Fredrikson & BYRON, P.A.

November 7, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Secretary
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RE: Informational Filing – Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC
2017 Info EL9

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

In connection with the above-referenced informational filing, Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC, submits the following documents discussed during today's Commission meeting: (1) Sweetland Wind Farm Presentation; and (2) DNV GL Report.

If the Commission or Commission Staff have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Mollie M. Smith*

Mollie M. Smith
Direct Dial: 612.492.7270
Email: msmith@fredlaw.com

Enclosure

cc: Matt Heck *(via e-mail)*
Patrick Landess *(via e-mail)*

Sweetland Wind Farm

Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC

A project of

SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY

November 2017

November 2017

SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY

Scout Clean Energy:
Project Development

Harvest Energy Services, Inc.:
Construction and Operations

Sunset at Mariah North 230 MW

Scout and Harvest: Expertise from Concept to Operations

- Scout is a wind and solar development company based in Boulder, CO with staff in CA, TX and MA.
- Scout has developed 9 major wind projects since 2010, including most recently the 230 MW Mariah North wind project in ERCOT that closed in February 2016.
- Scout employees have worked together from 6-10 years in previous companies.
- A total of 12 projects currently in active development.

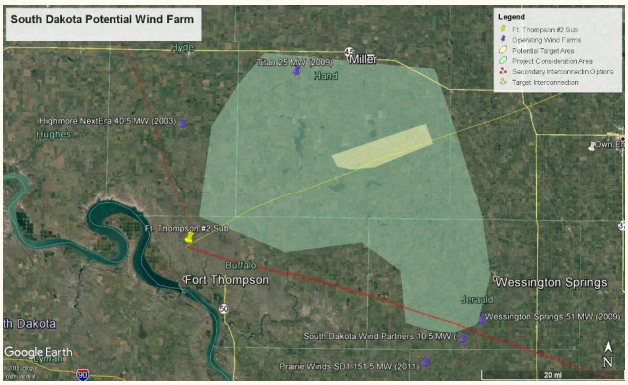
- Harvest Energy Services, Inc. is a fast growing independent service provider to the wind and solar industry with offices in Boulder, CO, CA and TX.
- HES provides construction management, operations and maintenance, and asset management services primarily to wind assets in the US and Latin America.
- HES has managed more than 500 MW of construction since its founding in 2014 and services dozens of sites for GE, EDF, TerraGen, Goldwind and other owner-operators.

Sweetland- Project History

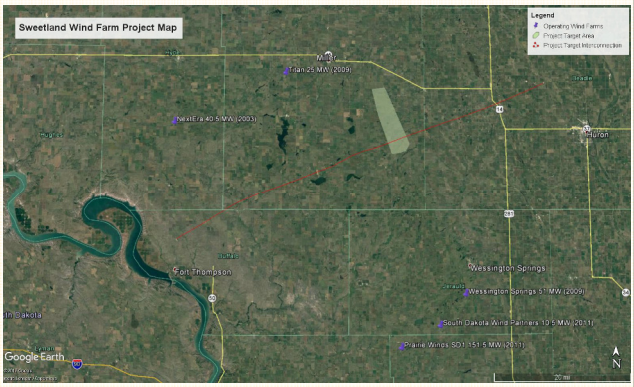
- Project area was previously part of Titan Wind Project, a proposed 5,050 MW project sited over 500,000 acres south of Miller and west of Wessington Springs, South Dakota.
- Titan was a joint venture between BP Wind Energy and Clipper Windpower.
- An initial 25 MW project was completed in 2009.
- Larger Titan Wind Project was abandoned after BP Wind Energy left the wind industry and Clipper Windpower suffered technology reliability issues.
- Sweetland has been reshaped with guidance from USFWS to focus on a 150-200 MW project.
- Sweetland now plans to have local interconnection and offtake, with opportunity for multiple expansion phases.

Sweetland- Project History

Original Project Area



Current Project Area



November 2017

Sweetland- Production Tax Credit Qualification Work

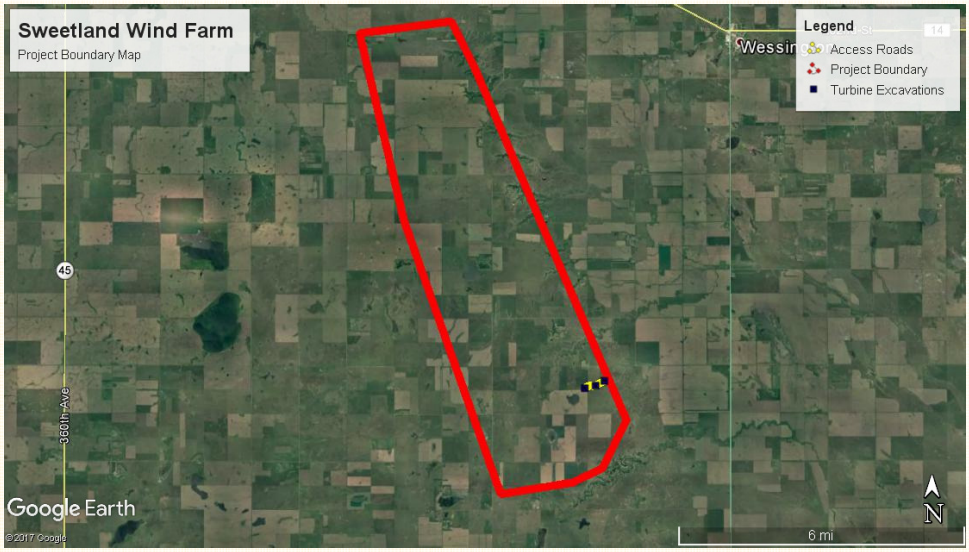
- During December 13-22, 2016, Sweetland had work done to qualify the Project for the federal Production Tax Credit ("PTC").
- Work consisted of excavating three planned turbine foundation sites and constructing approximately 2,300 linear feet of 14-foot-wide access road between the excavation sites.
- No turbine foundations were installed, and no structures were erected.
- Other than routine maintenance work, no additional work conducted since December 22, 2016.

November 2017

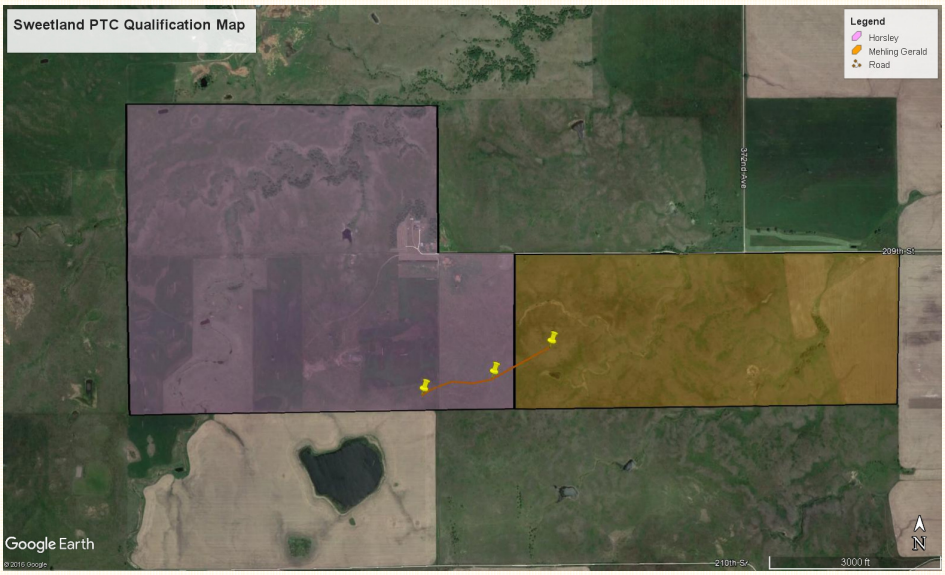
Sweetland- Production Tax Credit Qualification Work

- Prior to performing PTC-qualification work:
  - Had a critical issues analysis prepared to confirm the absence of environmental issues that would prohibit Project development;
  - Leased land/obtained landowner approval;
  - Confirmed no County permit required for work, and provided updates to County prior to/after work;
  - Obtained and complied with a General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities, including implementing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan; and
  - Contractor requested utility locates.

Sweetland- Production Tax Credit Qualification Work



Sweetland- Production Tax Credit Qualification Work



November 2017

Sweetland- Production Tax Credit Qualification Work

- Met with Commission Staff on October 4, 2017
- Going forward, Sweetland commits to the following:
  - No further construction until requisite permits have been obtained for the Project;
  - Continue to perform routine maintenance where PTC-qualification work was performed; and
  - If Sweetland does not obtain an energy facility permit from the Commission for the Project by December 31, 2010, Sweetland will restore the areas affected (also obligated to restore by leases).

November 2017

Sweetland- Project Timeline

Permitting Schedule	
Permitting Process	**Start Date**
Western Area Power Administration Environmental Assessment	2nd-3rd Quarter 2018
Hand County Conditional Use Permit	2nd-3rd Quarter 2018
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facility Permit	3rd-4th Quarter 2018

November 2017

DNV·GL

Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC
2919 Valmont Road, Ste 209
Boulder, CO 80301

DNV GL - Energy
Renewables Advisory
9665 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 435
San Diego, CA 92123
Tel: +1 858 836 3370
Fax: +1 858 836 4069

Our reference: 10032128

Date: 16 March 2017

Independent Engineer's Certificate

Subject: Production Tax Credit – Start of Construction, Site Construction Work

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned, a duly authorized representative of Garrad Hassan America, Inc., in its capacity as independent engineer ("Independent Engineer") hereby provides this certificate with respect to the application by Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC (the "Project Company") under Section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended, whose provisions have been subsequently extended by the recent passing of 2016 federal budget (House Resolution 2029) ("Section 45").

The Project Company is the developer and owner of that certain wind energy electrical generation facility intended to consist of wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure located in Hand County, South Dakota, as generally described on Schedule A hereto.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 45, the Independent Engineer hereby certifies, under penalty of perjury, that the construction described in Schedule A hereto began on or before 31 December 2016.

Very truly yours,

GARRAD HASSAN AMERICA, INC.

By: _____
Eric Tufts
Head of Section, Independent Engineering

Schedule A
Independent Engineer's Report

The Sweetland Wind Farm (the "Project") is located in Hand County, South Dakota. The Project is intended to consist of wind turbine generators, an electrical collection system from the wind turbines to the project substation, a substation, roadways to access the wind turbines, and other facilities and supporting equipment. The location of the Project site is depicted in Figure 1.

Independent Engineer visited the Project on 22 December 2016, at which time the construction progress at the site generally consisted of excavations at three foundation locations for turbine numbers 21, 22, and 23 and a turbine access road that connects the wind turbine locations as described in further detail in Independent Engineer's site visit report 10032128-HOU-R-01-D, attached hereto as Exhibit A. The work was conducted pursuant to a Services Agreement between Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC and Harvest Energy Services, Inc. dated November 18, 2016, which has been reviewed by the Independent Engineer. The scope of work therein is consistent with the work observed by the Independent Engineer on 22 December 2016.

The Project Company indicated that construction at the Project began on 13 December 2016 with site preparation activities and turbine access road construction. Such construction timeline is generally in line with the status of construction observed as of Independent Engineer's site visit on 22 December 2016.

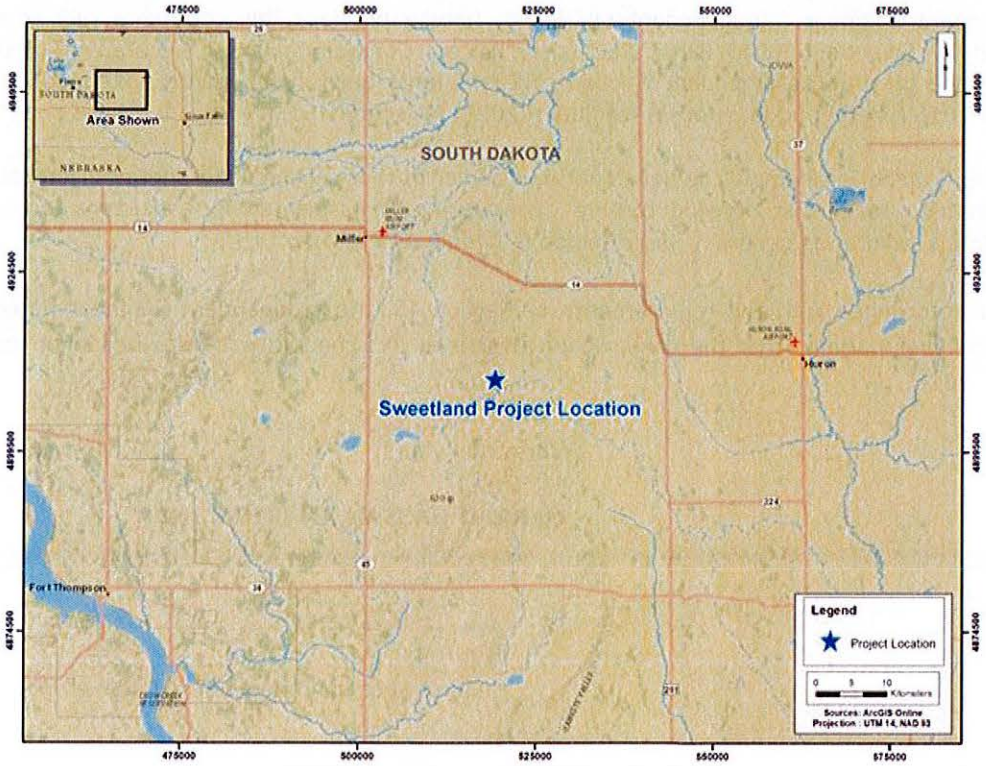


Figure 1: Approximate location of the Project

ET

Exhibit A
Independent Engineer's Site Visit Report
10032128-HOU-R-01-D

ET

DNV·GL

SWEETLAND WIND FARM

Site Visit Report

Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC

Document No.: 10032128-HOU-R-01
Issue: D, **Status:** Final
Date: 16 March 2017

ET

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Project name:	Sweetland Wind Farm	DNV GL - Energy
Report title:	Site Visit Report	Renewables Advisory
Customer:	Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC	9665 Chesapeake Drive,
	2919 Valmont Road, Ste 209	Suite 435
	Boulder, CO 80301 USA	San Diego, CA 92123 USA
Contact person:	Cara Gunderson	Tel: +1 858 836 3370 x122
Date of issue:	16 March 2017	Enterprise No.: 94-340223694-3402236
Project No.:	10032128	
Document No.:	10032128-HOU-R-01	
Issue	D	
Status:	Final	

Task and objective:

Observe and document status of project construction.

Prepared by:	Verified by:	Approved by:
p.p.		
Shruti Ladge Project Engineer, Independent Engineering	Megan Regel Project Analyst, Environmental and Permitting Services	Eric Tufts Head of Section, Independent Engineering

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Keywords:

PTC certification; site visit report; start of construction

Issue	Date	Reason for Issue	Prepared by	Verified by	Approved by
A	16 February 2017	Draft	S. Ladge	M. Regel	E. Tufts
B	24 February 2017	Draft	S. Ladge	M. Regel	E. Tufts
C	14 March 2017	Final Draft	S. Ladge	M. Regel	E. Tufts
D	16 March 2017	Final	S. Ladge	M. Regel	E. Tufts

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1 OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

At the request of Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC (the "Customer"), DNV GL visited the Sweetland Wind Farm (the "Project") on 22 December 2016. The objective of this site visit was to verify start of construction activities consisting of three wind turbine foundation excavations and turbine access roads. Date stamped pictures taken by DNV GL are included herein as evidence of work performed.

2 PROJECT STATUS

The Project is located in Hand County, South Dakota and is intended to consist of wind turbines and associated infrastructure. The contractor that performed the construction work observed by DNV GL was Harvest Energy Services, Inc. ("Harvest").

At the time of the site visit, turbine access road construction was in progress and three wind turbine foundation excavations had been completed, including the installation of barbed wire fencing around the excavation perimeters.

3 SITE VISIT SUMMARY

On 22 December 2016, DNV GL representative Andrew Chang met with Charlie Gustafson, the Project representative. DNV GL toured the Project site with Mr. Gustafson to observe progress of three foundation excavations and construction of a turbine access road.

Key observations of construction activity during the site visit included:

- Excavations at three wind turbine foundation locations for turbines 21, 22, and 23; and
- Construction of turbine access road connecting the wind turbine excavations.

4 CONTRACT

The construction work observed was performed under a Services Agreement by and between Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC and Harvest Energy Services, Inc., dated November 18, 2016. The scope of work is defined in Exhibit A of the Services Agreement and consists of the planning, mobilization, and execution of a single road 3,752 liner feet (LF) long and 14 feet wide, three wind turbine excavations, and associated supporting activities such as permitting, reporting, supervision, etc. The Customer advised that the length of road was subsequently reduced to 2300 LF.

5 SCHEDULE

Based on discussions with Mr. Gustafson and contractor personnel, as well as review of the construction documentation provided by the Project, DNV GL understands that the Project began construction on 13 December 2016 with site preparation activities and turbine access road construction. At the time of the DNV GL site visit on 22 December 2016, turbine access road construction was in progress and three wind

turbine foundation excavations had been completed, including the installation of barbed wire fencing around the excavation perimeters.

6 MOBILIZATION

During the site visit, DNV GL observed equipment utilized for the construction of wind turbine foundations and roads.

Figure 1 Excavator near T21

7 TURBINE ACCESS ROADS

Date and time stamped pictures of the main access road to the wind turbine sites were taken by DNV GL and are provided in Figure 2 through Figure 4 below. At the time of the site visit, access roads had been graded and the subgrade appeared to be prepped, although gravel had not yet been placed on the roads. The length of road was reduced from the contract amount to approximately 2300 LF, according to construction documentation from Harvest. A Start of Construction report provided by Harvest indicates that the approximately 2300 LF and 14 foot wide road was completed by 22 December 2016. DNV GL observed that the roads connected the three turbine foundation excavations. DNV GL independently obtained the GPS coordinates of the turbine excavations and calculated the distance between the turbine locations for T21 (Lat/Lon: 44.34946/-98.76267) and T23 (Lat/Lon: 44.35160/-98.75454) to be at least 2265 LF. DNV GL notes that this is a minimum length, as curves in the road are not accounted for in the calculation and confirms that 2300 LF of graded and prepped roads is a reasonable figure. A map of the roads based on the coordinates recorded by DNV GL is shown as Figure 8 in Section 8 below.

Figure 2 Turbine access road near T21

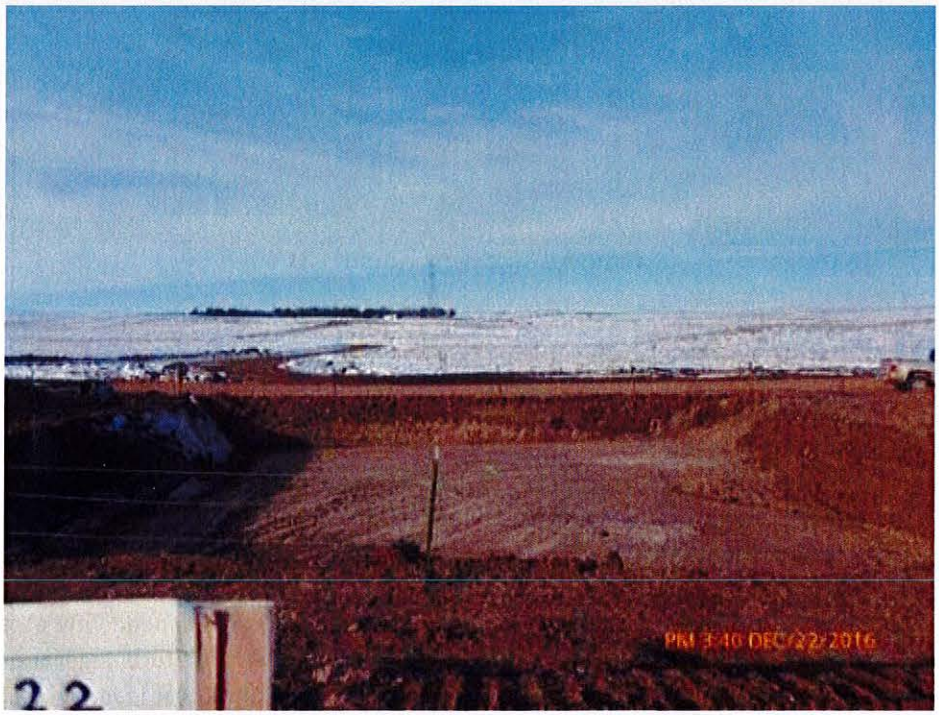

Figure 3 Turbine access road near T22

Figure 4 Turbine access road near T23

8 TURBINE FOUNDATIONS

Date and time stamped pictures taken by DNV GL of the three turbine foundations are provided in Figure 5 through Figure 7 below. On 22 December 2016, when DNV GL arrived on site, these excavations were complete and barbed wire fencing was installed around all three excavations.

Figure 5 Excavation at turbine T21

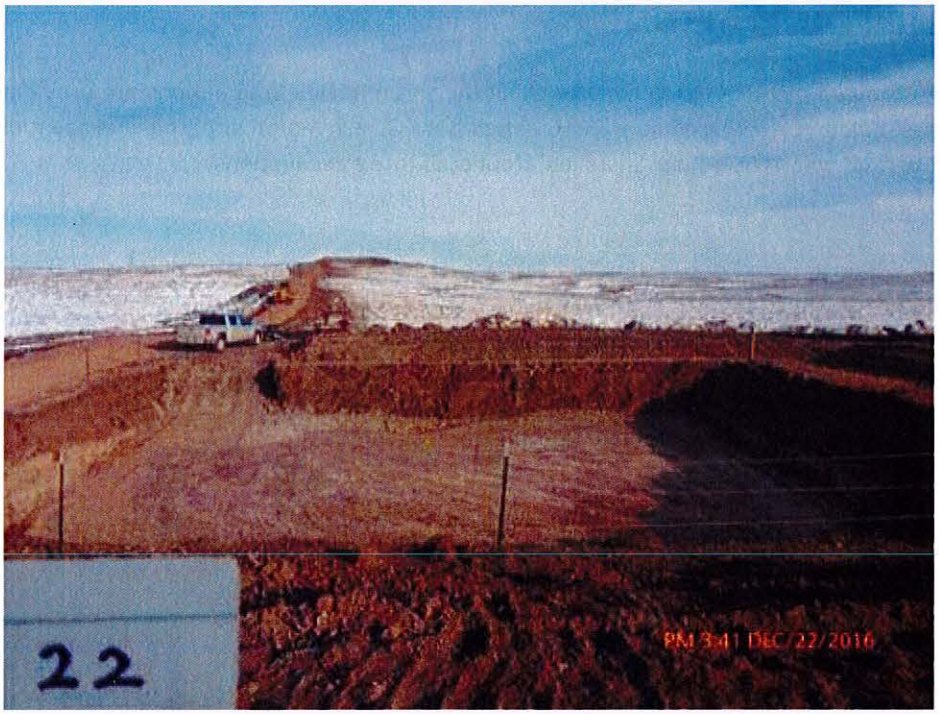

Figure 6 Excavation at turbine T22

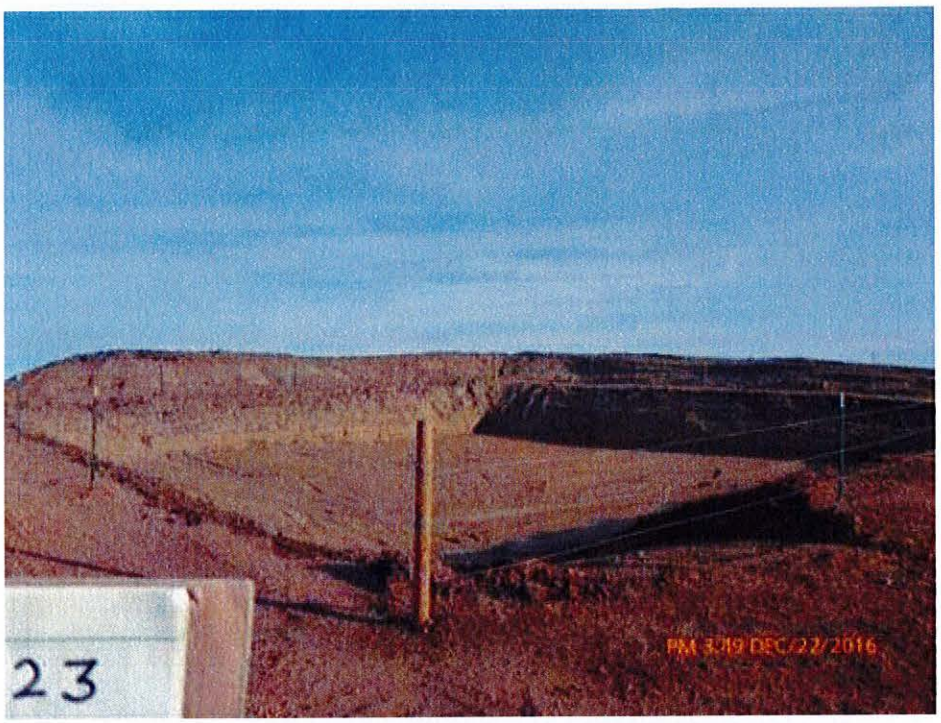

Figure 7 Excavation at turbine T23

At each turbine excavation, DNV GL independently recorded the GPS coordinates (using a Garmin GPS Map 60CSx) as shown in Table 1 below. DNV GL notes that the GPS coordinates were recorded at the center of the excavation and that there is a small margin of error (± 3 m) is associated with the recording device. Harvest also obtained coordinates of the excavations which are included in Table 1.

Table 1 Turbine Coordinates

	Turbine coordinates provided by Harvest		Turbine coordinates obtained by DNV GL	
Turbine #	**Latitude**	**Longitude**	**Latitude**	**Longitude**
T21	44.34943	-98.76264	44.34946	-98.76267
T22	44.35020	-98.75830	44.35018	-98.75836
T23	44.35180	-98.75431	44.35160	-98.75454

Figure 8 shows a map of turbine foundation sites and the turbine access road based on endpoint coordinates recorded by DNV GL during the site visit. Note that the turbine access road connects turbines T21, T22, and T23 although it appears to bypass T22 on the map.

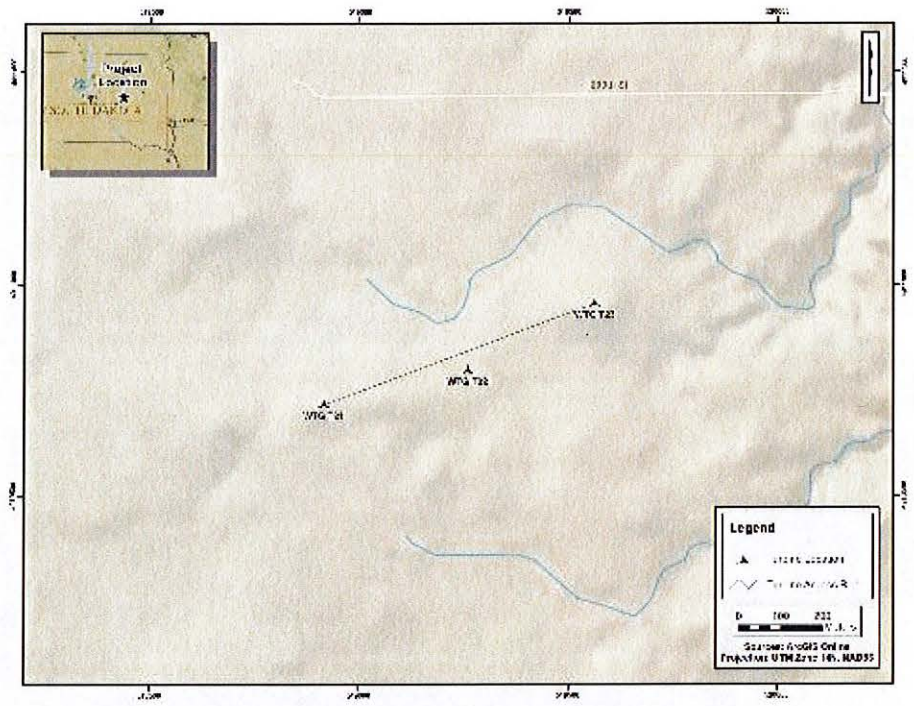

Figure 8 Turbine foundation locations and turbine access road indication connecting the turbines

9 SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL

Personnel at the site showed good compliance with safety policies, including use of proper PPE, appropriate driving precautions, and behavior. No environmental concerns were observed.

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