughout the region. If you ever need any help with possible legislation please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wind Capital and the Bent Tree Wind Farm Project has the potential to be a gateway project, possibly opening up other parts of Minnesota to the economic, environmental, and geopolitical benefits of large-scale wind development. I am pleased to see a project like this starting in Southern Minnesota and look forward to its success.

Sincerely,

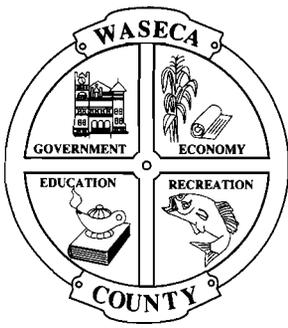
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Sparks". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Dan Sparks

COMMITTEES: Vice Chair, Commerce Committee; Vice Chair, Economic Development Budget Committee;
Energy, Utilities, Technology & Communication Committee; Capital Investment Committee; Business, Industry &
Jobs Committee

SERVING: Mower, Freeborn and Fillmore Counties





STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA

Appendix B
Exhibit B-4
Page 1 of 1

Board of County Commissioners

307 NORTH STATE STREET
WASECA, MINNESOTA 56093

April 15, 2008

Mr. Dean Baumgardner, AICP
Wind Capital Group
2886 Marlredge Court
Madison WI 53711

Dear Mr. Baumgardner:

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners is pleased to provide this letter of support for the proposed Bent Tree Wind Farm project. Our county has a strong interest in promoting alternative energy.

We recognize that Bent Tree represents the prospect of permanent jobs and construction jobs in our region. It is also an opportunity for area suppliers to furnish materials needed for the farm's construction. Even though the current proposal is sited in neighboring Freeborn County we believe the economic benefits of Bent Tree would extend beyond county lines.

For the past several years, Waseca County has been actively assisting and supporting the development of the VeraSun ethanol plant in Janesville. When this facility becomes operational later this year it will be the largest ethanol plant in Minnesota. Our support for Bent Tree is consistent with this past support for renewable energy.

If you should find that your project requires land north of Freeborn County we would be highly interested in working with you to extend the Bent Tree Wind Farm into Waseca County. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested in discussing this, or if we can provide any other additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dan Kuhns'.

Dan Kuhns
Chairman, Waseca County
Board of Commissioners

DK:mlw

7836.0500 Site Permit Application Contents.

Pursuant to Minn. Rules 7836.0500, subp. 1, WPL provides the following required information.

A. a letter of transmittal signed by an authorized representative or agent of the applicant;

See transmittal letter accompanying WPL's Site Permit Application.

B. the complete name, address, and telephone number of the applicant and any authorized representative;

Applicant:

Wisconsin Power & Light Company
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Madison, WI 53718-2148
608.458.5043

Authorized Representative:

Jeffrey M. Gray
Alliant Energy Corporate Services, Inc.
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Madison, WI 53718-2148
608.458.5043

C. the signature of the preparer of the application if prepared by an agent or consultant of the applicant;

WPL prepared its Site Permit Application.

D. the role of the permit applicant in the construction and operation of the LWECS;

WPL will construct and operate the Bent Tree Wind Project.

E. the identity of any other LWECS located in Minnesota in which the applicant, or a principal of the applicant, has an ownership or other financial interest;

WPL does not own or have other financial interests in other LWECS in Minnesota.

F. the operator of the LWECS if different from the applicant; and

WPL will operate the LWECS.

G. the name of the person or persons to be the permittees if a site permit is issued.

Wisconsin Power & Light Company

Bent Tree Project Schedule - 200 MW

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish	Duration	Q1 08		Q2 08			Q3 08			Q4 08			Q1 09			Q2 09			Q3 09			Q4 09			Q1 10			Q2 10			Q3 10			Q4 10
					Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
1	Bent Tree Wind Farm	4/1/2008	10/29/2010	673d																																	
2	Leases Signed	4/1/2008	7/31/2008	88d																																	
3	Regulatory Approval Process - WI	6/6/2008	12/15/2008	137d																																	
4	Regulatory Approval Process - MN	6/12/2008	1/15/2009	156d																																	
5	Micrositing Begins	9/1/2008	9/30/2008	22d																																	
6	Asset Purchase Agreement	8/1/2008	9/30/2008	43d																																	
7	Turbine Supply Agreement	2/16/2009	2/16/2009	0d																																	
8	Civil Construction	4/1/2009	12/1/2009	175d																																	
9	Substation Construction	9/8/2009	2/8/2010	110d																																	
10	Turbine Delivery	3/8/2010	8/6/2010	110d																																	
11	Turbine Erection & Commissioning	4/5/2010	9/24/2010	125d																																	
12	Commercial Operation	10/29/2010	10/29/2010	0d																																	

For Agency Use Only:			Appendix E Exhibit E-1 Page 1 of 9
Received _____	Due _____	RUSH	
Related ERDB# _____			
Search Radius _____ mi.	ER/All	Map'd _____ EOs _____	
NoR/ NoC/ NoE/ Std/ Sub	Let _____	Inv _____ Log out _____	

MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NHIS) DATA REQUEST FORM

DATE OF REQUEST 1/14/08

WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?

Name and Title Alyssa Sellwood, Staff Engineer

Agency/Company RMT, Inc.

Mailing Address 744 Heartland Trail Madison WI 53717
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone 608-662-5480 FAX 608-831-3334 e-mail Alyssa.Sellwood@RMT/INC.COM

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED?

Preferred Reply Method: Email US Mail

- Printouts of known occurrences of federally and state listed plants and animals; native plant communities; and aggregation sites such as bat hibernacula, colonial waterbird nesting sites, and prairie chicken booming grounds.
 - With Environmental Review
 - Printouts Only; No Review Needed
- Printouts of information listed above, plus geological features and state rare species with no legal status.
 - With Environmental Review
 - Printouts Only; No Review Needed
- Other (describe) _____

INFORMATION WE NEED FROM YOU:

- 1) Enclose a map of the project boundary (topographic maps or aerial photos are preferred).
- 2) If possible, please provide a GIS shapefile (NAD 83, UTM Zone 15N) of the project area.
- 3) List the following locational information (attach additional sheets if necessary):

For Agency Use Only:	County	Township #	Range #	Section(s) (please list all sections)
	<u>Freeburn</u>	<u>103N</u>	<u>22W</u>	<u>1-5, 8-17, and 24</u>
	<u>Freeburn</u>	<u>104N</u>	<u>21W</u>	<u>5-8, 17, and 18</u>
	<u>Freeburn</u>	<u>104N</u>	<u>22W</u>	<u>1-4, 9-16, 21-29, and 32-35</u>

- 4) Please provide the following information (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Project Name Bent Tree Wind Farm

Project Proposer Wind Capital Group

Detailed Project Description (see instructions, please) Wind capital proposing to develop the aforementioned site area as a wind farm. The wind farm is proposed to contain 246 wind turbines, access roads buried underground cables, and crane paths

Current/Past Land-Use of Project Site Agricultural

5) You will be provided with a response letter, an index database printout, and a detailed database printout. Describe how you plan to use this information, including in what form and detail, if any, you wish to publish this information. (Please note that we do not generally give permission to publish the detailed database printout.) A brief report will be provided to our client summarizing environmental impacts of their proposed development. Any identified threatened or endangered species or critical habitats will be named and boations will be established.

TURN-AROUND TIME

Requests generally take 3 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests are processed in 2 weeks or less, and include an extra fee.

FEEES

For-profit organizations, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee for this service. In addition, a fee may be charged for large requests from any source. A surcharge of \$50 is applied for ALL rush orders; if this is a rush order, please check the blank below. All fees are subject to change. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

Rush - (\$50 fee for ALL rush orders)

“The information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as the source of the material.”

Signature Alyssa Sullivan
(required)

Mail or email completed forms to:

For further information call:

Lisa Joyal (for projects associated with environmental reviews; e.g., EAWs)
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator
lisa.joyal@dnr.state.mn.us

(651) 259-5109

or

Sharron Nelson (for general requests)
Assistant Database Manager
sharron.nelson@dnr.state.mn.us

(651) 259-5123

at

Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Or FAX completed forms to: (651) 296-1811

Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/nhnrp/>

For Agency Use Only:

EO's requiring comment _____

Sources contacted	Topic	Response
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Response Summary _____

_____ Responder _____



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Box 25
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-40.....

Phone: (651) 259-5109 Fax: (651) 296-1811 E-mail: lisa.joyal@dnr.state.mn.us

February 5, 2008

Ms. Alyssa Sellwood
RMT, Inc.
744 Heartland Trail
Madison, WI 53717

Re: Request for Natural Heritage information for vicinity of proposed Bent Tree Wind Farm, Freeborn County
NHNRP Contact #: ERDB 20080511

Township (N)	Range (W)	Sections
103	22	2-5, 8-14, 16, 17
104	21	5-8, 17, 18
104	22	1-4, 9-16, 21-29, 32-36

Dear Ms. Sellwood,

The Minnesota Natural Heritage database has been reviewed to determine if any rare plant or animal species or other significant natural features are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the area indicated on the map enclosed with your information request. Based on this review, there are 7 known occurrences of rare species or native plant communities in the area searched (for details, please see the enclosed database printouts and the explanation of selected fields). Following are specific comments for **only those elements that may be impacted** by the proposed project. Rare feature occurrences not listed below are not anticipated to be affected by the proposed project.

- An Oak Forest native plant community has been documented in the northern half of T104N R22W Section 24. This particular native plant community is a remnant of the Big Woods. In the 1850's, the Big Woods forest (dominated primarily by red oak, sugar maple, and basswood trees) stretched across 1.3 million acres of Minnesota. Today, the Big Woods remnants occur in small isolated patches, and only 2% (28,000 acres) of pre-settlement Big Woods stands remain. As such, we recommend that the project be designed to avoid both direct and indirect impacts to this rare forest community.
- Several state-listed threatened plant species have been documented within native prairie remnants in the railroad rights-of-way located just outside the project boundary. Because Freeborn County has not yet been surveyed by the Minnesota County Biological Survey, there may be additional native prairie remnants within the project boundary that have not been identified and that may also contain these rare plants. We recommend that all areas slated for development be surveyed by a qualified botanist or plant ecologist (please see attached list) to determine if any remnant prairie exists on the site; please let me know the results of these prairie surveys. If prairie remnants do exist, we recommend that they be avoided when choosing wind turbine sites or routes for access roads and utilities. Please contact me if avoidance is not possible and project planning within any prairie areas proceeds, as a botanical survey will be required. We will need to discuss potential contractors, survey protocol, and other requirements before any survey work is initiated.
- The Manchester Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in T104N R22W Section 35 and T103N R22W Section 2 (Shapefiles of WMA boundaries can be downloaded from the DNR's Data Deli website at <http://deli.dnr.state.mn.us/>.) Please contact the Area Wildlife Manager,

DNR Information: 651-296-6157 • 1-888-646-6367 • TTY: 651-296-5484 • 1-800-657-3929



Jeanine Vorland at 507-455-5841, to discuss any concerns she may have about turbines being sited near the WMA.

The Natural Heritage database is maintained by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, a unit within the Division of Ecological Resources, Department of Natural Resources. It is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. Its purpose is to foster better understanding and protection of these features.

Because our information is not based on a comprehensive inventory, there may be rare or otherwise significant natural features in the state that are not represented in the database. A county-by-county survey of rare natural features is now underway, but has not been completed for Freeborn County. Therefore ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist on the project area.

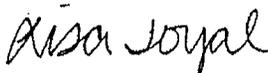
The enclosed results of the database search are provided in two formats: short record report and long record report. To control the release of locational information, which might result in the damage or destruction of a rare element, both printout formats are copyrighted.

The short record report provides rare feature locations only to the nearest section, and may be reprinted, unaltered, in an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, municipal natural resource plan, or report compiled by your company for the project listed above. If you wish to reproduce the short record report for any other purpose, please contact me to request written permission. **The long record report includes more detailed locational information, and is for your personal use only. If you wish to reprint the long record report for any purpose, please contact me to request written permission.**

Please be aware that review by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program focuses only on *rare natural features*. It does not constitute review or approval by the Department of Natural Resources as a whole. If you require further information on the environmental review process for other natural resource-related issues, you may contact your Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist, Todd Kolander, at (507) 359-6073.

An invoice in the amount of \$126.98 will be mailed to you under separate cover within two weeks of the date of this letter. You are being billed for the database search and printouts, and staff scientist review. Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Joyal
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator

encl: Database search results
Rare Feature Database Print-Outs: An Explanation of Fields
Consultant List

cc: Jeanine Vorland
Todd Kolander

Minnesota Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program
Short Record Report of Element Occurrences within 1 mile radius of:
Bent Tree Wind Farm
Multiple TRS
Freeborn County

Element Name and Occurrence Number	Federal Status	MN Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Last Observed Date	EO ID #
Freeborn County, MN						
<u>Asclepias sullivantii</u> (Sullivant's Milkweed) #61 Location Description: T104N R22W S4		THR	S2	G5	1998-08-21	23939
Native Plant Community, Undetermined Class #752 Location Description: T104N R22W S13, T104N R22W S24		N/A	SNR	GNR	1971-05-	1112
Freeborn, Waseca County, MN						
<u>Eryngium yuccifolium</u> (Rattlesnake-master) #118 Location Description: T104N R22W S5, T105N R22W S33, T105N R22W S32, T104N R22W S4		SPC	S3	G5	1998-08-21	23940
<u>Valeriana edulis</u> ssp. <u>ciliata</u> (Valerian) #99 Location Description: T105N R22W S33, T104N R22W S4		THR	S2	G5T3	1998-08-21	23876
Waseca County, MN						
<u>Arnoglossum plantagineum</u> (Tuberous Indian-plantain) #37 Location Description: T105N R22W S33, T105N R22W S32, T105N R22W S28, T105N R22W S29		THR	S2	G4G5	1998-08-06	23901
<u>Cypripedium candidum</u> (Small White Lady's-slipper) #117 Location Description: T105N R22W S33, T105N R22W S32		SPC	S3	G4	1982-05-19	4399
<u>Eryngium yuccifolium</u> (Rattlesnake-master) #116 Location Description: T105N R22W S33, T105N R22W S32		SPC	S3	G5	1998-08-06	23874

Records Printed = 7

The Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program recently adopted a new database system called Biotics. As a result of this change, the layout and contents of the database reports have been revised. Many of the fields included in the new reports are the same or similar to the previous report fields, however there are several new fields and some of the field definitions have been slightly modified. We recommend that you familiarize yourself with the latest field explanations.

Rare Features Database Reports: An Explanation of Fields

The Rare Features database (Biotics) is part of the Natural Heritage Information System, and is maintained by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, a unit within the Division of Ecological Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

****Please note that the print-outs are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without permission****

Field Name: [Full (non-abbreviated) field name, if different]. Further explanation of field.

-E-

Element Name and Occ #: [Element Name and Occurrence Number]. The Element is the name of the rare feature. For plant and animal species records, this field holds the scientific name followed by the common name in parentheses; for all other elements (such as native plant communities, which have no scientific name) it is solely the element name. Native plant community names correspond to Minnesota's Native Plant Community Classification (Version 2.0). The Occurrence Number, in combination with the Element Name, uniquely identifies each record.

EO Data: [Element Occurrence Data]. For species elements, this field contains data collected on the biology of the Element Occurrence* (EO), including the number of individuals, vigor, habitat, soils, associated species, peculiar characteristics, etc. For native plant community elements, this field is a summary text description of the vegetation of the EO, including structure (strata) and composition (dominant/characteristic species), heterogeneity, successional stage/dynamics, any unique aspects of the community or additional noteworthy species (including animals). Note that this is a new field and it has not been filled out for many of the records that were collected prior to conversion to the new database system. Some of the information meeting the field definition may be found in the General Description field.

EO ID#: [Element Occurrence Identification Number]. Unique identifier for each Element Occurrence record.

EO Rank: [Element Occurrence Rank]. An evaluation of the quality and condition of an Element Occurrence (EO) from A (highest) to D (lowest). Represents a comparative evaluation of: 1) quality as determined by representativeness of the occurrence especially as compared to EO specifications and including maturity, size, numbers, etc. 2) condition (how much has the site and the EO itself been damaged or altered from its optimal condition and character). 3) viability (the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence - used in ranking species only). EO Ranks are assigned based on recent fieldwork by knowledgeable individuals.

Extent Known?: A value that indicates whether the full extent of the Element is known (i.e., it has been determined through field survey) at that location. If null, the value has not been determined.

-F-

Federal Status: Status of species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act: LE = endangered; LT = threatened; LE,LT = listed endangered in part of its range, listed threatened in another part of its range; LT,PDL = listed threatened, proposed for delisting; C = candidate for listing. If null or "No Status" the species has no federal status.

First Observed Date: Date that the Element Occurrence was first reported at the site in format YYYY-MM-DD. A year followed by "Pre" indicates that the observed date was sometime prior to the date listed, but the exact date is unknown.

-G-

General Description: General description or word picture of the area where the Element Occurrence (EO) is located (i.e., the physical setting/context surrounding the EO), including a list of adjacent communities. When available, information on surrounding land use may be included. Note that the information tracked in this field is now more narrowly defined than it was in the old database system, and some of the information still in this field more accurately meets the definition of the new EO Data field. We are working to clean up the records so that the information in the two fields corresponds to the current field explanations described herein. Also note that the use of uppercase in sentences in this field is not significant but rather an artifact of transferring data from the old database system to the new system.

Global Rank: The global (i.e., range-wide) assessment of the relative rarity or imperilment of the species or community. Ranges from G1 (critically imperiled due to extreme rarity on a world-wide basis) to G5 (demonstrably secure, though perhaps rare in parts of its range). Global ranks are determined by NatureServe, an international network of natural heritage programs and conservation data centers.

-L-

Last Observed Date: Date that the Element Occurrence was last observed to be extant at the site in format YYYY-MM-DD.

Last Survey Date: Date of the most recent field survey for the Element Occurrence, regardless of whether it was found during the visit. If the field is blank, assume the date is the same as the Last Observed Date.

Location Description: County or Counties in which the Element Occurrence was documented followed by Township, Range, and Section information (not listed in any particular order). Each unique Township, Range, and Section combination is separated by a comma. In some cases, there are too many Township, Range, and Section combinations to list in the field, in which case, the information will be replaced with, "Legal description is too lengthy to fit in allotted space".

-M-

Managed Area(s): Name of the federally, state, locally, or privately managed park, forest, refuge, preserve, etc., containing the occurrence, if any. If this field is blank, the element probably occurs on private land. If "(Statutory Boundary)" occurs after the name of a managed area, the location may be a private inholding within the statutory boundary of a state forest or park.

MN Status: [Minnesota Status]. Legal status of plant and animal species under the Minnesota Endangered Species Law: END = endangered; THR = threatened; SPC = special concern; NON = tracked, but no legal status. Native plant communities, geological features, and colonial waterbird nesting sites do not have any legal status under the Endangered Species Law and are represented by a N/A.

-N-

NPC Classification (v1.5): Native plant community name in Minnesota's Native Vegetation: A Key to Natural Communities (Version 1.5). This earlier classification has been replaced by Minnesota's Native Plant Community Classification (Version 2.0).

-O-

Observed Area: The total area of the Element Occurrence, in acres, which is measured or estimated during fieldwork. If null, the value has not been determined.

Ownership Type: Indicates whether the land on which the Element Occurrence was located was publicly or privately owned; for publicly owned land, the agency with management responsibility is listed, if known.

-S-

Site Name: The name of the site(s) where the Element Occurrence is located. Sites are natural areas of land with boundaries determined and mapped according to biological and ecological considerations.

Survey Site #/Name: The name of the survey site, if applicable, where the Element Occurrence is located. Survey sites are sites that provide a geographic framework for recording and storing data, but their boundaries are not based on biological and ecological considerations. Minnesota County Biological Survey site numbers, if applicable, are also listed in this field.

Survey Type: Information on the type of survey used to collect information on the Element Occurrence.

Surveyor(s): Name(s) of the person(s) that collected survey information on the Element Occurrence.

State Rank: Rank that best characterizes the relative rarity or endangerment of the taxon or plant community in Minnesota. The ranks do not represent a legal status. They are used by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to set priorities for research, inventory and conservation planning. The state ranks are updated as inventory information becomes available. S1 = Critically imperiled in Minnesota because of extreme rarity or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state. S2 = Imperiled in Minnesota because of rarity or because of some factor(s) making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the state. S3 = Vulnerable in Minnesota either because rare or uncommon, or found in a restricted range, or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation. S4 = Apparently secure in Minnesota, usually widespread. S5 = Demonstrably secure in Minnesota, essentially ineradicable under present conditions. SH = Of historical occurrence in the state, perhaps having not been verified in the past 20 years, but suspected to be still extant. An element would become SH without the 20-year delay if the only known occurrences in the state were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for. SNR = Rank not yet assessed. SU = Unable to rank. SX = Presumed extinct in Minnesota. SNA = Rank not applicable. S#S# = Range Rank: a numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate the range of uncertainty about the exact status of the element. S#B, S#N = Used only for migratory animals, whereby B refers to the breeding population of the element in Minnesota and N refers to the non-breeding population of the element in Minnesota.

-V-

Vegetation Plot: Code(s) for any vegetation plot data that have been collected within this Element Occurrence (i.e., either Releve Number or the word "RELEVE" indicates that a releve has been collected).

* Element Occurrence – an area of land and/or water in which an Element (i.e., a rare species or community) is, or was, present, and which has practical conservation value for the Element as evidenced by potential continued (or historical) presence and/or regular recurrence at a given location. Specifications for each species determine whether multiple observations should be considered 1 Element Occurrence or 2, based on minimum separation distance and barriers to movement.

Data Security

Locations of some rare features must be treated as sensitive information because widespread knowledge of these locations could result in harm to the rare features. For example, wildflowers such as orchids and economically valuable plants such as ginseng are vulnerable to exploitation by collectors; other species, such as bald eagles, are sensitive to disturbance by observers. For this reason, we prefer that publications not identify the precise locations of vulnerable species. We suggest describing the location only to the nearest section. If this is not acceptable for your purposes, please call and discuss this issue with the Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator for the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program at (651) 259-5109.

BOTANICAL SURVEYORS-FOR-HIRE

The following is a list of consultants that are considered qualified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to conduct botanical surveys. Please note that this list should not be considered exhaustive, nor is it an endorsement of any one firm over another. There may be other consultants in the state who would be qualified to do the survey work. Please contact Lisa Joyal, MDNR Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator, at (651) 259-5109 if you have any questions about the list.

BOTANISTS / ECOLOGISTS

Paul Bockenstedt
Bonestroo & Associates
2355 West Highway 36
St. Paul, MN 55113
(651) 604-4812
pbockenstedt@bonestroo.com

Anita Cholewa
University of Minnesota Herbarium
220 Biological Science Center
1445 Gortner Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 625-0215

Dr. Chris Cole
911 West 4th Street
Morris, MN 56267
(320) 589-6319

Daniel DeJoode
Barr Engineering Co.
4700 West 77th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55435
(952) 832-2919

Barb Delaney
1038 200th Street
Dresser, WI 54009
(715) 294-3635
Bdelaney@scc.net

Tony DeMars
Emmons & Olivier Resources
651 Hale Avenue North
Oakdale, MN 55128
(651) 770-8488
(651) 770-2525 fax

Elizabeth Gould
Bonestroo Rosene Anderlik & Associates
2335 Highway 36 W
St. Paul, MN 55113
(651) 604-4763
elizabeth.gould@bonestroo.com

Jason Husveth
Critical Connections Ecological Services, Inc.
14758 Ostlund Trail North
Marine on Saint Croix, MN 55047
(651) 433-4410
(651) 247-0474 cell
www.ccesinc.com

Daniel W. Jones
Barr Engineering Co.
4700 West 77th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55435
(952) 832-2875

Allyz Kramer
Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH)
3535 Vadnais Center Drive
St. Paul, MN 55110
(651) 490-2162
akramer@sehinc.com

Scott Krych
Graham Environmental Services, Inc.
1119 Horseshoe Lane SE
New Prague, MN 56071
(952) 758-9721
(952) 758-9713 fax

Cynthia Lane, PhD
Ecological Strategies, Inc.
P.O. Box 3
Maiden Rock, WI 54750
(715) 448-4331
clane@cannon.net

Peter MacDonagh
Kestrel Design Group
5140 Hankerson Ave, Suite 1
Edina, MN 55436
(612) 928-1939

BOTANISTS / ECOLOGISTS ...

George-Ann Maxon
4235 Carver Rd. NE
Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 586-3414
(northern Minnesota)

Andrea Moffatt
WSB & Associates, Inc.
701 Xenia Avenue South, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(763) 541-4800
(763) 541-1700 fax
Renee G. Nation Consulting
5090 Milly Lane SW
Rochester MN 55902
(507) 288-3718
rnation@rconnect.com
(southeast Minnesota)

Dr. Richard Pemble
Department of Biology
Moorhead State University
Building KH, Room 206
Moorhead, MN 56560
(218) 477-5003
pemblerh@mnstate.edu

Deb Pomroy
8143 Pequaywan Lake Road
Duluth, MN 55803
(218) 525-7502

Deborah Shubat
2155 Johnson Road
Duluth, MN 55804
(218) 525-3063

Fred Rozumalski
Barr Engineering
8300 Norman Center Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55437-1026
(612) 832-2600
(612) 835-0186 fax

Charles Umbanhower
Department of Biology, St. Olaf College
306 St. Olaf Ave., Apartment 0
Northfield, MN 55057

Glenn Vande Water
Vande Water Natural Resource Services
429 Ogden Avenue
Escanaba, Michigan 49829
(906) 786-2141
(906) 399-6267 cell

Gary Walton
Duluth, MN
(218) 389-3261
caltha@hotmail.com

Scott Zager
Wildlands Ecological Services
2009 Maryknoll Avenue North
Maplewood, MN 55109-3645
(651) 261-2398
(651) 770-9423
wildlands@comcast.net

**CONSULTANTS WITH EXPERIENCE WITH
PRAIRIE BUSH CLOVER:**

Paul Bockenstedt
Bonestroo & Associates
2355 West Highway 36
St. Paul, MN 55113
(651) 604-4812
pbockenstedt@bonestroo.com

Robin Partsch
320 E. 3rd St.
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(507) 637-8747

Marcia Richards
1118 Lori Lane
Mankato, MN 56001
(507) 388-1401

Scott Zager
Wildlands Ecological Services
2009 Maryknoll Avenue North
Maplewood, MN 55109-3645
(651) 261-2398
(651) 770-9423
wildlands@comcast.net

Appendix E – Federal Aviation Administration Summary

The Albert Lea Municipal Airport is the nearest airport in relation to the project boundaries. It is located approximately 7 miles to the southeast of the Project Area. In May 2007, the developer submitted four preliminary locations around the boundary of the proposed Bent Tree Wind Farm to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to determine whether there were any aviation-related issues with the project site. The submittals were processed through the FAA's OE/AAA website.

On August 24, 2007, the FAA issued a preliminary "Notice of Presumed Hazard" that indicated that one of the preliminary locations were within the safety corridor for approaches to the Albert Lea, MN Municipal Airport. Essentially, the wind towers, proposed to be 407 feet above ground level, would be too tall to insure adequate margins of safety.

On September 12, 2007, the FAA issued three additional "Notices of Presumed Hazard", since one additional site was within the safety corridor for the airport approaches, and the other two locations were identified as being within 5 miles of Victor 505, a low altitude airway used by instrument-rated pilots for point to point navigational purposes. In this case, the height of the proposed towers would exceed the Minimum Obstruction Clearance Altitude (MOCA) of 2,600 feet above mean seal level (MSL).

Because the average response time from the FAA to these site inquiries averaged 2-3 months, the developer engaged a private consulting firm to determine the full impact of the approach corridor. Bids were received from two companies, and in late October 2007, the firm of Federal Airways and Airspace (FA&A), Satellite Beach, Florida was retained to do site analysis of approximately 20 sample turbine locations. Initial work was completed in mid-November, 2007. Based on the analysis, the developer adjusted the eastern project area boundary to eliminate the issue of conflict with approaches to the Albert Lea Municipal Airport.

In addition to resolving the issue with the approaches to the Albert Lea Airport, the developer also sought to resolve the issue of the low altitude airway over the project area. Following several meetings with the Albert Lea Airport Manager, the developer made a request to the FAA on November 7, 2007 to raise the MOCA on Victor 505 by 200 feet, to 2,800 feet MSL. Due to staff changes within the FAA, there was some delay in processing the request. In late November 2007, the developer met with the Albert Lea Airport Board and received its support for raising the MOCA on the Victor 505 Airway.

The developer continued to follow-up with the FAA on the status of the request, and confirmed in early December that the request had been logged in and would be acted up once the other backlog of requests had been processed. On January 15, 2008 the FAA issued a "Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation" for the Bent Tree project, which was disseminated to aviation agencies. The notice allowed for public

comments through February 14, 2008. No comments were received by FAA during the public review period and the Determination became final on February 24, 2008.

In the final determination letter of January 15, instructions are included for submittal of the FAA Form 7460-2, Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, within 10 days of the start of construction and within 5 days after the construction reaches its greatest height.

When reviewing the January 15, 2008 FAA determination, the Additional Information attached to the determination indicated that the MOCA should be increased from 2600 feet to 2700 feet MSL. However the original request, filed by the developer on November 7, 2007, called for raising the MOCA to 2800 feet MSL. The developer contacted FAA and the agency indicated that an altitude of 2800 feet was acceptable. However, the trial turbine which was filed only needed 2700 feet to pass requirements, therefore the FAA specified that altitude in the determination. To fully resolve this issue, FAA requested that the developer file another trial turbine location that needs a MOCA of 2.800 feet to pass and their approval would confirm that 2800 feet is acceptable. The new filing was submitted on March 19, 2008 and a final approval is expected by the end of June.

Once the wind farm's final project site plan is completed, it is WPL's intent to submit FAA Form 7460-1 through the OE/AAA process for a determination on each final turbine location. However, based on analyses performed by FA&A and the approvals by the FAA to raise the MOCA along Victor 505, WPL is confident that any new filings within the project boundary will receive FAA approval.



Issued Date: 01/15/2008

Dean Baumgardner
 Wind Capital Group
 2866 Marledge Ct
 Madison, WI 53711

**** DETERMINATION OF NO HAZARD TO AIR NAVIGATION ****

The Federal Aviation Administration has conducted an aeronautical study under the provisions of 49 U.S.C., Section 44718 and if applicable Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 77, concerning:

Structure: Wind Turbine BT N
 Location: Bath, MN
 Latitude: 43-49-39.51N NAD 83
 Longitude: 93-26-30.85W
 Heights: 407 feet above ground level (AGL)
 1691 feet above mean sea level (AMSL)

This aeronautical study revealed that the structure would have no substantial adverse effect on the safe and efficient utilization of the navigable airspace by aircraft or on the operation of air navigation facilities. Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, it is hereby determined that the structure would not be a hazard to air navigation provided the following condition(s) is(are) met:

As a condition to this Determination, the structure is marked and/or lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 K Change 2, Obstruction Marking and Lighting, white paint/synchronized red lights - Chapters 4,12&13(Turbines).

It is required that the enclosed FAA Form 7460-2, Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, be completed and returned to this office any time the project is abandoned or:

- At least 10 days prior to start of construction (7460-2, Part I)
- Within 5 days after the construction reaches its greatest height (7460-2, Part II)

See attachment for additional condition(s) or information.

This determination expires on 07/15/2009 unless:

- (a) extended, revised or terminated by the issuing office.
- (b) the construction is subject to the licensing authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and an application for a construction permit has been filed, as required by the FCC, within 6 months of the date of this determination. In such case, the determination expires on the date prescribed by the FCC for completion of construction, or the date the FCC denies the application.

NOTE: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THIS DETERMINATION MUST BE POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED TO THIS OFFICE AT LEAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE.

This determination is subject to review if an interested party files a petition that is received by the FAA on or before February 14, 2008. In the event a petition for review is filed, it must contain a full statement of the basis upon which it is made and be submitted in triplicate to the Manager, Airspace and Rules Division - Room 423, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., Washington, D.C. 20591.

This determination becomes final on February 24, 2008 unless a petition is timely filed. In which case, this determination will not become final pending disposition of the petition. Interested parties will be notified of the grant of any review. For any questions regarding your petition, please contact Office of Airspace and Rules via telephone -- 202-267-8783 - or facsimile 202-267-9328.

This determination is based, in part, on the foregoing description which includes specific coordinates, heights, frequency(ies) and power. Any changes in coordinates, heights, and frequencies or use of greater power will void this determination. Any future construction or alteration, including increase to heights, power, or the addition of other transmitters, requires separate notice to the FAA.

This determination does include temporary construction equipment such as cranes, derricks, etc., which may be used during actual construction of the structure. However, this equipment shall not exceed the overall heights as indicated above. Equipment which has a height greater than the studied structure requires separate notice to the FAA.

This determination concerns the effect of this structure on the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft and does not relieve the sponsor of compliance responsibilities relating to any law, ordinance, or regulation of any Federal, State, or local government body.

This aeronautical study considered and analyzed the impact on existing and proposed arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under both visual flight rules and instrument flight rules; the impact on all existing and planned public-use airports, military airports and aeronautical facilities; and the cumulative impact resulting from the studied structure when combined with the impact of other existing or proposed structures. The study disclosed that the described structure would have no substantial adverse effect on air navigation.

An account of the study findings, aeronautical objections received by the FAA during the study (if any), and the basis for the FAA's decision in this matter can be found on the following page(s).

A copy of this determination will be forwarded to the Federal Communications Commission if the structure is subject to their licensing authority.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Michael Blaich, at (770) 909-4329. On any future correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to Aeronautical Study Number 2007-AGL-3973-OE.

Signature Control No: 516817-101495029

Kevin P. Haggerty

Manager, Obstruction Evaluation Service

Attachment(s)

Additional Information

Map(s)

7460-2 Attached

Proposal: To build a Wind Turbine to a height of 407 feet above ground level, 1691 feet above mean sea level.

Location: The structure will be located 9.35 nautical miles north of the Albert Lea Municipal Airport (AEL) reference point.

Exceeds FAR Part 77.23(a)(3) and (a)(4), Increase Minimum Obstruction Clearance Altitude (MOCA) from 2600 to 2700 on Airway V505 between Mason City, Iowa VORTAC (MCW) and FREED Intersection.

MOCAs assure obstacle clearance over the entire route segment to which they apply and assure navigational signal coverage within 22 nautical miles of the associated VOR navigational facility. For that portion of the route segment beyond 22 nautical miles from the VOR (as in this aeronautical study), a structure that affects only the MOCA would not be considered to have substantial adverse effect.

An aeronautical study for Visual Flight Rules (VFR) disclosed that the proposed structure would not affect VFR navigation. The proposed structure would have to exceed 500 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) to penetrate the vertical confines of any VFR route.

The proposed structure was found to have no substantial adverse effect on the VFR traffic patterns in the vicinity of the site.

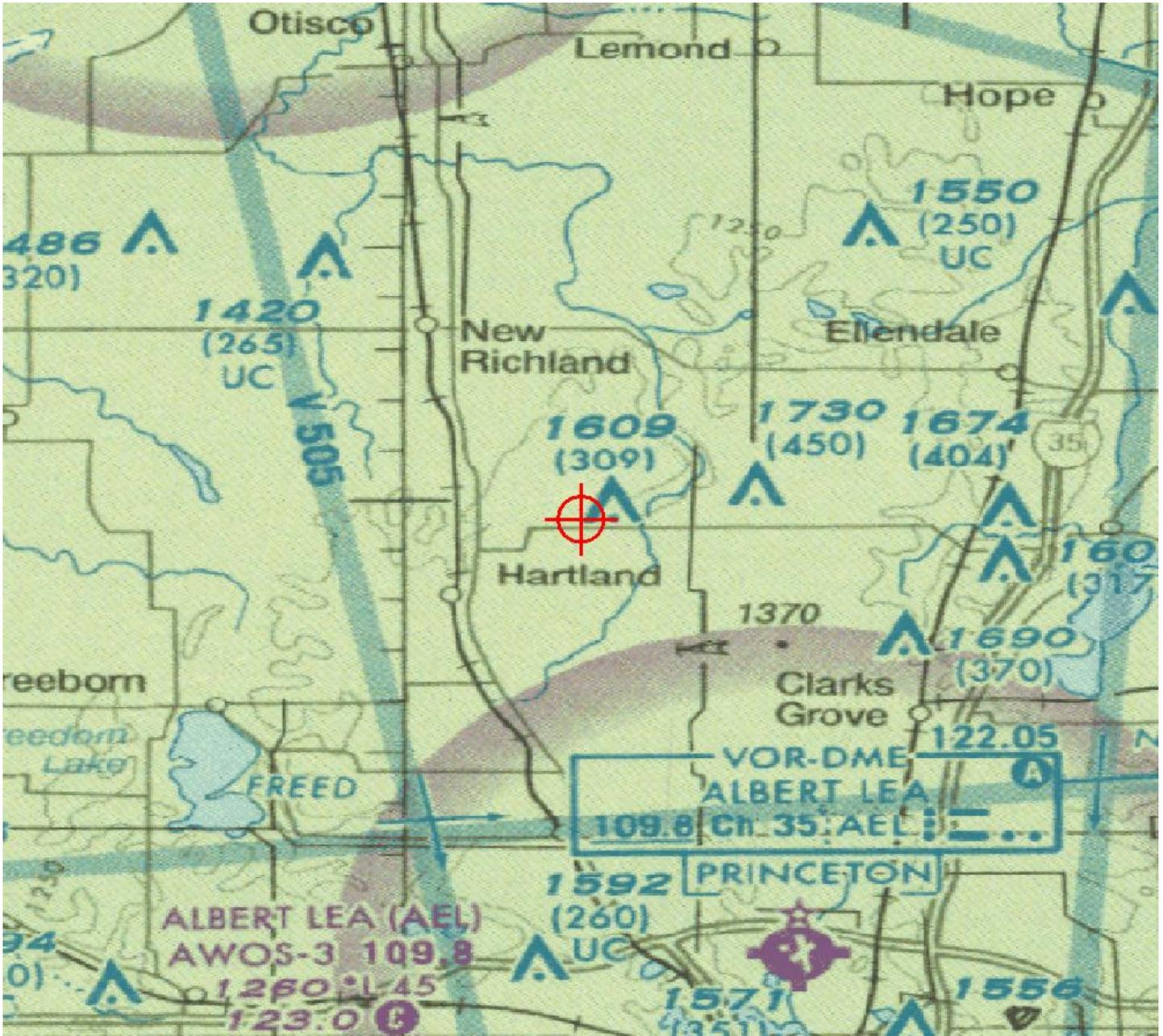
Details of the structure were not circularized to the aeronautical public for comment.

The impact on arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under VFR/IFR conditions at existing and planned public use airports, as well as aeronautical facilities, was considered during the analysis of the structure.

The aeronautical study disclosed that the structure, at the height shown on page 1 of this determination, would have no substantial adverse effect upon any terminal or enroute instrument procedure or altitude.

The cumulative impact resulting from the structure, when combined with the impact of other existing or proposed structures was considered and found to be acceptable.

Therefore, it is determined that the structure will have no substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient utilization of the navigable airspace by aircraft or on the operation of navigational facilities and would not be a hazard to air navigation.





Issued Date: 01/15/2008

Dean Baumgardner
Wind Capital Group
2866 Marledge Ct
Madison, WI 53711

**** DETERMINATION OF NO HAZARD TO AIR NAVIGATION ****

The Federal Aviation Administration has conducted an aeronautical study under the provisions of 49 U.S.C., Section 44718 and if applicable Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 77, concerning:

Structure: Wind Turbine BT W
Location: Hartland, MN
Latitude: 43-46-21.03N NAD 83
Longitude: 93-28-07.55W
Heights: 407 feet above ground level (AGL)
1700 feet above mean sea level (AMSL)

This aeronautical study revealed that the structure would have no substantial adverse effect on the safe and efficient utilization of the navigable airspace by aircraft or on the operation of air navigation facilities. Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, it is hereby determined that the structure would not be a hazard to air navigation provided the following condition(s) is(are) met:

As a condition to this Determination, the structure is marked and/or lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 K Change 2, Obstruction Marking and Lighting, white paint/synchronized red lights - Chapters 4,12&13(Turbines).

It is required that the enclosed FAA Form 7460-2, Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, be completed and returned to this office any time the project is abandoned or:

- At least 10 days prior to start of construction (7460-2, Part I)
- Within 5 days after the construction reaches its greatest height (7460-2, Part II)

See attachment for additional condition(s) or information.

This determination expires on 07/15/2009 unless:

- (a) extended, revised or terminated by the issuing office.
- (b) the construction is subject to the licensing authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and an application for a construction permit has been filed, as required by the FCC, within 6 months of the date of this determination. In such case, the determination expires on the date prescribed by the FCC for completion of construction, or the date the FCC denies the application.

NOTE: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THIS DETERMINATION MUST BE POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED TO THIS OFFICE AT LEAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE.

This determination is subject to review if an interested party files a petition that is received by the FAA on or before February 14, 2008. In the event a petition for review is filed, it must contain a full statement of the basis upon which it is made and be submitted in triplicate to the Manager, Airspace and Rules Division - Room 423, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., Washington, D.C. 20591.

This determination becomes final on February 24, 2008 unless a petition is timely filed. In which case, this determination will not become final pending disposition of the petition. Interested parties will be notified of the grant of any review. For any questions regarding your petition, please contact Office of Airspace and Rules via telephone -- 202-267-8783 - or facsimile 202-267-9328.

This determination is based, in part, on the foregoing description which includes specific coordinates, heights, frequency(ies) and power. Any changes in coordinates, heights, and frequencies or use of greater power will void this determination. Any future construction or alteration, including increase to heights, power, or the addition of other transmitters, requires separate notice to the FAA.

This determination does include temporary construction equipment such as cranes, derricks, etc., which may be used during actual construction of the structure. However, this equipment shall not exceed the overall heights as indicated above. Equipment which has a height greater than the studied structure requires separate notice to the FAA.

This determination concerns the effect of this structure on the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft and does not relieve the sponsor of compliance responsibilities relating to any law, ordinance, or regulation of any Federal, State, or local government body.

This aeronautical study considered and analyzed the impact on existing and proposed arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under both visual flight rules and instrument flight rules; the impact on all existing and planned public-use airports, military airports and aeronautical facilities; and the cumulative impact resulting from the studied structure when combined with the impact of other existing or proposed structures. The study disclosed that the described structure would have no substantial adverse effect on air navigation.

An account of the study findings, aeronautical objections received by the FAA during the study (if any), and the basis for the FAA's decision in this matter can be found on the following page(s).

A copy of this determination will be forwarded to the Federal Communications Commission if the structure is subject to their licensing authority.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Michael Blaich, at (770) 909-4329. On any future correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to Aeronautical Study Number 2007-AGL-3974-OE.

Signature Control No: 516818-101495093

Kevin P. Haggerty

Manager, Obstruction Evaluation Service

Attachment(s)

Additional Information

Map(s)

7460-2 Attached

Proposal: To build a Wind Turbine to a height of 407 feet above ground level, 1700 feet above mean sea level.

Location: The structure will be located 7.02 nautical miles northwest of the Albert Lea Municipal Airport (AEL) reference point.

Exceeds FAR Part 77.23(a)(3) and (a)(4), Increase Minimum Obstruction Clearance Altitude (MOCA) from 2600 to 2700 on Airway V505 between Mason City, Iowa VORTAC (MCW) and FREED Intersection.

MOCAs assure obstacle clearance over the entire route segment to which they apply and assure navigational signal coverage within 22 nautical miles of the associated VOR navigational facility. For that portion of the route segment beyond 22 nautical miles from the VOR (as in this aeronautical study), a structure that affects only the MOCA would not be considered to have substantial adverse effect.

An aeronautical study for Visual Flight Rules (VFR) disclosed that the proposed structure would not affect VFR navigation. The proposed structure would have to exceed 500 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) to penetrate the vertical confines of any VFR route.

The proposed structure was found to have no substantial adverse effect on the VFR traffic patterns in the vicinity of the site.

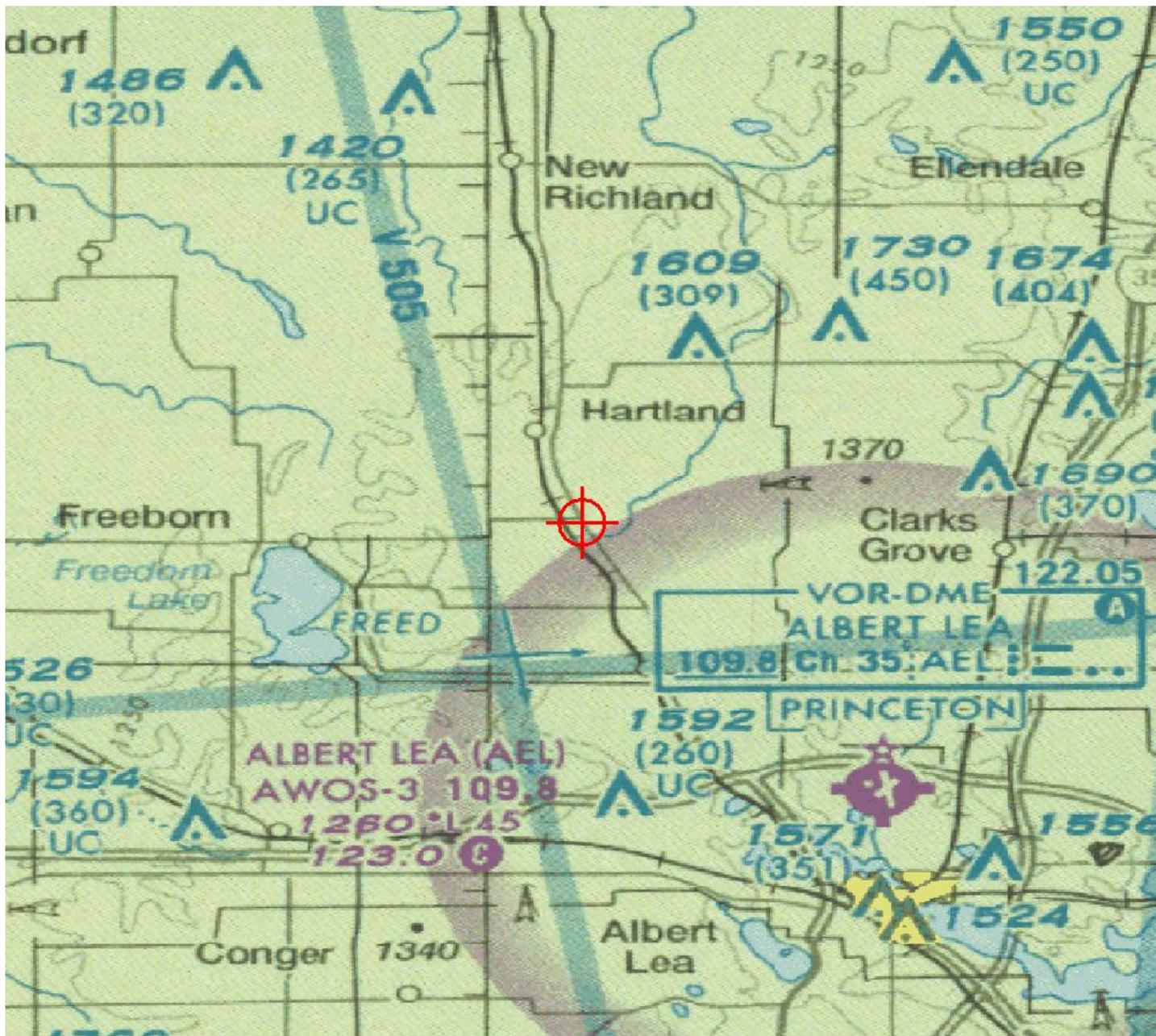
Details of the structure were not circularized to the aeronautical public for comment.

The impact on arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under VFR/IFR conditions at existing and planned public use airports, as well as aeronautical facilities, was considered during the analysis of the structure.

The aeronautical study disclosed that the structure, at the height shown on page 1 of this determination, would have no substantial adverse effect upon any terminal or enroute instrument procedure or altitude.

The cumulative impact resulting from the structure, when combined with the impact of other existing or proposed structures was considered and found to be acceptable.

Therefore, it is determined that the structure will have no substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient utilization of the navigable airspace by aircraft or on the operation of navigational facilities and would not be a hazard to air navigation.



From: "Cinadr, Thomas" <Thomas.Cinadr@MNHS.ORG>
To: "Alyssa Sellwood" <Alyssa.Sellwood@rmtinc.com>
Date: 1/22/2008 11:08 AM
Subject: RE: Historical/archeological inventory review, Bent Tree Wind Farm - Freeborn Co. @
Attachments: Historic.doc; Archaeology.doc

THIS EMAIL IS NOT A PROJECT CLEARANCE.

This message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search produced results for only previously known archaeological sites and historic properties. Please read the note below carefully.

Archaeological sites and historic properties were identified in a search of the Minnesota Archaeological Inventory and Historic Structures Inventory for the search area requested. Reports containing the results of the search are attached.

The result of this database search provides a listing of recorded archaeological sites and historic architectural properties that are included in the current SHPO databases. Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or structures may exist within the search area and may be affected by development projects within that area. Additional research, including field survey, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties.

If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project's potential to impact archaeological sites or historic architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson in Review and Compliance @ 651-259-3455 or by email at kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org.

The Minnesota SHPO Survey Manuals and Database Metadata and Contractor Lists can be found at <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/survey/inventories.htm>

Tom Cinadr
Survey and Information Management Coordinator
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. West
St. Paul, MN 55102

651-259-3453 (voice)
651-282-2374 (fax)

From: Alyssa Sellwood [<mailto:Alyssa.Sellwood@rmtinc.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 4:04 PM
To: Cinadr, Thomas
Cc: Megan Martiny
Subject: Historical/archeological inventory review, Bent Tree Wind Farm - Freeborn Co. @

Dear Mr. Cinadr,

Per my phone message, please delete the previous email submitted on January 11th, and complete the review for the project area described below.

RMT is requesting a historical/archeological inventory review to be completed for a prospective project site in Freeborn County, Minnesota. The results of the review will be used for evaluating the fatal flaws related to permitting and approval considerations. RMT is requesting all project related information to remain business confidential.

The project location map is attached. The project site encompasses the following township, range, and sections:

*

T 104N, R22W, Sections 1-4, 9-16, 21-29, and 32-35

*

T 103N, R22W, Sections 1-5, 8-17, and 24

*

T 104N, R21W, Section 5-8, 17, and 18

Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Alyssa Sellwood
RMT, Inc.
744 Heartland Trail
Madison, WI 53717
608-662-5480
608-831-3334 (Fax)
alyssa.sellwood@rmtinc.com<mailto:alyssa.sellwood@rmtinc.com>
<mailto:Megan.Martiny@rmtinc.com>

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NOTICE-- This email may contain confidential and privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any review or distribution by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender immediately and delete all copies.

History/Architecture

PROPERTY NAME	ADDRESS	Twp	Range	Sec	Quarters	USGS	Report	NRHP	CEF	DOE	Inventory Number
COUNTY Freeborn											
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Bath Twp.											
creamery	off Co. Hwy. 35	104	21	8	SW-NE	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-BAT-001
Seventh Day Adventist Church	off Twp. Rd.	104	21	17	NW-NE-SE	Ellendale	FE-85-1H				FE-BAT-003
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Hartland											
store	Main St. & Railroad St.	104	22	16	NE-SW-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-001
train depot	Railroad St. & Main St.	104	22	16	NE-SW-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-002
grain elevator	xxx Main St.	104	22	16	SW-SE-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-003
creamery	Main St. & Creamery St.	104	22	16	NW-SE-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-004
Farmers State Bank	NW corner Broadway St. & Johnson St.	104	22	21	SW-SW-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-005
commercial building	Broadway St. & Lincoln St.	104	22	21	NE-NW-NW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-006
U.S. Post Office	xxx Broadway St.	104	22	21	NW-NW-N	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-007
house	Main St. & Railroad St.	104	22	16	NE-SW-SW	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HAR-008
railroad		104	22	4							FE-HAR-010
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Hartland Twp.											
Knut Knutson Farmstead	off Mn. Hwy. 13	104	22	15	NE-SE-SE	Hartland	FE-85-1H				FE-HND-001
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Manchester											
Manchester Evangelical Lutheran	off Co. Rd. 25	103	22	15	SW-SE-NE	Albert Lea West	FE-85-1H				FE-MAN-001
District School No. 136		103	22	14	SW-SW-NW	Albert Lea West	FE-85-1H				FE-MAN-002

PROPERTY NAME	ADDRESS	Twp	Range	Sec	Quarters	USGS	Report	NRHP	CEF	DOE	Inventory Number
COUNTY	Freeborn										
CITY/TOWNSHIP:	Manchester Twp.										
West Freeborn Congregational Norwegian Lutheran Church	off Co. Rd. 29	103	22	4	NW-SW-SE	Albert Lea West	FE-85-1H				FE-MER-001
log cabin	off Co. Rd. 25	103	22	13	SW-SW-NW	Albert Lea West	FE-85-1H				FE-MER-002

Archaeological Site Locations

Site Number	Site Name	Twp.	Range	Sec.	Quarter Sections	Acres	Phase	Site Description	Traditio	Context	Reports	NR	CEF	DOE
County: Freeborn														
21FE0009		104	22	24	SW-NE	0		EW	W-2					
21FE0059		104	22	24	NW-SE		1	LS			MULT-74-03			
21FE0061		104	22	24	N-SW-SE-NW,S-N W-SE-NW	3	1	AS	W-1	LB-2	MULT-99-03			
		104	22	24	N-SW-SE-NW,S-N W-SE-NW	3	1	AS	W-1	LB-2	MULT-97-10			
21FE0062		104	22	24	NE-SE-SW-NW	0.1	1	LS			MULT-97-10			
21FE0063		104	22	23	NE-NW-NE-NE-NE	0.1	1	SA			MULT-99-02			



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Southern Region Headquarters
261 Hwy 15 South
New Ulm MN 56073

June 22, 2007

Dean Baumgardner
Wind Capital Group
906 Olive Street
Suite 1212
St. Louis, MO 63101

RE: Freeborn County Wind Farm

Dear Mr. Baumgardner:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide early coordination recommendations for the proposed Wind Farm in Freeborn County. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) remains very supportive of Windpower as an alternative energy resource in Minnesota. At the same time, we are committed to avoiding, minimizing and mitigating the potential environmental impacts for projects of this type while maintaining a positive image for the wind industry.

Our agency supports the use of Interim Guidelines to Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Wildlife from Wind Turbines (USF&WS 2003) to mitigate potential impacts to local avian wildlife resources. The guidelines focus on reducing impacts to migratory bird species. Bat related wind tower incidents remain a DNR concern and with the large rotor size and increased blade speed associated with the new wind towers we may see an increase in bat or bird related fatalities. DNR ask that any additional mitigation techniques or tower modification available are implemented to help reducing incidental impacts to birds and bats in the project area.

As a possible property owner adjacent to this project area we respectfully request a quarter mile setback for turbines sited near DNR managed lands. Our concerns with the turbine setbacks are not based on direct impact mortality to birds but on the indirect avoidance and habitat degradation these structures can create. Avian studies conducted in the Buffalo Ridge area identified turbine avoidance by grassland species. Avoidance means to not use the available nesting and feeding habitat in that area adjacent to the wind turbine, which would be the habitat in the WMA. Leddy, et. al. (1999), found approximately half the expected density of grassland birds at 80 meters from turbines in Conservation Reserve Program lands, and expected possible effects may reach out to near 200 meters. Johnson, et. al. (2000), found reduced use by some grassland species in close proximity (less than 100 meters) to turbines, but concluded population-level effects were unlikely. We believe that having turbines cited closer than a quarter mile to WMA lands can negatively affect habitat use.

Although turbine avoidance by grassland species in the WMA's may not be significant from a population standpoint (Johnson, et. al), habitat for both grassland birds and migratory waterfowl in the general project area is limited. Our concern is that as habitat diminishes, additional species may also be displaced or decline. DNR respectfully request as mitigation that turbines are relocated to allow for a quarter mile setback from DNR property boundaries.

Additional project consideration include utilities and roads that could cross or impact waters, streams or wetlands. Underground utility lines through waters of the U.S., are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act if there is discharge of fill or dredge material a general permit or letter of permission would be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Potential wetland crossing or related project impacts would involve the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). Potential wetland impacts that may occur will require delineation and mitigation. It is recommended that you contact Dave Peterson, Board Conservationist with the Board of Water and Soil Resources at 507-280-2874 to discuss WCA implications of this project.

Under Minnesota Statute 103G.2455, Subdivision 1, a public or private corporation, or a person, must have a DNR Public Waters Work Permit to construct, reconstruct, remove, abandon, transfer ownership of, or make any change in a reservoir, dam, or waterway obstruction on public waters; or change or diminish the course, current, or cross section of public waters, entirely or partially within the state, by any means, including filling, excavating, or placing of materials in or on the beds of public waters. Because the proposed project may cross public waters of the state, we recommend you contact DNR area hydrologist Cory Hansen in Rochester office at 507-285-7423 to determine if a DNR permit will be needed.

Minnesota Statute 84.415 requires that a DNR license be obtained for the passage of any utility over, under or across any state land or public waters. Public waters are any water bodies (lakes, rivers and some wetlands) identified as such on the Public Waters and Wetlands Maps. Public waters are designated as such to indicate which lakes, wetlands, and watercourses over which DNR Waters has regulatory jurisdiction. After your project review with the area hydrologist you will have determined if a public waters crossing license is needed. A crossing license application can be downloaded through DNR Lands and Minerals website at:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/utility_crossing/index.html

Questions regarding licensing requirements should be directed to Cheryl Kelley-Dobie in the New Ulm Regional office at 507-359-6070.

We strongly recommend a Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System Data Request review of the proposed project area. The Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program collects, manages, and interprets information about nongame animals, native plants and plant communities to promote the wise stewardship of these resources. Natural Heritage Programs or their equivalents now exist in all 50 states as well as in a number of Canadian provinces and Latin American countries. All programs use similar methodologies to collect and manage information, allowing pooling of data for conservation planning across geopolitical boundaries. Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/index.html

An electronic copy of the application form is available at:

http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/nhis_data_request.pdf

Dean Baumgardner
June 22, 2007
Page 3 of 3

Base upon the proposed project location we also recommend you contact the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) to determine if there are any known historical, archeological or cultural resources that could be impacted by the project

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project and provide early coordination comments.

Sincerely,

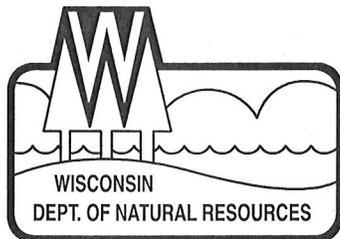


Todd Kolander
Regional Ecologist

References:

Leddy, K.L., K.F. Higgins, and D.E. Naugle. 1999. Effects of wind turbines on upland nesting birds in conservation reserve program grasslands. Wilson Bull. 11(1), pp. 100-104.

Johnson, G.D., Erickson, W.P., Strickland, M.D., Shepherd, M.F., and D.A. Shepherd. 2000. Avian monitoring studies at the Buffalo Ridge, Minnesota wind resource area: Results of a 4-year study. Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. 262 pp.



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Matthew J. Frank, Secretary

101 S. Webster St.
Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921
Telephone 608-266-2621
FAX 608-267-3579
TTY Access via relay - 711

October 30, 2007

Scott R. Smith
Regional Manager, Regulatory Affairs
Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
4902 N. Biltmore Lane, P.O. Box 77007
Madison, WI 53707-1007

Subject: Bent Tree Engineering Plan

Dear Mr. Smith:

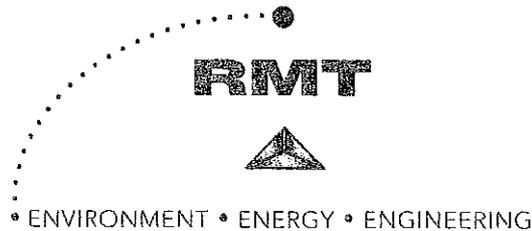
Pursuant to ss. 196.491 (3)(a) 3. a., Wis. Stats., WDNR staff have reviewed the Engineering Plan submitted for the proposed Bent Tree Wind project in northwest Freeborn County, Minnesota. Based on the information provided in your submittal, received on October 24, 2007, we have determined that this facility will not require any Wisconsin DNR permits and/or approvals prior to construction or operation of major components of the facility.

If you have any questions, please call me at 608-264-6048.

Sincerely,

David R. Siebert
Director, Office of Energy

cc: **Scot Cullen- PSCW**
Steve Ugoretz- OE/7



January 15, 2008

Mr. Tony Sullins
US Fish and Wildlife
4101 East 80th Street
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Subject: Request for a Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat Review
Bent Tree Wind Farm, Freeborn County, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Sullins:

RMT, Inc., on behalf of Wind Capital Group, LLC, is requesting that a Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat review be completed for an area proposed for development as the Bent Tree Wind Farm in Freeborn County, Minnesota. Please refer to this request and disregard the previous request submitted to your attention, dated January 11, 2008. The previous request contained in error in the description of the project area. The information needed for completing this review is provided below:

- The specific project area is shown on the attached figure, and this area includes all or portions of the following sections:
 - Township 103N, Range 22W, Sections 1-5, 8-17, and 24
 - Township 104N, Range 21W, Sections 5-8, 17, and 18
 - Township 104N, Range 22W, Sections 1-4, 9-16, 21-29, and 32-35
- At this time, 246 turbines are proposed for construction in the project area, and the proposed locations of the turbines are shown on the attached figure. The specific type of turbine has not been selected, but the height of the turbines from the base to the tip of the blade will not exceed 126.5 meters (415 feet).
- Each turbine is planned to be constructed on a 15-foot diameter foundation. Access roads, buried interconnection lines, and crane pads will also be constructed within the project area.
- The site is currently used primarily as agricultural land.

The results of your review can be submitted to the address listed below. Please feel free to contact me, at 608-662-5480, or Alyssa.Sellwood@rmtinc.com, if you need any further information or if you have any questions.

I:\WPMSN\PJT\00-07926\02\L000792602-001.DOC

Mr. Tony Sullins
US Fish and Wildlife
January 15, 2008
Page 2

Sincerely,

RMT, Inc.

Handwritten signature of Alyssa Sellwood in cursive script.

Alyssa Sellwood
Staff Engineer

Attachment: Figure 1 – Site Location Map

**Appendix E
Exhibit E-6
Page 3 of 4**

From: <Gary_Wege@fws.gov>
To: "Alyssa Sellwood" <Alyssa.Sellwood@rmtinc.com>
Date: 2/6/2008 8:04 AM
Subject: Re: Freeborn Wind Farms T&E Species Review

Alyssa:

This responds to your e-mail below and attached letters requesting information on threatened and endangered species in the area of two proposed wind energy facilities in Freeborn County, Minnesota (Freeborn Wind Farm, T102N, R22 and 23W; Bent Tree Wind Farm, T103N, R22W; T104N, R21 and 22W). The following information responds to potential impacts of the proposed projects.

There are currently no federally endangered or threatened species known to occur at the above project locations. Therefore, this precludes the need for further action on this project as required under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. However, if the project is modified or new information becomes available which indicates that listed species may occur in the affected area, consultation with this office should be reinitiated.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is also responsible for recommending measures to minimize project impacts to migratory birds and other wildlife resources. In 2003, the Department of Interior developed Interim Guidelines to Avoid and Minimize Wildlife Impacts from Wind Turbines. These guidelines can be found on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/wind.pdf>. We recommend that you use these guidelines in developing your project. In addition, we recommend that wetlands, grasslands, wooded areas and other important habitats be avoided and that turbines be located on agricultural or other lands having minimal habitat value.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and look forward to working with you in the future. If you have questions regarding our comments, please call me at (612) 725-3548, extension 207.

Sincerely,

Gary Wege

"Alyssa
Sellwood"
<Alyssa.Sellwood
@rmtinc.com>
02/04/2008 03:45
PM
Subject
Freeborn Wind Farms T&E Species
Review

To
<gary_wege@fws.gov>
cc

**Appendix E
Exhibit E-6
Page 4 of 4**

Gary-

Per our recent phone conversation, I am send you copies of the two letters that were submitted to USFWS for two prospective wind farms in Freeborn County.

Freeborn Wind Farm - Letter dated Oct. 5, 2007

Bent Tree Wind Farm - Letter dated Jan 15, 2008

Please note that T104N, R22W, Section 36 should be included in the letter (it is shown on the figure)

If you could please let me know the status of each review, and any findings for those that are complete that would be much appreciated.

I have not included the figures in this submittal, but can provide them electronically if you need them.

Thank you-

Alyssa Sellwood, P.E., Project Engineer | RMT | 744 Heartland Trail Madison WI 53717
Direct: 608.662.5480 | Fax: 608.831.3334 | CREATING BALANCE

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