



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Department of Commerce



ISSUED: JUNE 8, 2012

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

**In the Matter of the Certificate of Need Application  
for the  
Ellerth Windpark Project**

**PUC Docket Number: IP6855/CN-11-112**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff has completed an environmental report (ER) for the proposed project. The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project.

The ER, and all material constituting the official record for the certificate of need, can be found on the eDockets system at: <https://www.eDockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>; search on the year “11” and number “112.”

Electronic versions of the ER and selected other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing on the Department’s energy facility permitting website:  
<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=32308>.

The ER will also be available at the locations noted below:

<b>Godel Memorial Library</b> 314 East Johnson Warren, MN 56762	<b>Newfolden Community Center</b> 145 East First Street Newfolden, MN 56738
<b>Marshall County Auditor’s Office</b> 208 East Colvin Warren, MN 56762	Clerks in Wright, West Valley, Foldahl, Marsh Grove, Comstock, and Viking Townships
<b>Thief River Falls Public Library</b> 102 Main Avenue South Thief River Falls 56701	

**Project Description.** Anywhere from 61 to 43 turbines would be used for the Ellerth Windpark Project, this number depends on the size and model of turbine selected. The three turbines under consideration (General Electric 1.6 MW, Vestas 1.8 MW V90, and Siemens 2.3 MW SWT – 101) vary in size and capacity. However, the total nameplate capacity would be limited to 98.9 MW.

Tower heights would range from 262 to 328 feet (80 to 100 meters), with rotor diameters of 295 to 331 feet (90 to 101 meters), for a total height of 426.5 to 493.8 feet (125 to 150 meters). Associated project facilities would include tower foundations, turbine access roads, step up transformers, electric feeder and collection lines, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, permanent meteorological towers, and a project substation.

The project is located approximately two miles west of the community of Newfolden and four miles north of Viking in portions of the townships of Wright (Sections E½ SE¼ 36), West Valley (S1/2 30, 31-35), Foldahl (1, 2, 11-13, 24, 25, 36), Marsh Grove (1-13, 19-23, 26-35), Comstock (1), and Viking (2-6) in Marshall County. The project area encompasses approximately 33,709 acres of mostly agricultural land. Ellerth Wind currently has agreements with landowners over approximately 18,870 acres of private land within the project area.

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

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*Public Utilities Commission – Certificate of Need Process*

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