



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Office of Energy Security



Issued: September 11, 2009

**NOTICE OF LARGE WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM SITE
PERMIT APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE**

In the Matter of the Site Permit Application for a 20 Megawatt Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Stevens County, Minnesota.

PUC Docket No. IP-6824/WS-09-830

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that West Stevens Wind, LLC, applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a site permit to build and operate a large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) near Chokio, Minnesota. The Commission accepted the site permit application as complete on September 8, 2009.

Project Description. The project is a proposed 20 Megawatt wind farm to be located on approximately 2,880 acres of agricultural land in Everglade Township just northwest of the city of Chokio in Stevens County, Minnesota. The project would consist of the following: approximately 13 turbines (depending upon specifications), permanent meteorological tower, project substation, transmission line interconnection point, and permanent access roads.

Site Permit Review Process. The Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security (OES), on behalf of the Commission, is initiating the permit review process for this project under the Wind Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216F) and the Wind Permitting Rules (Minnesota Rules 7836). Upon completion of this process, the OES will present the record of this matter to the Commission for a final permit decision.

The OES is currently soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing the draft site permit for this project (see below). Based on comments received, OES staff will prepare and submit a draft site permit to the Commission for consideration. If the Commission issues a draft site permit for public review and comment, a public meeting will be held in the project area and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional comments. Persons on the Department of Commerce's mailing list for this project (see below) will receive notice of all public and Commission meetings.

Project Documents. The site permit application and other documents relevant to the proposed project are available for viewing and download on the Commission's website: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24842>, and on the Department of Commerce's eDocket website: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (Docket Number Year: 09 and Number: 830).

Copies of the LWECS application are also available for review at the Auditor's Offices in Stevens County, the city offices in Chokio, Everglade Township in Stevens County, and the public library in the city of Morris.

Mailing List. Persons interested in adding their names to the Department of Commerce mailing list for this project should contact the project manager, public advisor, or register online at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/#MailingLists>.

Public Comments. The OES is soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing the draft site permit for this project. Such issues include unique characteristics of the proposed site or project that should be considered, and items that may be missing or mischaracterized in the site permit application. Interested persons may comment until **September 30, 2009**. Please include the project docket number (IP-6824/WS-09-830) on all comments.

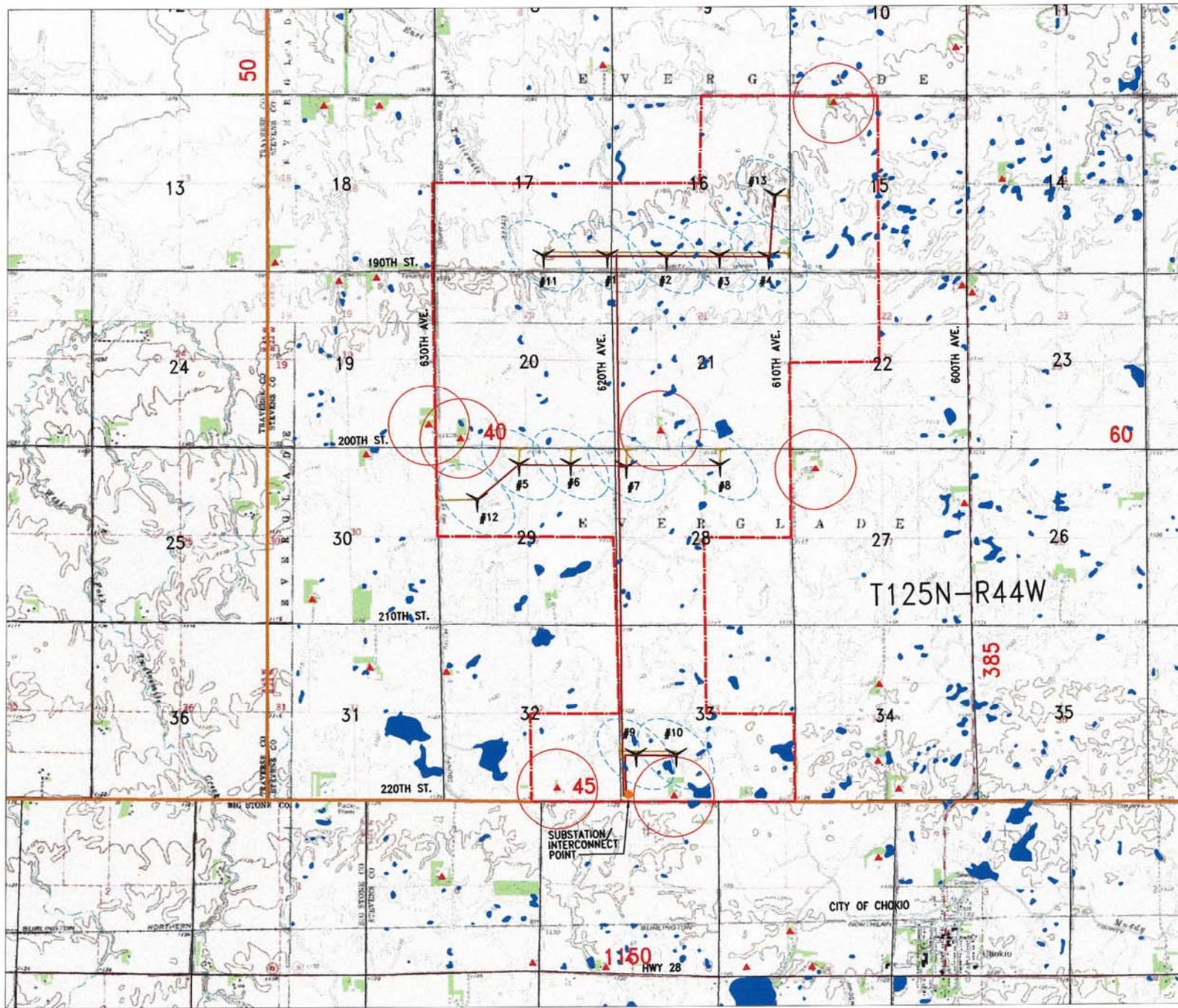
Project Contacts. To submit comments, ask questions, or seek further information about this project please contact:

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Questions about the LWECs permit application may also be directed to the applicant by contacting the company's representatives, Mr. Keith Thorstad (320-324-7122, Mnioka@fedtel.net) or Mr. Roland Jurgens (320-324-7122, rjurgens@mnioka.com).

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling 651-201-2202 (Voice) or 1-800-627-3529 (TTY relay service).



- LEGEND**
- PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY
 - TURBINE LOCATION
 - SECTION LINE
 - TOWNSHIP LINE
 - HOME RESIDENCE
 - HOME RESIDENCES 1200' RADIUS SETBACK
 - TURBINE SETBACKS
 - ACCESS ROAD
 - COLLECTION LINE
 - NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY WETLANDS
 - SUBSTATION/INTERCONNECT POINT
 - 60** ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC (AADT) (HWY-2004 DATA) (COUNTY-2005 DATA)
 - DECIDUOUS FOREST

NOTES:

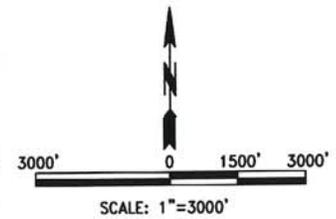
LAND USE: ALL LAND IS CROP LANDS UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

CULTURAL RESOURCES: NONE FOUND WITHIN PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY

FLOOD PLAINS: NONE FOUND WITHIN PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY

NATURAL HERITAGE: NONE FOUND WITHIN PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY

DATA SOURCES:
 AADT-MnDOT
 WETLANDS-MN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Proposed LWECs Site Location
 West Stevens Wind, LLC Project
 PUC Docket IP-6824/WS-09-830