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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Interested Party:

Western Area Power Administration (Western) and Rural Utilities Service (RUS) are pleased to provide you with a copy of the South Dakota PrairieWinds Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for your review.

For additional information on RUS financing, contact:
Mr. Dennis Rankin
Rural Utilities Service, Utilities Program
1400 Independence Avenue SW.
Mail Stop 1571
Washington, DC 20250-1571
Telephone: (202) 720-1953
E-mail: dennis.rankin@wdc.usda.gov

For additional information on Western's action, contact:
Ms. Liana Reilly
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213
Telephone: (800) 336-7288
Fax: (720) 962-7263
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Western and RUS have prepared this FEIS to analyze the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and range of reasonable alternatives, including the "No Action" alternative. The FEIS addresses comments on the Draft EIS made by Federal, state, and local agencies; tribal governments; and the public. The agencies will use the FEIS to ensure that the environmental information needed for informed decision-making is available. The agencies will issue separate decisions, in the form of Records of Decision, no sooner than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability of the FEIS is published in the *Federal Register*.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark S. Plank".

Mark S. Plank
Director, Engineering and
Environmental Staff
Rural Utilities Service

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas J. Stas".

Nicholas J. Stas
Environmental Manager
Upper Great Plains Region
Western Area Power Administration