## **Attachment A**

December 21, 2018

### **VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Owner Name Owner Street Owner City, Owner ST, Owner Zip

Re: Application to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for

Energy Facility Permits for the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm

and Transmission Facility

EL18-053

Dear Landowner:

On behalf of Deuel Harvest Wind Energy LLC ("Deuel Harvest"), I am providing notice of an upcoming public input hearing convened by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") regarding the Deuel Harvest Wind Farm and associated 345 kilovolt ("kv") transmission line with associated 345 kV interconnection substation (collectively, the "Project"), a proposed wind energy conversion facility and associated transmission facilities to be located in Deuel County, South Dakota. You are receiving this notice because your property is either inside the proposed Project footprint or within one-half mile of the proposed Project footprint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Commission's public input hearing notice, as well as a map showing the location of the Project. As indicated in the notice, the public input hearing will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., CST, at the Clear Lake Community Center, 218 Third Avenue South, Clear Lake, South Dakota. At the public input hearing, Deuel Harvest will present a brief description of the Project, and interested persons may appear to present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application for Facility Permits ("Application") for the Project filed by Deuel Harvest with the Commission.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5), Deuel Harvest's Application is on file in the Auditor's office in Deuel County. In addition, the Application and other documents in the case may be accessed on the Commission's website at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Electric Dockets, EL18-053.

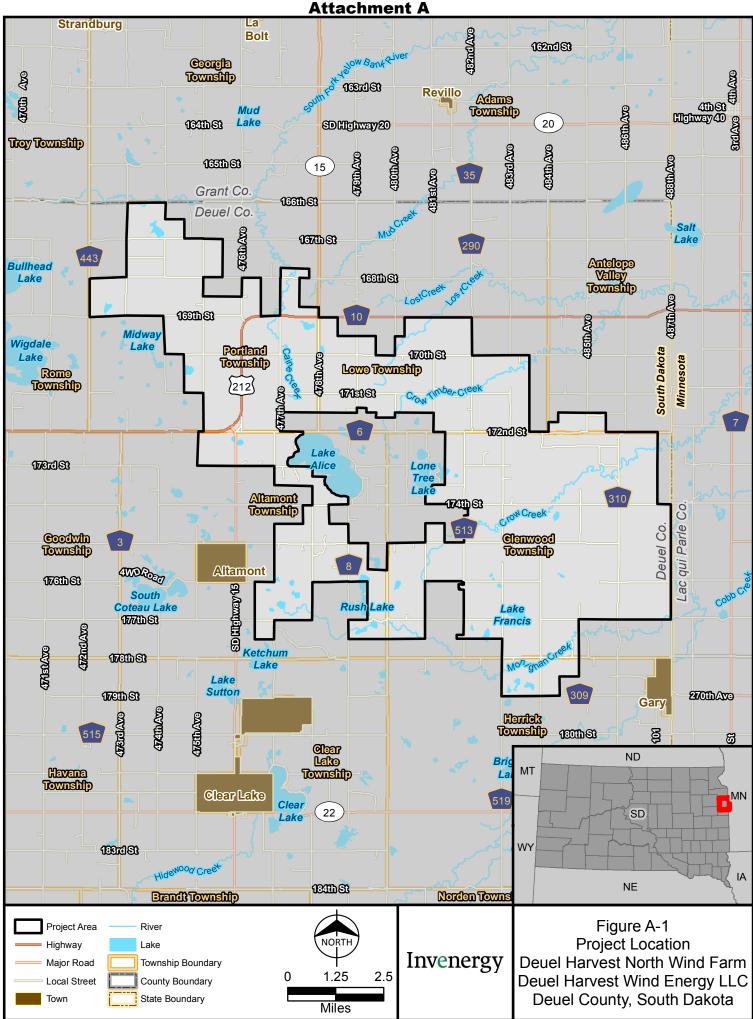
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Svedeman, Project Manger

Michael Suedeman

Enclosures



## Attachment A

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT: Application of Deuel Harvest Wind Energy LLC for Permits to construct

the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm and 345 kV Transmission Line located on approximately 48,730 acres of land in Deuel County, South Dakota, in the townships of Portland, Lowe, Altamont, Glenwood, and

Herrick

WHEN: Thursday, January 24, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. CST

WHERE: Clear Lake Community Center, 218 Third Ave. S., Clear Lake, South

Dakota.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public input hearing at the above time and place on an application to construct a wind energy facility and a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line with an associated 345-kV interconnection substation to be located in Deuel County, South Dakota, known as the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 48,730-acre project area, in the townships of Portland, Lowe, Altamont, Glenwood, and Herrick (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 310.1 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 112 wind turbine generators. access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5 kV electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 345-kV collection substation, up to four permanent meteorological towers, a 345-kV interconnection substation, an approximately 150-foot long 345-kV transmission line connecting the collection substation and the interconnection substation, an operations and maintenance facility, temporary construction areas, including crane paths, public road improvements, a laydown yard, and a concrete batch plant(s) (as needed), and associated facilities. The Project would interconnect to the regional electric grid along the Big Stone to Brookings 345-kV transmission line via a new 345-kV Interconnection Substation located in Glenwood Township and be able to deliver 300 MW of electricity. Deuel Harvest is negotiating a Generator Interconnection Agreement with Otter Tail Power Company and Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$400 million.

The purpose of the public input hearing will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the hearing, Applicant will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may appear and present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Deuel County Auditor pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5) and at the Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's web site at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Electric Dockets, EL18-053 or by contacting the Commission in person at the Capitol Building, 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD, or by phone at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicant and the Commission. Any person residing in the area of the Project; each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the Project is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to

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preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the Project is to be sited; or any interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission. Applications for party status will be available at the public input hearing or may be obtained from the Commission's web site or by contacting the Commission. Applications for party status must be <u>received</u> by the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CST, January 29, 2019. The Commission will also be accepting comments in writing from anyone, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mailing the Commission right up until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by putting on actual testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct.

Following the public input hearing, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, the Commission's staff, or the Commission itself. At such a formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts. Absent a contested issue, the Commission will schedule the matter for decision at a regular or ad hoc meeting of the Commission.

For approval, Applicant must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether a permit to construct should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, these hearings will be held in physically accessible locations. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you. The Commission's contact information is: ph (800) 332-1782; www.puc.sd.gov; puc@state.sd.us; 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501.