



**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
Office of Energy Security



**ISSUED: AUGUST 24, 2009**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE, DRAFT SITE  
PERMIT ISSUANCE  
AND  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

**In the Matter of the Grant County Wind, LLC, Application for a Large Wind Energy  
Conversion System Site Permit for the Grant County Wind Farm in Grant County**

**LWECS Site Permit Application  
PUC Docket Number: IP6722/WS-09-341**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) Energy Facilities Permitting (EFP) staff will hold a public information on the application by Grant County Wind, LLC, to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a Site Permit for the Grant County Wind Farm Project, a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) of approximately 20 megawatts (MW) to be located in Roseville Township in Grant County, approximately five miles west of Hoffman and six miles south of Barrett.

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**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 8, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**

**At  
Hoffman Square  
100 3<sup>rd</sup> St. South  
Hoffman, MN**

**Preceded by an open house from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. hosted by the Applicant**

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The purpose of the public meeting is to provide information about the proposed Project and to take public comment and input on the Grant County Wind, LLC, site permit application and the draft site permit issued by the Commission. EFP staff will provide an overview of the state's wind energy site permitting process and the draft site permit. Representatives of Grant County Wind, LLC will be present to answer questions about the Project.

Prior to the public information meeting, the Applicant will host an open house beginning at **6:30 p.m.** at the same location.

## **Project Description**

The Project will consist of up to 10 Suzlon S88 wind turbine generators, about 80 meters high (262 feet), each generating approximately 2.0 megawatts (MW) of electricity. The rotor diameter will be 88 meters (289 feet). The maximum overall height of the wind turbines will be approximately 124 meters (407 feet) above grade when one blade is in the vertical position. A map showing the project boundary is attached. The Project also requires a number of associated facilities including access roads, a permanent meteorological tower, an underground electrical collection system, a project substation, and a connection to the electric transmission system. The Applicant anticipates that the Project will ultimately require between 10 and 20 acres for all the facilities. The Applicant expects to begin construction on the Project in late 2009 and to place it in operation by January 31, 2010.

## **Project Review Process**

Grant County Wind, LLC, filed an LWECS Site Permit Application with the Commission on April, 7, 2009. The Commission accepted this application on June 11, 2009, and authorized the issuance of a draft Site Permit on August 20, 2009. The application and draft site permit are available from the web site and contacts listed below. Landowners and governments within the site boundary have received an application directly from the Applicant and will be sent a copy of the Draft Site Permit.

The EFP staff is responsible for the public participation process for the Site Permit Application, and 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 EFP staff will present the record of this matter to the Commission for a final permit decision.

## ***Public Comments***

Interested persons may comment orally at the public meeting on the application and the draft site permit and on the Project. In addition, written comments may also be submitted to the Office of Energy Security by the close of business (**4:30 p.m.**) on **September 23, 2009**. Written comments may be submitted by mail, fax, email, or directly on line at the PUC website maintained for this project (see below). Please include the project docket number (**IP6722/WS-09-341**) on all written comments. All comments should be directed to Larry Hartman at the address below.

## ***Contested Case Hearing Request***

Any person may request a more formal contested case hearing on the site permit proceeding for the LWECS pursuant to Minnesota Rules part 7836.0900. All contested case hearing requests must be filed with Mr. Hartman in writing by 4:30 p.m. on September 23, 2009. The person requesting the contested case hearing must list the issues sought to be addressed in the hearing and the reason why a contested case hearing is required to resolve those issues. The Commission shall order a contested case hearing if it finds that a material issue of fact has been raised and that the holding of the contested case hearing will aid it in making a final decision on whether to authorize construction of the Project. Upon completion of the public participation and hearing process, the record created will be presented to the Commission for final decisions on the Application.

## **Eminent Domain for Grant County Wind, LLC**

Grant County Wind, LLC, does not have the power of eminent domain to acquire the land or wind rights for the Project. Wind and land rights necessary to build the facility must be in the form of voluntary easements or lease agreements between individual landowners and the Applicant.

### **Project Contacts and Information**

For more information about the process, the Project or to place your name on the Project mailing list, contact the persons listed below. Other contact information: Toll-Free Tel: 1-800-657-3794, Fax: 651-297-7891 or TTY: Minnesota Relay Service, 800-627-3529, and ask for the DOC.

OES Project Manager  
Larry Hartman  
651-296-5089  
[larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us)

OES Public Advisor  
Deborah Pile  
651-296-2096  
[deborah.pile@state.mn.us](mailto:deborah.pile@state.mn.us)

Minnesota Office of Energy Security  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place E., Suite 500  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198

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=20054>, and on the Department of Commerce's eDocket website: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the docket number 09-341).

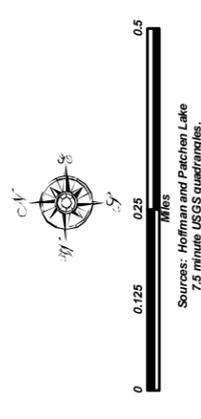
The site permit application and draft site permit are also available for review at the public library in Elbow Lake, the Auditor's Office in Grant County, and the city offices in Hoffman and Barnett and with the clerk of Roseville Township. Landowners and governments inside the LWECS Project boundary have been mailed a copy of the Site Permit Application and will be mailed a copy of the draft site permit directly from the Applicant.

Persons interested in adding their names to the project mailing list should contact the OES project manager or public advisor, or register online at the above PUC site.

Questions about the Project and site permit application can also be directed to the applicant by contacting Corey Juhl, Tel: (507) 777-4310; [corey@juhlwind.com](mailto:corey@juhlwind.com) .



- Legend**
- Development Area Boundary
  - Proposed Turbine Locations 2/25/09
  - Meteorological Tower
  - Existing Roseville Substation
  - Proposed Collection Substation
  - Proposed Collection Wire
  - Proposed Access Road
  - Proposed Transmission Line (41.6kV)
  - Existing Transmission Line (41.6 kV)
  - Land Owner Boundary
  - Leased Land
  - Land Lease Pending
  - Pending Wind Easement



Sources: Hoffman and Pachon Lake  
7.5 minute USGS quadrangles,  
Lincoln County NAIP Imagery, 2006.

