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Docket Number EL18-053
Deuel Harvest Wind Energy LLC



Invenergy's application includes an Environmental Constraints Map (Figure A-3). The map shows a two-mile buffer around two bald eagle nests. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks annually conducts a bald eagle nest survey. The two nests shown on the Environmental Constraints Map are identified in the Game, Fish & Parks survey as being active the past three years. However, that survey also identifies an additional bald eagle nest. That nest is located ¼ mile north of Lake Alice to the north of 172nd Street and East of 478th Avenue. According to the survey this nest was used in 2016, 2017 and 2018. The survey results at this site recorded one fledgling in 2016, three fledglings in 2017 and two fledglings in 2018. Turbines will need to be moved to provide the two-mile bald eagle nest buffer. The three bald eagle nesting sites are the only known active sites in Deuel County. Attached you will find the 2016 thru 2018 survey reports for this additional nest.

Bald Eagle Nest Survey Form

Ideally, the nest should be checked two to three times, once in late March to determine if bald eagles are using the nest, once in early June to count the number of nestlings (this check is the least important), and once in late June just before fledging. Nest checks after major storms could also be useful. Choose a spot where you can see the nest well, but far enough away that you do not disturb the parents. If they are circling overhead or "barking" at you, you are too close, and you may cause the parents to abandon the nest site or the young to fledge too early. After the family has left in late August, try to make a final visit to the nest tree to take a GPS location and identify any food remains under the nest. Approach the nest only after the birds have gone and only if you have express landowner permission to be on the property. The most important information is: **Is the site occupied by a pair of eagles? Did the pair attempt to nest? How many young survived to fledge from the nest?**

Thank you very much for your help. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Corey Huxoll at 605-773-4195. Please return the completed survey forms to **Corey Huxoll, SD Game, Fish & Parks, 523 East Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501.** E-mail: Corey.Huxoll@state.sd.us

Site Name: North Lake Alice County: Deuel Year: 2016

Location/Directions: North side of 172nd Street, ½ mile east of 478th Avenue in large "L shaped" tree belt

Legal Description: T 117N R 48W Section 31 1/4 _____ 1/4 _____

Contact/Landowner: Terry Brandenburg Phone: _____

Date	Observation Time		# Eagles		Nesting Activity/Comments Courtship, incubation, hatching, fledged young, nest destroyed, etc.	Observer
	Start	End	Adults	Young		
4/4/16	3:00pm	3:10pm	2	0	1 eagle on nest. 1 eagle sitting in nearby tree	Behnke
4/29/16	6:00pm	6:15pm	2	0	1 eagle on nest. 1 eagle flying around area	Behnke
6/15/16	12:30p	12:45p	1	1	1 adult on nearby tree. 1 eaglet in nest	Behnke
7/8/16	8:45am	9:00am	0	1	No adult visible. 1 young in nest	Behnke

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY AT THE END OF MONITORING

Territory: Occupied _____ Unoccupied _____ Unknown

Nest: Active _____ Inactive _____ Unknown GPS Lat/Long: _____

Outcome: 1 # Chicks 1 # Fledged young _____ Nesting attempt failed _____ Unknown

Nest condition at end of season: _____ New nest Intact _____ Not intact _____ Unknown

Photographs: _____ Yes No (We would appreciate any photographs)

Possible Threats/disturbances to nest site and associated habitat: (describe in detail)

Outcome Comments (i.e. suspected cause of failure):

Bald Eagle Nest Survey Form

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Site Name: Lake Alice County: Deuel Year: 2017

Location/Directions: ¼ mile N of Lake Alice to the north of 172nd Street; E of 478th Avenue

Legal Description: T 117N R 48W Section 31 1/4 SW 1/4

Contact/Landowner: Terry Brandenburg Phone: _____

Date	Observation Time		# Eagles		Nesting Activity/Comments Courtship, incubation, hatching, fledged young, nest destroyed, etc.	Observer
	Start	End	Adults	Young		
6/9/17	9:30am	9:45am	1	3		Behnke
6/21/17	10:00am	10:10am	0	3		Behnke

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY AT THE END OF MONITORING

Territory: Occupied Unoccupied Unknown
 Nest: Active Inactive Unknown GPS Lat/Long: _____
 Outcome: # Chicks 3 # Fledged young _____ Nesting attempt failed Unknown
 Nest condition at end of season: New nest Intact Not intact Unknown
 Photographs: Yes No (We would appreciate any photographs)

Possible Threats/disturbances to nest site and associated habitat: (describe in detail)

Outcome Comments (i.e. suspected cause of failure):

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Site Name: Lake Alice County: Deuel Year: 2018

Location/Directions: ¼ mile N of Lake Alice to the north of 172nd Street; E of 478th Avenue

Legal Description: T 117 R 48 Section 31 1/4 SW 1/4

Contact/Landowner: Terry Brandenburg Trust Phone: _____

Date	Observation Time		# Eagles		Nesting Activity/Comments Courtship, incubation, hatching, fledged young, nest destroyed, etc.	Observer
	Start	End	Adults	Young		
5/17/18	11:00am	11:05am	1	2		Behnke
6/12/18	1:30pm	1:35pm	1	2		Behnke
7/12/18	3:00pm	3:10pm	0	2		Behnke

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY AT THE END OF MONITORING

Territory: Occupied Unoccupied Unknown
 Nest: Active Inactive Unknown GPS Lat/Long: _____
 Outcome: # Chicks 2 # Fledged young Nesting attempt failed Unknown
 Nest condition at end of season: New nest Intact Not intact Unknown
 Photographs: Yes No (We would appreciate any photographs)

Possible Threats/disturbances to nest site and associated habitat: (describe in detail)

Outcome Comments (i.e. suspected cause of failure):