



**STATE OF MINNESOTA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD**

**In the Matter of Trimont Wind I, LLC
Certificate of Need Application for a
Large Wind Energy Conversion System
In Jackson and Martin Counties**

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
SCOPING DECISION
PUC Docket #IP6339/CN-03-1841
March 1, 2004**

The matter came before the Chair of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) for a decision on the scope of the Environmental Report (ER) to be prepared on the proposed Large Wind Energy Conversion System. The EQB held a public meeting on February 3, 2004, to discuss the project with the public and to solicit input into the scope of the ER to be prepared. The public was given until February 24, 2004, to submit written comments regarding the scope of the ER. Having reviewed the comments submitted and consulted with EQB staff, I hereby make the following Scoping Order. The ER shall address the following issues:

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

- A. No-build Alternative
- B. A Generic 100 MW Wind Project
- C. A 38.5 MW Biomass Plant
- D. The Trimont Area Wind Farm as Proposed

IMPACTS TO BE EVALUATED

- 1.0 General Project Description [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1,A]
- 2.0 Human and Environmental Impacts [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1,C]
 - 2.1 Emissions [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, A]
 - 2.1.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.1.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.1.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.1.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.2 Hazardous air pollutants and VOCs [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, B]
 - 2.2.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.2.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.2.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.2.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.3 Visibility impairment [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, C]
 - 2.3.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.3.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.3.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.3.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.4 Ozone formation [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, D]
 - 2.4.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.4.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.4.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.4.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.5 Fuel availability and delivery [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, E]
 - 2.5.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.5.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.5.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.5.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.6 Associated transmission facilities [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, F]
 - 2.6.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.6.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.6.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.6.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.7 Water appropriations [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, G]
 - 2.7.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.7.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.7.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.7.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.8 Wastewater [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, H]
 - 2.8.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.8.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.8.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.8.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.9 Solid and hazardous wastes [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, I]
 - 2.9.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.9.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.9.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.9.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm

- 2.10 Noise [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 2, J]
 - 2.10.1 No-build alternative
 - 2.10.2 100 MW wind project
 - 2.10.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 2.10.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm
- 3.0 Mitigation measures [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1, E]
 - 3.1 No-build alternative
 - 3.2 100 MW wind project
 - 3.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 3.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm
- 4.0 Feasibility and availability of alternatives [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1, F]
 - 4.1 No-build alternative
 - 4.2 100 MW wind project
 - 4.3 38.5 MW biomass plant
 - 4.4 Trimont Area Wind Farm
- 5.0 Required permits [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1, G]
- 6.0 Other matters identified by Chair [Minn. Rules 4410.7035, subp. 1, H]
 - 6.1 Displaced land use and value, including residential values and the comparative viability of conservation buyouts in a wind project area
 - 6.2 Protecting future development opportunity in non-participating sections

SCHEDULE

The Environmental Review will be completed by April 5, 2004.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2004

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Robert A. Schroeder, Chair