

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY )</b>	<b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION;</b>
<b>PRAIRIEWINDS SD1, INC., A SUBSIDIARY OF )</b>	<b>ORDER FOR AND NOTICE</b>
<b>BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, )</b>	<b>OF PUBLIC HEARING;</b>
<b>FOR A WIND ENERGY FACILITY PERMIT FOR )</b>	<b>NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY</b>
<b>THE PRAIRIEWINDS SD1 WIND FARM AND )</b>	<b>TO APPLY FOR PARTY</b>
<b>ASSOCIATED FACILITIES )</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>)</b>	

**EL09-028**

On December 30, 2009, PrairieWinds SD1, Inc. (PrairieWinds), a wholly owned subsidiary of Basin Electric Power Cooperative, filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a facility permit for the construction of the PrairieWinds SD1 Project (Project). PrairieWinds proposes to construct and operate a 151.5 megawatt (MW) wind energy facility approximately one half mile south of Crow Lake (not an incorporated community) and approximately 10-15 miles north of the City of White Lake. The Project is proposed to include approximately 101 1.5 MW wind turbines and associated access roads, underground collector lines, a collector substation, an O&M building, and approximately 13 miles of 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, **the Commission will hold a public hearing on PrairieWinds' application on Monday, March 1, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the White Lake American Legion, Main Street, White Lake, South Dakota.** The purpose of the hearing will be to hear public comment regarding PrairieWinds' application. At the public hearing, PrairieWinds will present a brief description of the project, following which interested persons may present their views, comments and questions regarding the application. A copy of the application is on file at the Aurora, Brule and Jerauld County Auditors' Offices and at the Commission's office in Pierre, and the application and all other non-confidential documents in the case may be accessed on the Commission's web site at [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2009 Electric Dockets, EL09-028.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently PrairieWinds and the Commission. Any person residing in the area of the project; each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility 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 facility 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 hearing or may be obtained from the Commission's web site or by contacting the Commission. Applications for party status must be received by the Commission on or before March 10, 2010.

Following the public hearing, the Commission may schedule one or more subsequent formal evidentiary hearings conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, Commission 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. Absent a contested issue, the Commission will schedule the matter for decision at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

For approval, PrairieWinds 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. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 1, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., at the White Lake American Legion, Main Street, White Lake, South Dakota; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, applications for party status must be filed on or before March 10, 2010, and that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17.1, a party who wishes to receive personal service of all material filed in this matter shall make a specific request to the Commission for personal service, which request may be included in the application for party status.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.
By: <u>Demaris Athelm</u>
Date: <u>1-13-10</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Dustin M. Johnson  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

Steve Kolbeck  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner