

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

WHAT: Permit to Construct the Triple H Wind Energy Facility located on approximately 27,247.5 acres of land in Hyde County, South Dakota, in the townships of Eagle, Chapelle, Highmore, and Holabird

WHEN: Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. CDT

WHERE: Hyde County Memorial Auditorium, 125 Second St., Highmore, S.D.

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 the Triple H Wind Energy Facility (Project), a wind energy facility located on approximately 27,247.5 acres of land in Hyde County, South Dakota, in the townships of Eagle, Chapelle, Highmore, and Holabird, South Dakota. The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 250.24 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 92 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5-kilovolt (kV) electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 345-kV collection substation, one permanent meteorological tower, a 345-kV interconnection switching station, a Sonic Detection and Ranging Unit, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project will interconnect to the high-voltage transmission grid via the Leland Olds to Fort Thompson 345-kV transmission line, which crosses the Project Area.

The purpose of the public input hearing will be to hear public comments regarding the permit Application and the Project. At the hearing, Applicant will present a brief description of the Project, following 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 Hyde 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 website at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2019 Electric Dockets, EL19-007 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 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 website or by contacting the Commission. Applications for party status must be received by the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m. CDT on March 19, 2019.

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 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.

For approval, the 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 the permit 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, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Commission 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.