



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Department of Commerce



Issued: November 18, 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE AND COMMENT PERIOD

**In the Matter of the Site Permit Application of Community Wind South, LLC  
for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Nobles County**

**PUC Docket Number: IP-687/WS-11-863**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that Community Wind South, LLC (CWS) has applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a site permit to build and operate the Community Wind South, LLC Wind Farm, a 30.75 megawatt large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) in Nobles County. The Commission issued an order accepting the site permit application on November 14, 2011.

**Site Permit Review Process.** Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff, on behalf of the Commission, is initiating the permit review process for the Community Wind South, LLC Wind Farm under the Wind Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes chapter 216F) and Wind Permitting Rules (Minnesota Rules chapter 7854). Upon completion of this process, the EFP staff will present the record of this matter to the Commission for a final permit decision.

**Comment Period.** EFP staff is soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing a 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. **EFP staff will accept written comments on issues to consider in developing a draft site permit until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 30, 2011.** Please include the PUC Docket No. IP-687/WS-11-863 on all comments. Comments should be mailed, emailed, or faxed to:

Larry B. Hartman  
State Permit Manager  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101-2198  
Fax: 651-296-7588  
[larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us)

Comments can also be entered on the Commission's energy facility permitting website, <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us>.

Based on comments received, EFP 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 EFP mailing list for the project will receive notice of all public and Commission meetings (see below).

**Project Description.** The proposed Community Wind South Wind, LLC project site encompasses 3,080 acres and is located in Nobles County in the townships of Summit Lake (Sections 17-20, 30) and Larkin (Sections 13, 23-24), located approximately two miles south of Wilmont (see accompanying map). CWS proposes to install 15 REPower 2.05MW turbines (model MM92) for a rated nameplate capacity of 30.75 MW’s. The wind turbines will be placed on top of free standing tubular steel towers up to 100 meters (328 feet) tall. The three bladed rotor assemblies will be 92.5 meters (303.5 feet) in diameter.

The turbines will be connected by underground electrical cables and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) fiber optic lines for communication purposes. Other associated facilities include gravel access roads to the turbines, pad mounted transformers, a fenced-in project collection yard, two sets of underground electrical cable (34.5 kV) extending approximately 19,908 feet from the CWS project collector yard to the Nobles substation owned by NSP, and a permanent free standing meteorological tower.

The applicant’s goal is to achieve commercial operation by October 1, 2012.

**Eminent Domain.** CWS 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 project must be in the form of voluntary easements or lease agreements between individual landowners and CWS.

**Project Documents.** Electronic versions of the site permit application and other documents relevant to the proposed Project are available on the Commission’s energy facility permitting website: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=32306> and on the Commission’s eDocket website at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year “11” and the number “863”).

The site permit application is also available for review at the locations noted below:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nobles County Library</b> 407 12th St Worthington, MN 56187</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City Office in Wilmont</b> 316 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Wilmont, MN 56185</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nobles County Auditor’s Office</b> 315 Tenth Street Worthington, MN 56187</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clerks in Summit Lake and Larkin Townships</p>

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

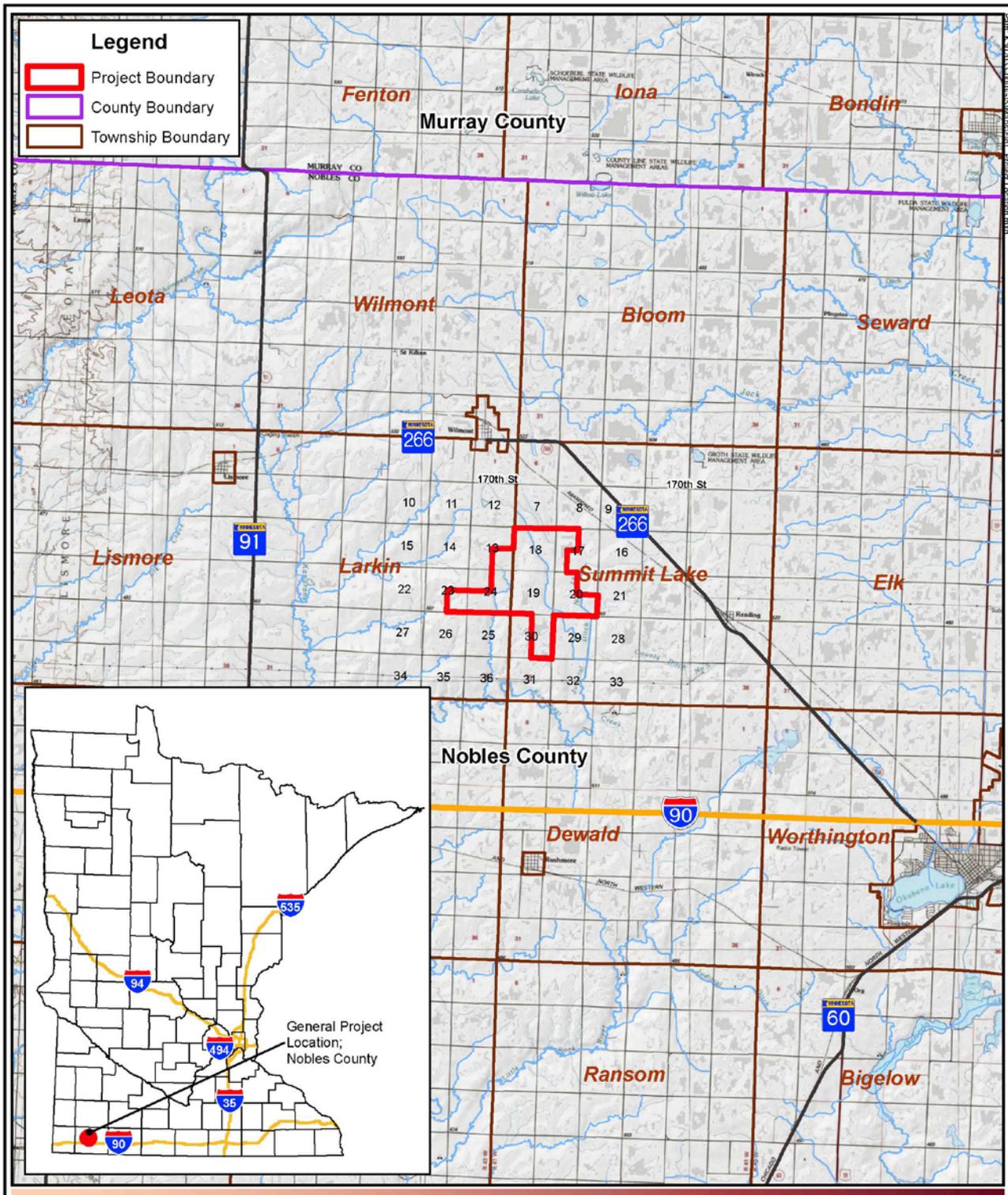
**Project Contacts and Information.** If you have questions or if you would like further information about this project please contact:

Larry Hartman, State Permit Manager  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 296-5089  
Fax: 651-297-7891  
[larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us)

Jamie MacAlister, Public Advisor  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 297-1335  
[jamie.macalister@state.mn.us](mailto:jamie.macalister@state.mn.us)

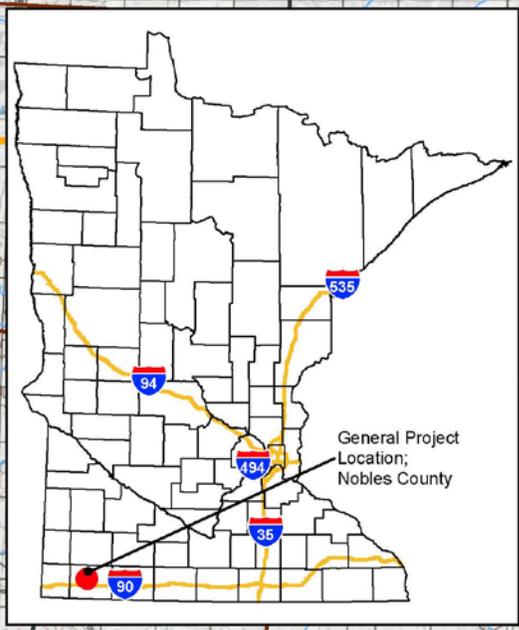
Questions about the project and site permit application can also be directed to the applicant by contacting Mark Willers, at 507-283-9140 or [mkwill@minwind.com](mailto:mkwill@minwind.com).

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.



**Legend**

- Project Boundary
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary



**Community  
Wind South, LLC**



**Figure 1: Project Location**

NOBLES COUNTY, MN

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