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**Department of Energy**  
Western Area Power Administration  
Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region  
P.O. Box 35800  
Billings, MT 59107-5800

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JAN 22 2019

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Customers and Interested Parties:

This letter is to update you on the proposed Prevailing Wind Park Energy Facility Project (Project) and to request your input on the Project. Prevailing Wind Park, LLC proposes to construct a 216.6 megawatt wind farm in Bon Homme, Charles Mix, and Hutchinson Counties, South Dakota. The Project would include 61 wind turbines, associated access roads, underground electrical power collector and communications systems, a new Project collector substation, up to four permanent meteorological towers, an operations and maintenance (O&M) facility, and a 27.6-mile-long 115k kilovolt electric transmission line. The Project proposes to interconnect with Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) Utica Junction Substation.

The proposed interconnection is a Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. As a result, a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to analyze the environmental effects of the proposed Project on resources such as wetlands, vegetation and wildlife, cultural and recreation resources, as well as other social, economic, and environmental effects.

WAPA is requesting your review and comment on the draft EA, which is available for download at the following website:

<https://www.wapa.gov/regions/UGP/Environment/Pages/PrevailingWinds.aspx>. Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- By mail to:  
Western Area Power Administration  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Attn: Ms. Christina Gomer  
2900 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Billings, MT 59101
- By email to [gomer@wapa.gov](mailto:gomer@wapa.gov)
- By phone to (406) 255-2811
- By fax to (406) 255-2900

For your input to be considered, comments must be received no later than Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. If you have any questions or need more information about the Project, please contact WAPA using the methods listed above or visit the Project website, also listed above. Thank you for your time and interest in the Project.

Sincerely,

Christina Gomer  
NEPA Coordinator