

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY SWEETLAND WIND FARM, LLC
FOR FACILITY PERMITS OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A 230-KV
TRANSMISSION FACILITY IN HAND COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA FOR THE
SWEETLAND WIND FARM PROJECT**

SD PUC DOCKET EL19-012

PRE-FILED SUPPLEMENTAL DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CARRIE BARTON
ON BEHALF OF SWEETLAND WIND FARM, LLC

May 20, 2019

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

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3 **Q. Please state your name, employer, and business address.**

4 A. My name is Carrie Barton.

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6 **Q. On March 6, 2019, did you provide Direct Testimony on behalf of the**
7 **Sweetland Wind Farm (“Project”)?**

8 A. Yes.

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10 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

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12 **Q. What is the purpose of your Supplemental Direct Testimony?**

13 A. The purpose of my Supplemental Direct Testimony is to provide an update on the
14 following:

- 15 • the Western Area Power Administration’s (“WAPA”) National Environmental
16 Policy Act (“NEPA”) review of the Project; and
- 17 • the status of completing cultural resource surveys for the Project.

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19 **III. NEPA PROCESS UPDATE**

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21 **Q. Please provide an update regarding the NEPA process.**

22 A. Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. (“Burns & McDonnell”) submitted a
23 preliminary draft of the NEPA Draft Environmental Assessment (“EA”) to WAPA on
24 May 14, 2019. WAPA is currently reviewing the draft. In addition, appendices to the
25 draft EA were submitted to WAPA. WAPA received the wetland delineation report,
26 sound study, and shadow flicker report on April 16, 2019; grassland habitat
27 assessment, raptor nest survey reports, first year baseline avian studies report,
28 acoustic bat activity reports, and presence/absence surveys for northern-long eared
29 bat, on April 29, 2019; a copy of the Hand County Development Agreement, cultural
30 resources survey report, and architectural history report on April 30, 2019; and wind

31 turbine and transmission facility diagrams and public comments matrix on May 14,
32 2019.

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34 **IV. CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY UPDATE**

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36 **Q. What is the status of completing the remaining cultural resource survey work?**

37 A. The remaining cultural resource survey work is scheduled for May 21 to 28, 2019. A
38 draft addendum cultural resource report is anticipated to be ready in early June 2019
39 and will be provided to WAPA for review as part of the NEPA process.

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41 **V. CONCLUSION**

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43 **Q. Does this conclude your Supplemental Direct Testimony?**

44 A. Yes.

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46 Dated this 20th day of May, 2019.

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Carrie Barton

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Carrie Barton

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