

City of Groton

Phone 605-397-8422

Box 587

209 Main Street

Groton, South Dakota 57445

March 29, 2005

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2005
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

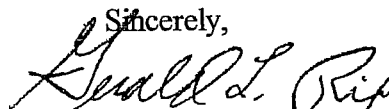
RE: Local Review Committee Report
Energy Conversion Facility Docket EL04-⁰⁴¹~~018~~

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed please find the final report from the local review committee regarding the Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. Proposed Energy Conversion Facility which will be located south of Groton, South Dakota.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve on this committee and thanks to the committee members who elected me as chairman of this committee. If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


Gerald L. Rix, Mayor

REVIEW ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS ON LOCAL AFFECTED AREA FOR A PROPOSED ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY BY BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE.

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2005
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Reported by the Local Review Committee comprised of Gerald L. Rix, Tim Van Hatten, Allen Walter, James Berg, Dennis Feickert, and Hjalmer Tschetter.

- 1) Housing supplies - During construction the manpower needed to build the facility would be able to find housing in rentals in Groton. Two employees would be permanently employed and there would be ample housing available for the employees to choose from.
- 2) Educational facilities and manpower - There will be no negative impacts on the schools or their staff. Both Conde and Groton have school districts able to grow and meet the needs of the permanent families for the facility. Additional tax revenues from the plant will be welcomed.
- 3) Water supply and distribution - Water needs for the plant will be minimal and would be supplied by WEB Water which has a main line three miles south of the facility and has two service lines for the City of Groton and James Valley Ethanol bordering the property. WEB Water assures the plant of a fully supplied contract from their plant on the Missouri River.
- 4) Waste water treatment and collection - There would be no run off (release) from plant. A "No Discharge Permit" from SD Dept of Environment and Natural Resources will be investigated. An evaporation pond will be constructed for excess water.
- 5) Solid Waste disposal and collection - No cumulative amounts of solid waste are expected. Anything waste generated will be collected in sealed containers and hauled to the appropriate land fill sites.
- 6) Law enforcement - The plant could increase homeland security issues for protection, but Groton City Police and Brown County Sheriff would be equipped to handle this. The Groton Police Department will make addition rounds to monitor the site.
- 7) Transportation - The location provides convenient and direct access to SD Highway 37 and the electric grid. The water and gas pipelines are along the property boundaries.
- 8) Fire Protection - The plant would be in the Groton Community Fire Dept., Inc. district. It is believed that no additional special equipment would be needed to protect the plant. A tour of the facility upon completion was recommended for the firemen to help them familiarize themselves with the lay out and internal fire prevention equipment. A fire hydrant at the water pipeline/service line connection will be requested.
- 9) Health - Health care for employees is easily met with area services. With monitored emissions and previous existing transmission lines, health concerns by area residents will not change. Noise

levels have been questioned especially for the nearby farm. A shelter belt of trees was discussed as a possible buffer if the noise levels remained high during the peaking operations.

10) Recreation - There is no impact expected to any recreation. Although the area of the plant will no longer be available for hunting, other sites are plentiful. The snowmobile trail passing the site will not be disturbed.

11) Government - The facility would have no impact on local governments, except for possible increases in tax revenues.

12) Energy - Natural gas is readily available from main pipeline eleven and one half miles south and two service lines for the City of Groton and James Valley Ethanol border the property. The plant is conveniently located for electricity. The conversion will increase availability for the area with a positive impact.

The conclusion of the committee was that the proposed energy conversion facility would have little or no impact on the area and should be approved.

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2005
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION