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**BASIN ELECTRIC  
POWER COOPERATIVE**

1717 EAST INTERSTATE AVENUE  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58503-0564  
PHONE: 701-223-0441  
FAX: 701-557-5336



December 29, 2009

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57504-5070

**Re: PrairieWinds SD1, Inc. – PrairieWinds SD1 Wind Energy Facility Application**

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

PrairieWinds SD1, Inc. (a South Dakota corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Basin Electric Power Cooperative) is proposing to construct a 151.5-megawatt (nameplate rating) wind energy facility to be located near Crow Lake, in Aurora, Brule, and Jerauld counties South Dakota. The PrairieWinds SD1 Project (Project) includes approximately 101 wind turbine generators and associated access roads and underground collector lines, a collector substation, and an O&M building. The Project also includes approximately 13 miles of 230 kV transmission line.

Seven copies of the application are enclosed. Basin Electric requests that SD PUC make complete findings and render a decision to grant a permit to construct the wind energy facility and associated facilities on such terms, conditions, or modification of construction and operation or maintenance as the SD PUC may deem appropriate.

If you should have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the enclosed application, please contact Kevin Solie, Senior Environmental Analyst, at 701.557.5495.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Rebenitsch, P.E." followed by a flourish.

Ron Rebenitsch, P.E.  
Project Manager

/gmj  
Enclosures