



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**NOTICE OF STONERAY WIND PROJECT
PUBLIC HEARING AND DRAFT SITE PERMIT ISSUANCE**

Issued: December 20, 2013

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

In the Matter of the Application of Stoneray Power Partners, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for a 105 MW Wind Project in Pipestone and Murray Counties

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Numbers: IP-6646/ CN-13-193
IP-6646/ WS-13-216

Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Docket Number: 68-2500-31125

Date: January 14, 2014

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Lake Wilson American Legion
Broadway Avenue/Main Street
Lake Wilson MN 56151

Hearing Information:

- Staff from the Public Utilities Commission, Department of Commerce (DOC), and Stoneray Power Partners, LLC will be available to answer questions about the project and the process.
- Citizens will have the opportunity to offer oral comments, written comments, or both into the record.
- Citizens who have questions, but do not want to ask questions orally, may submit questions in writing to the Administrative Law Judge.
- The hearing will last until everyone has the opportunity to offer comments or ask questions.

Topics for Public Comment:

- Is the proposed project needed and in the public interest?
- What are the costs and benefits of the proposed project?
- What are the environmental and human impacts of the proposed project and how can these impacts be addressed?
- Are there other project-related issues or concerns?
- Are there any changes that should be made to the draft site permit?

- Should the Public Utilities Commission require a contested case hearing about this project?

Comment Period: The comment period continues after the public hearing. The comment period ends **January 28, 2014 at 4:30pm.**

Submit Public Comments: The Honorable Jeanne M. Cochran
Office of Administrative Hearings
Email: RouteComments.OAH@state.mn.us
Fax: 651-361-7936
P.O. Box 64620
600 North Robert Street
St. Paul MN 55164-0620

- Please include the PUC and OAH Docket Numbers (above) in all communications.

Project Description

The proposed Stoneray Power Partners, LLC (Stoneray) project:

- Includes 29,500 acres
- Includes up to 62 wind turbines
- Is located in Rock and Burke Townships in Pipestone County
- Is located in Chanarambie and Cameron Townships in Murray County
- Includes between 32 and 62 wind turbines ranging from 1.7 to 3.2 MW, up to a total of 105 MW
- Includes associated facilities - transmission lines, a project substation, collector and feeder lines, access roads, meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance building

Process Information

Before the project can be built, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) must approve a certificate of need and a site permit. Stoneray Power Partners' certificate of need and route permit applications were accepted in July 2013. The Commission's decision-making process takes about twelve months.

On December 19, 2013, the Commission voted to approve a draft site permit for this project. Comments about the draft site permit may be submitted now through January 28, 2014.

The Department of Commerce is preparing an environmental report on this project for the certificate of need proceeding. The environmental report will review the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives, as well as ways to address impacts. The environmental report is anticipated to be issued in December 2013.

Judge Cochran will use information gathered at the public hearing and during the comment period to write a report for the Commission. The report will include findings, conclusions, and recommendations about this site proposed for this project and will include a summary of the public comments provided at the hearing. After receiving the Judge's report, the Commission will make final decisions on this project at a separate meeting, expected by June 2014.

How to Learn More

Department of Commerce Project Website:

<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33153>

Full Case Record: All documents filed in this docket are available on the Commission's website at www.puc.state.mn.us, select "Search eDockets," enter the year (*ex. 13*) and the docket number (*ex. 216*), select "Search."

Project Mailing List: Sign up to receive notices about this project. Contact the Public Advisor (see below) or visit <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#mailing> to sign up for the project mailing list.

Public Libraries: The route permit application and environmental report will be available at the following public library:

- Meinders Community Library, 1401 7th St. SW, Pipestone, MN 56164

Minnesota Statutes and Rules: This project is being reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216F and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7854, available at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/>.

Project Contacts

Public Utilities Commission Public Advisor

Tracy Smetana at consumer.puc@state.mn.us, 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782

Public Utilities Commission Staff Analyst

Tricia DeBleeckere at tricia.debleeckere@state.mn.us or 651-201-2254

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

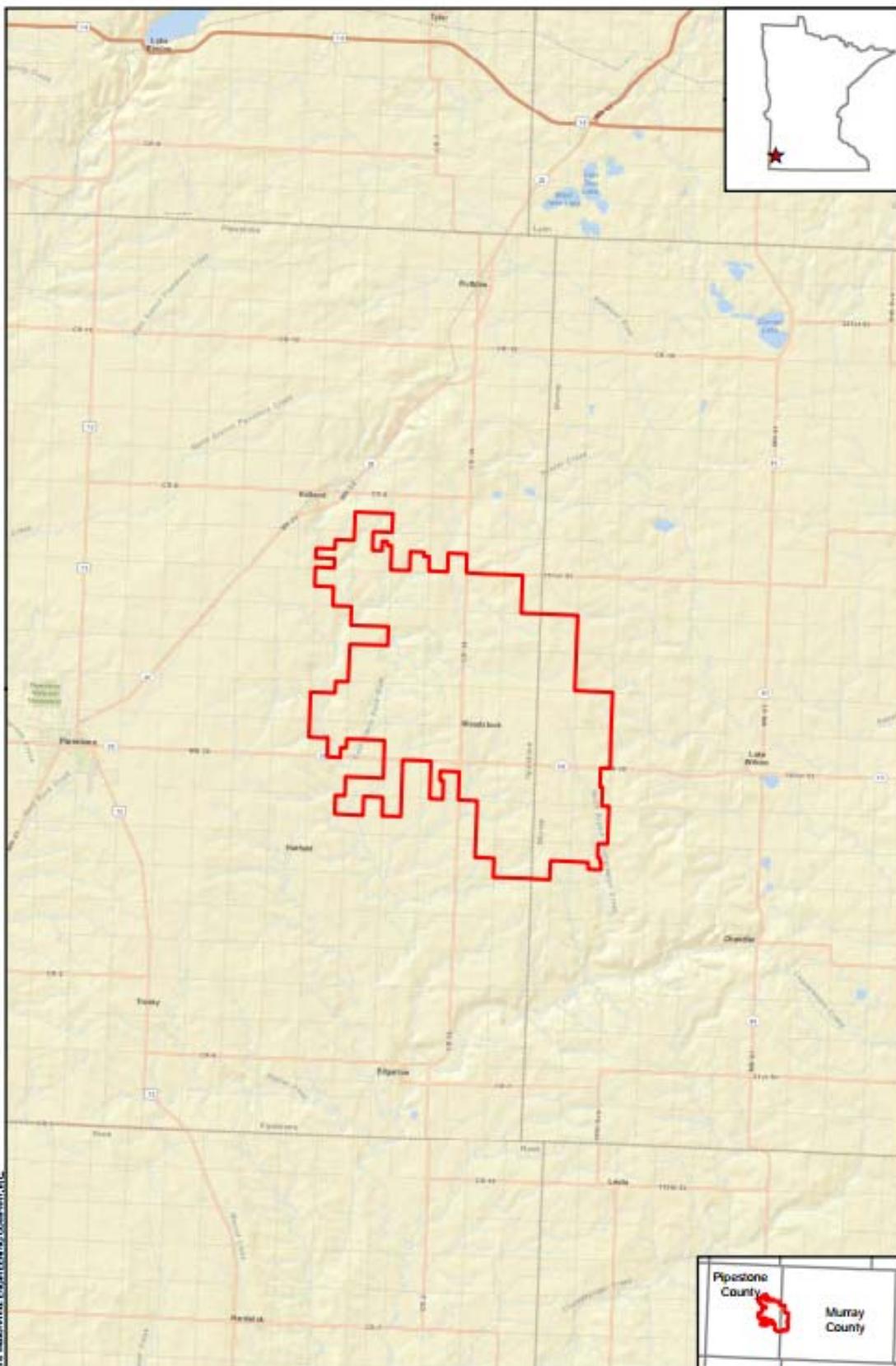
David Birkholz at david.birkholz@state.mn.us, 651-539-1838 or 1-800-657-3794

Stoneray Power Partners, LLC Project Contact

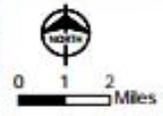
Melissa Peterson at melissa.peterson@edf-re.com or 612-486-4510
10 Second Street NE, Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN 55413

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings (e.g., sign language or large print materials), please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 651-361-7000 (voice) or 651-361-7878 (TTY) at least one week in advance of the meeting.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (e.g., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.



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Legend
[Red Outline] Proposed Project Boundary

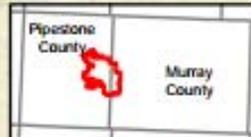


Figure 1
General Location
LWECS Application Figures
Stoneray Wind Project
Murray & Pipestone
Counties, Minnesota