



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Commission



NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING MEETING

Issued: January 23, 2014

In the Matter of the Application of Odell Wind Farm, LLC for a Route Permit for a High Voltage Transmission Line for the Odell Wind Farm Project in Martin, Jackson and Cottonwood Counties, Minnesota

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Number: IP-6914/TL-13-591

Date: February 10, 2014

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Windom Community Center
1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive
Windom MN 56101

Bad weather? Find out if a meeting is canceled - call 1-855-731-6208, 651-201-2213 or visit www.puc.state.mn.us.

Meeting Information:

- Citizens will have the opportunity to offer oral comments, written comments, or both into the record.
- Public Utilities Commission, Department of Commerce, and Odell Wind Farm, LLC (Odell) staff will be available to answer questions about the permitting process and the project.
- Citizens who do not wish to speak may submit questions or comments in writing.
- Comments received at the meeting and during the comment period will be used to develop the environmental assessment for this project.

Topics Open for Public Comment:

- What human and environmental impacts of the proposed transmission line should be studied in the environmental assessment prepared for this project?
- Are there any specific methods to address these impacts that should be studied in the environmental assessment?
- Are there alternative routes or route segments that should be considered?

Comment Period: Continues after the public meeting, through **February 24, 2014 at 4:30pm.**

Submit Public Comments: Richard Davis, Environmental Review Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul MN 55101
Email: richard.davis@state.mn.us
Fax: 651-539-1549
Online: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#comment>

- Please include the PUC Docket Number (*IP-6914/TL-13-591*) in all communications.

Project Description

Odell Wind Farm, LLC proposes to build 9.5 miles of 115 kV transmission line to transmit energy generated at the planned Odell Wind Farm to the Woad Hill Substation.

The proposed project would be located in Cottonwood, Jackson, and Martin counties.

Process Information

Before the project can be built, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) must approve a route permit. At its January 23, 2014 meeting, the Commission determined Odell's route permit application is complete. This means the company submitted all the information required to begin the review process. The Commission's decision-making process takes about six to nine months.

The Department of Commerce will prepare an environmental assessment for this project. The environmental assessment will review the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives, as well as ways to address impacts.

After the environmental assessment is issued, there will be a public hearing. Citizens will have the opportunity to speak at the hearing, ask questions, and submit comments about the environmental assessment and the project.

An Administrative Law Judge will use all the information in the record, including written comments and comments received at the public hearings, to write a report for the Commission. The report will include findings, conclusions, and recommendations about this project. After receiving the Judge's report, the Commission will schedule a meeting to make a final decision on the route permit for this project, expected by September 2014.

How to Learn More

Department of Commerce Project Website:

<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33682>

Project Mailing List: Sign up to receive notices of opportunities to participate (meetings, hearings and comment periods, etc.) by contacting the Public Advisor (see below).

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 (13) and the docket number (591), select "Search."

Subscribe to the Docket: Subscribe to receive e-mail notifications when new documents are filed.

Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

1. www.puc.state.mn.us
2. Select green box *Subscribe to a Docket*
3. Type your e-mail address
4. For *Type of Subscription*, select *Docket Number*
5. For *Docket Number*, select 13 in the first box, type 591 in the second box
6. Select *Add to List*
7. Select *Save*

Community Locations: The route permit application is available at the following locations:

- County Auditors: Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin and Watonwan
- Public Libraries: Jackson, Martin County-Fairmont, Mountain Lake, Trimont, Windom
- Regional Development Commissions: Region Nine Development Commission, Southwest Regional Development Commission
- Township Clerks: Cedar, Christiania, Kimball, Lakeside, Mountain Lake, and Odin

Minnesota Statutes and Rules: This project is being reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850, 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

Michael Kaluzniak at mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us or 651-201-2257

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Richard Davis at richard.davis@state.mn.us, 651-539-1846 or 1-800-657-3794

Odell Wind Farm, LLC Project Contact

Patrick Smith at patrick@geronimoenergy.com or 952-988-9000

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.

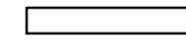
If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these public meetings (e.g. sign language, foreign language interpreter, large print materials), please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

FIGURE 1.1 Proposed Route Overview

LEGEND

-  Odell Wind Farm Substation
-  Woad Hill Substation
-  Proposed Route
-  Private Airstrips
-  Existing HVTL
-  Pipeline - Field Verified
-  US Highway
-  State Highway
-  County Highway
-  County Road
-  Other Roads
-  County Boundary

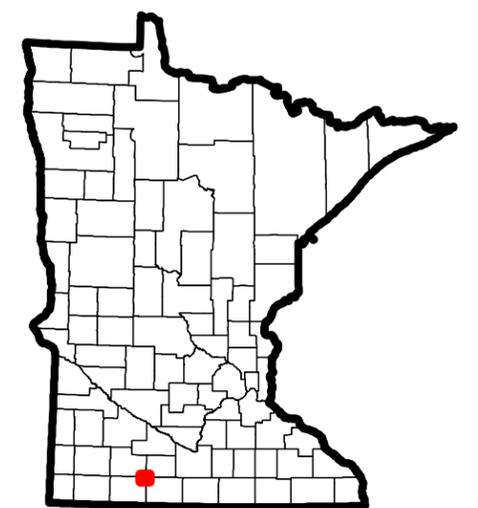
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Miles



NAD 1983 UTM Zone 15N



SOURCES:
Geronimo Energy,
Ventyx, USGS,
MNDNR

