

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY) PRAIRIEWINDS SD1, INC., A SUBSIDIARY OF) BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE,) FOR A WIND ENERGY FACILITY PERMIT FOR) THE PRAIRIEWINDS SD1 WIND FARM AND) ASSOCIATED FACILITIES.)	ORDER APPROVING JOINT) MOTION FOR APPROVAL) OF STIPULATION) EL09-028)
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On December 30, 2009, PrairieWinds SD1, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin) submitted an application for a Wind Energy Facility Permit for the Construction of the PrairieWinds SD1 Wind Farm and Associated Facilities. The applicant proposes to construct and operate a 151.5 MW wind energy facility near Crow Lake, South Dakota. The project would include up to 110 wind turbines and associated access roads, underground collector lines, a collector substation, an O&M building, and approximately 13 miles of 230 kV transmission line. On December 31, 2009, the Commission electronically transmitted filing of the Siting, and the Intervenor deadline of February 28, 2010, to interested individuals and entities.

On January 13, 2010, the Commission received Consent to Extension of Time for Intervention from Basin pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, due to scheduling and notice complications and also requested that the intervention deadline be extended to March 10, 2010. On January 15, 2010, the Commission sent the Counties of Brule, Aurora, and Jerald a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Hearing; and Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status. On January 19, 2010, the Commission, pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12, assessed PrairieWinds a filing fee not to exceed \$379,000, with an initial deposit of \$8,000, the minimum fee allowed by law as requested by the Deputy Executive Director. On January 19, 2010, the Commission received a letter from Basin regarding filing of the Application with Brule, Jerauld and Aurora Counties. On January 19, 2010, the Commission received a letter from USDA Rural Development regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. On January 21, 2010, the Commission sent out a Notice of Public Hearing and requests for publication to The Daily Republic, Aurora County Standard, True Dakotan, and Central Dakota Times newspapers. The Commission received Affidavits of Publication from The Stickney Argus, Aurora County Standard and Central Dakota Times.

On February 26, 2010, the Commission received a letter from Judith Grunewaldt on behalf of Elizabeth and Roy Campbell. On March 1, 2010, the Commission held a public hearing in White Lake, South Dakota. On June 4, 2010, PrairieWinds SD1, Inc., and Staff

filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Stipulation and the Stipulation. On June 8, 2010, Staff filed Responses from Staff's Data Requests, Public and Confidential.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 15, 2010, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of the Stipulation. By approving the Stipulation, the Commission grants Applicant's application for a permit to construct a wind energy facility and associated facilities, subject to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Terms and Conditions listed in the Stipulation. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Stipulation entered into by Basin and Staff on June 4, 2010, shall be approved and shall be incorporated by reference into this Decision and Order the same as if it had been set forth in its entirety herein; and it is further

ORDERED, that Applicant is granted a permit to construct a wind energy facility and associated facilities, subject to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Terms and Conditions listed in the Stipulation.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of July, 2010.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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><i>Amira Jundhler</i></u>
Date: <u>7-14-2010</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