



Issued: June 30, 2011

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING DECISION

In the Matter of the Application of Prairie Rose Transmission, LLC for a Route Permit for the 115 kV Interconnection Project in Rock County (PUC Docket: IP-6838/TL-10-134)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Department of Commerce Deputy Commissioner has issued the Environmental Assessment (EA) Scoping Decision for the Prairie Rose 115 kV Transmission Project proposed in Rock County. The EA is being prepared by the Department's Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) unit and will address potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project. Copies of the EA Scoping Decision and other relevant documents are accessible at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=28283>

Additional documents can be obtained at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> via the Department's "eDockets" website by searching for **year: 10** and **number: 134**.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project is a 115 kV transmission line that would be built to interconnect the Prairie Rose 200 MW Wind Farm to the transmission grid. The complete proposed transmission line would span approximately 24 miles, from the Prairie Rose Wind Farm Substation in Rose Dell Township in Rock County to the Split Rock Substation in Brandon, South Dakota. The Minnesota portion of the proposed Project would be approximately 5.5 to seven miles long. The single-circuit transmission line would head west along County Highway 7 to County Highway 23. There it would continue due west along Township Road 72 to the Minnesota-South Dakota border. The proposed route would be sited along a combination of existing road right-of-way (ROW) and private land adjacent the public road ROW.

PUC REVIEW PROCESS

Prairie Rose Transmission, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Geronimo Wind Energy, LLC, a Minnesota limited liability renewable energy company, filed a Route Permit Application on March 10, 2011. The Application was accepted as complete by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on April 15, 2011.

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is required to prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Project (Minn. Rule 7850.3700, subp. 1). A public hearing on the Route Permit will be held in the Project area shortly after EFP completes preparation of the Environmental Assessment.

SCHEDULE

The Environmental Assessment is scheduled to be completed in August 2011.

PROJECT CONTACT AND INFORMATION

For more information about the process, the project or to place your name on the project mailing list, contact State Permit Manager David Birkholz (651-296-2878, david.birkholz@state.mn.us) or Public Advisor Jamie MacAlister (651-297-1335, jamie.macalister@state.mn.us), Energy Facility Permitting, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.