



November 16, 2018

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**



Re: Application to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for a Facility Permit for the Dakota Range III Wind Project  
EL 18-046

Dear Landowner:

On behalf of Dakota Range III, LLC ("Dakota Range III"), I am providing notice of an upcoming public input hearing convened by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") regarding the Dakota Range III Wind Project, a proposed 8-mile 345-kilovolt interconnection transmission line and an up to 151.2-megawatt wind energy conversion facility ("Project") to be located in Grant County and Roberts County, South Dakota. You are receiving this notice because your property is either inside the proposed Project footprint or within one-half mile of the proposed Project footprint.

Enclosed is a copy of the Commission's public input hearing notice, as well as a map showing the location of the Project. **As indicated in the notice, the public input hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., CST, at Summit School, 400 Sherman Avenue, Summit, South Dakota.** At the public input hearing, Dakota Range III will present a brief description of the Project, and interested persons may appear to present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application for a Facility Permit ("Application") for the Project filed by Dakota Range III with the Commission.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5), Dakota Range III's Application is on file in the Auditor's office in both Grant County and Roberts County. In addition, the Application and other documents in the case may be accessed on the Commission's website at [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Electric Dockets, EL18-046. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brenna Gunderson".

Brenna Gunderson  
Dakota Range Wind Project Manager  
Enclosures

Dakota Range, LLC  
c/o Apex Clean Energy, Inc.  
310 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Suite 200 | Charlottesville, VA 22902  
T 434.220.7595 | F 434.220.3712  
[apexcleanenergy.com](http://apexcleanenergy.com)

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF</b>	)	<b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION;</b>
<b>DAKOTA RANGE III, LLC FOR A PERMIT</b>	)	<b>ORDER FOR AND NOTICE</b>
<b>OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A 345</b>	)	<b>OF PUBLIC INPUT</b>
<b>KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN GRANT AND</b>	)	<b>HEARING; NOTICE OF</b>
<b>ROBERTS COUNTIES</b>	)	<b>OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY</b>
	)	<b>FOR PARTY STATUS</b>
	)	
	)	<b>EL18-046</b>

On October 26, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a wind energy facility permit application (Application) from Dakota Range III, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC (Dakota Range). Dakota Range proposes to construct an approximately 8-mile 345-kilovolt (kV) interconnection transmission line and an up to 151.2-megawatt (MW) wind energy conversion facility (Project). The Project will be in Grant County and Roberts County, South Dakota, with the wind portion in an 18,717-acre area. The transmission line will run from the Project's substation located in section 13 of Blooming Valley Township, outside the public right of way along 455<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turning east on Farmington Township's 150<sup>th</sup> Street to the Ottertail Power switchyard located in section 14 of Mazeppa Township. The Project is expected to be in service by December 31, 2020, with a total of up to 42 wind turbines and associated facilities. Dakota Range estimates the total cost of the proposed Project to be approximately \$200 million.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, **the Commission will hold a public input hearing on the Application and Project on December 19, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., CST, at Summit School, 400 Sherman Ave., Summit, South Dakota.**

The purpose of the public input hearing will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the hearing, Dakota Range will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may appear and present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Grant County Auditor and the Roberts County Auditor pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5) and at the Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's web site at [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2018 Electric Dockets, EL18-046, or by contacting the Commission in person at the Capitol Building, 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D., or by phone at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently Dakota Range and the Commission. Any person residing in the area of the Project; each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the Project is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the Project is to be sited; or any interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission. Applications for party status will be available at the public input hearing or may be

obtained from the Commission's web site or by contacting the Commission. **Applications for party status must be received by the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CST, December 26, 2018.** The Commission will also be accepting comments in writing from anyone, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mailing the Commission right up until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by putting on actual testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct.

Following the public input hearing, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any party, the Commission's staff, or the Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, Dakota Range must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether a permit to construct should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission will hold a public input hearing on the Application and Project on **December 19, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., CST, at Summit School, 400 Sherman Ave., Summit, South Dakota.** It is further

ORDERED, that pursuant to **SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, applications for party status must be filed on or before 5:00 p.m., CST, on December 26, 2018.**

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 2018.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>	
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 or by mail.	
By:	<u>Adam De Hueck</u>
Date:	<u>10/31/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

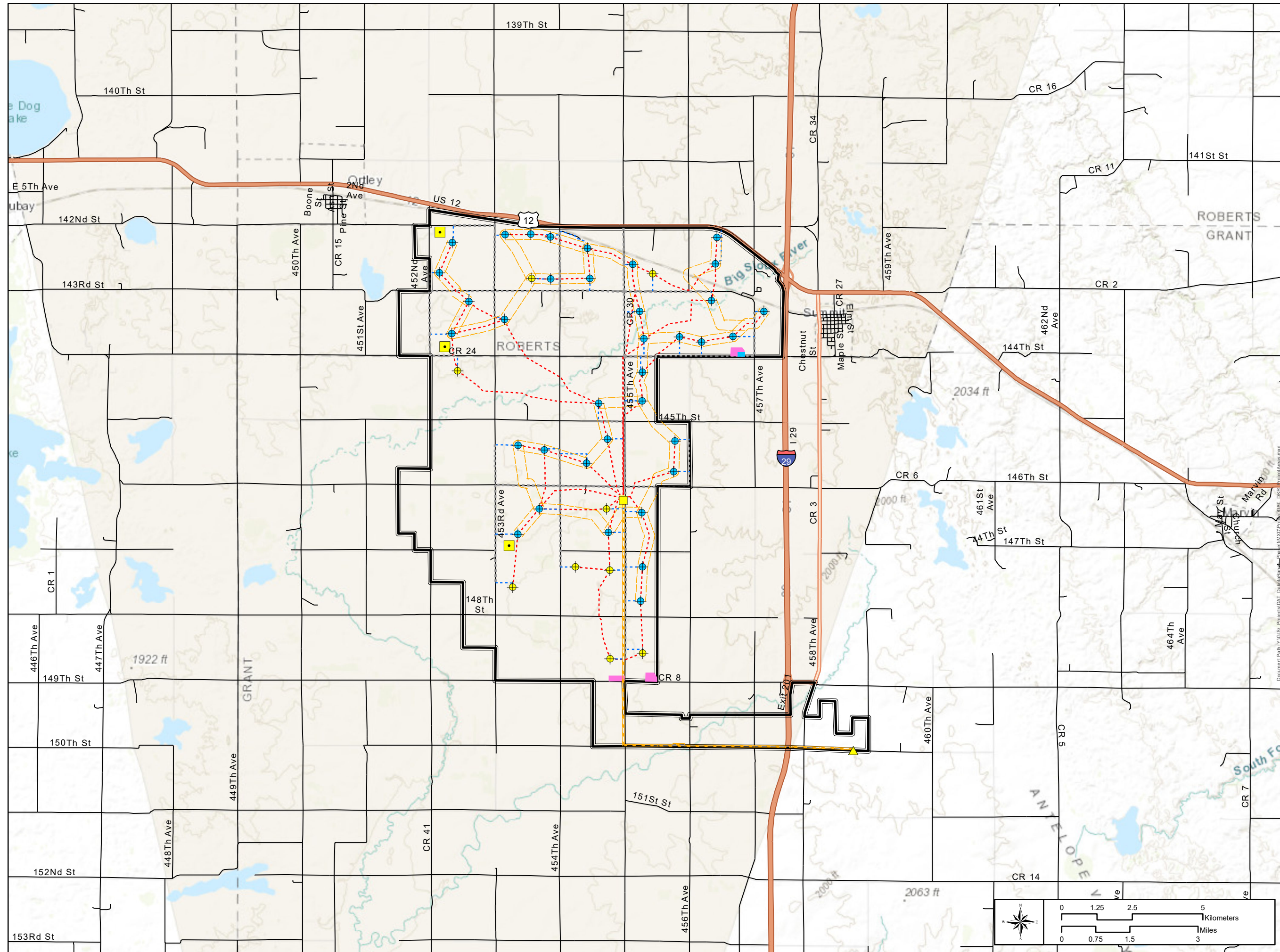
Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

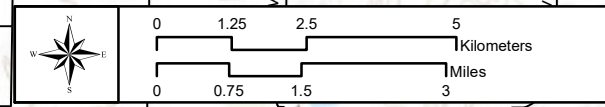


# Dakota Range III Project Map

- Project Boundary
- Primary
- Spare
- Crane Path
- Private Access Road
- Public Road
- Underground Collection
- Point of Interconnect
- Substation
- Permanent Met Tower
- Feeder Line Easement Area
- Potential Laydown Yard
- Potential Operations and Maintenance Building



Date: 11/15/2018 Author: MR CONFIDENTIAL  
 Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Sphere  
 Projection: Mercator Auxiliary Sphere  
 Datum: WGS 1984  
 Units: Meter



Document Path: Y:\GIS\Projects\DAT\_DakotaRangeIII\MapArea.mxd