



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Department of Commerce



Issued: December 30, 2013

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

**In the Matter of the Application of Stoneray Power Partners, LLC for a
Certificate of Need for a 105 MW Wind Project in Pipestone and Murray Counties**

PUC Docket Number: IP-6646/CN-13-193

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff has completed an Environmental Report (ER) for the proposed 105 MW Stoneray Wind Farm (Project). The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed Project and alternatives to the Project. Electronic versions of the ER and other documents relevant to this matter are available on the Department's Energy Facilities website at <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33153>.

Additionally, project documents are available on the Commission's eDockets system; enter the year "2013" and the number "193" at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>.

The ER, along with the Certificate of Need and Site Permit applications, is also available at:

Meinders Community Library
1401 7th St SW
Pipestone, MN

Paper copies of the Environmental Report may be requested from EERA staff (listed at the end of this notice).

Project Description

The proposed Stoneray Power Partners, LLC (Stoneray) Project site encompasses 29,500 acres and is located in Rock and Burke townships in Pipestone County and Chanarambie and Cameron townships in Murray County. Stoneray proposes to install up to 62 wind turbines for a nameplate capacity of 105 MW. Four turbine types are under consideration which range from 1.7 to 3.2 MW per turbine.

Associated facilities to the project include a project substation, collector and feeder lines, access roads, meteorological towers and an operations and maintenance building.

The Applicant's goal is to complete the construction of the project and achieve commercial operation by December 2014.

PUC Review Process

The Project is a “large energy facility” as defined in Minnesota Statute 216B.2421, Subd. 2, and a Certificate of Need from the Public Utilities Commission is required for such a project under Minnesota Statute 216B.243. Stoneray Power Partners, LLC, filed a Certificate of Need application for the Project on April 29, 2013. On July 24, 2013, the Commission issued an Order accepting the application as substantially complete. EERA held a public scoping meeting in Lake Wilson on August 14, 2013; The Department of Commerce Deputy Director released the Scope of the ER on September 6, 2013.

A public hearing on the Certificate of Need and the Site Permit will be held in Lake Wilson on January 14, 2014. See the notice at eDockets no. 201312-94785-01.

Project Contacts

For more information about the environmental review, contact David Birkholz. For other questions about the Project, contact Tracy Smetana.

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