

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION BY SWEETLAND
WIND FARM, LLC FOR FACILITY
PERMITS FOR A WIND ENERGY
FACILITY AND A 230-KV
TRANSMISSION FACILITY IN HAND
COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA**

*
* **AFFIDAVIT OF MARK WENGIERSKI**
* **IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR**
* **APPROVAL OF TURBINE MODEL**
* **CHANGE AND TURBINE**
* **ADJUSTMENTS**
*

EL 19-012

STATE OF COLORADO)
) SS.
COUNTY OF BOULDER)

I, Mark Wengierski, being first duly sworn on oath, state and allege as follows:

1. I am the Project Manager for the Sweetland Wind Farm and associated 230 kV Transmission Line (“Project”), which is owned and being developed by Sweetland Wind Farm, LLC (“Sweetland”). I have the authority to provide this affidavit on behalf of Sweetland.
2. I am providing this Affidavit pursuant to paragraph 23 of the Settlement Stipulation approved by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) in its July 31, 2019 Order Granting Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation; Order Granting Permit to Construct Facility; Notice of Entry (“Order”) in the above-referenced docket.
3. In its Energy Facility Permit Application (“Application”) for the Project, Sweetland proposed utilizing up to 71 General Electric (“GE”) 2.82/127 turbines with a hub height of either 89 or 114 meters. Since issuance of the Order, Sweetland has identified an additional potential turbine model: the GE 2.3/116 turbine with a hub height of 80 meters. More specifically, Sweetland is considering utilizing the GE 2.82/127 with a hub height of 89 meters at 68 locations, and utilizing the GE 2.3/116 turbine model with a hub height of 80 meters at 3 locations, for a total of 71 turbines installed (the “Proposed Layout”). Sweetland has not made a final decision to use the GE 2.3/116 turbine model, and may still use the GE 2.82/127 turbine model with a hub height of 89 meters at all locations.
4. Pursuant to paragraph 23 in the Settlement Stipulation, a turbine model change constitutes a “material change,” requiring filing of a request for approval containing the information set forth in paragraph 30(a)-(d) of the Settlement Stipulation. The requisite information is provided in the following paragraphs:
 - a. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a figure showing the Proposed Layout, including the locations proposed for the GE 2.3/116 turbine model (Turbines 40, 41, 42).

- b. Attached as **Exhibit B** is an updated Sound and Shadow Flicker Analyses Memorandum for the Proposed Layout, which demonstrates compliance with the sound level requirements set forth in paragraph 28 of the Settlement Stipulation
 - c. As indicated in **Exhibit B**, only one receptor (owned by Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, participating landowners) was modeled to exceed 30 hours of shadow flicker per year. Attached as **Exhibit C** is a shadow flicker waiver executed by Mr. and Mrs. Stevens. Therefore, the Project meets the shadow flicker requirements set forth in paragraph 29 of the Settlement Stipulation.
 - d. No changes to the previously approved turbine locations are proposed; therefore, paragraph 30(d) is not applicable.
5. Since issuance of the Order, Sweetland has also determined that three (3) turbine adjustments greater than 250 feet from the locations approved by the Commission are needed for the Project. The approved locations of Turbines 8, 9, and 10 are located on land leased for the Project, but subject to a pre-existing Grassland Reserve Program (“GRP”) Easement administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”). Sweetland has been unable to reach a mutual agreement with NRCS regarding turbine installation on the parcel subject to the GRP Easement. As a result, Sweetland proposes to shift the turbines off of the parcel. Maps showing the turbine locations approved by the Commission and the proposed turbine locations are attached hereto as **Exhibit D** (public and confidential), and the proposed turbine locations are also shown on **Exhibit A**. All three locations are currently alternate turbine locations.
6. The distances of the proposed turbine adjustments are as follows:
 - a. Turbine 8 has been adjusted 508.5 feet to the South.
 - b. Turbine 9 has been adjusted 744.1 feet to the South.
 - c. Turbine 10 has been adjusted 1,001.2 feet to the South.
7. The turbine adjustments were accounted for in the modeling analyses provided in **Exhibit B**, and the results demonstrate that the adjusted locations comply with the specified noise and shadow flicker requirements set forth in paragraphs 28 and 29 of the Settlement Stipulation.
8. The confidential version of **Exhibit D** identifies the locations of environmental avoidance areas, including cultural resources and wetlands, in relation to the turbine adjustments. In addition, **Exhibit E** provides a chart showing the distances of the turbines from residences, roads, overhead distribution and transmission lines, and property lines. As shown in **Exhibits D** and **E**, the proposed turbine adjustments comply with county and state setback requirements and commitments, cultural and tribal resource impacts are avoided, and wetland impacts are avoided. Also attached are copies of Addendum 3 to the Level III Intensive Cultural Resource Survey Report (**Exhibit F**) and the Wetland Delineation Report (**Exhibit G**), which include the results of survey work conducted for the adjusted turbine locations.

9. All modifications are located on land under lease/easement for the Project.
10. With respect to the Project, including the proposed turbine model change and turbine adjustments, Sweetland will comply with the Commission's Order and all other applicable regulations and requirements.
11. Based on the foregoing, Sweetland requests approval of the proposed turbine model change and turbine adjustments.

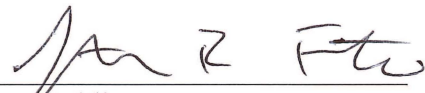
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2019.



Mark Wengierski

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 18th day of November, 2019.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 7/19/20

