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UTILITIES COMMISSION

## AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

I hereby certify that the public notice "Notice of Public Meeting: North Bend Wind Project" was published on July 8, July 15 and August 5, 2021 in the Capital Journal, a legal newspaper as defined by SDCL 17-2-2.1 in the city of Pierre, county of Hughes, South Dakota.

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By: South Dakota Newspaper Services

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...those extra problems that came with the pandemic," Floren said. "People are struggling and you see that."

Some women also turned to dangerous alternatives, Floren and Griesse said. Both advocates recalled stories of women who, out of desperation to terminate a preg-

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**WHAT:** Permit to Construct the North Bend Wind Project on approximately 46,931 acres of land in Hyde County and Hughes County, South Dakota, in the townships of Butte, Chapelle, Harrold, Holabird, Pleasant Valley, Pratt, and Webster

**WHEN:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 6:30 p.m. CDT

**WHERE:** Capitol Lake Visitor Center, 650 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public input meeting at the above time on an application to construct the North Bend Wind Project, a wind energy facility located on approximately 46,931 acres of land in Hyde County and Hughes County, South Dakota, in the townships of Butte, Chapelle, Harrold, Holabird, Pleasant Valley, Pratt, and Webster. The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 200 megawatts nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 71 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5-kilovolt (kV) electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 230-kV collection substation, a 230-kV interconnection switching station, an aircraft detection lighting system and one permanent meteorological tower. The Project will interconnect to Western Area Power Administration's Fort Thompson-Oahe 230-kV transmission line, which crosses the southern portion of the project area. The Project, at the time of filing this application, has not executed a purchase power agreement. The Project is expected to be operation in late 2022. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be between \$265 and \$285 million.

The purpose of the public input meeting will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the meeting, North Bend will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. North Bend's presentation will be available on the Commission's website on August 11, 2021, the day of the meeting. Commenters will be given approximately 5 minutes to speak and asked to provide their name and place of residence.

A copy of the Application is on file with the Hyde County and Hughes County Auditors pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-5.2 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 website at [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2021 Electric Dockets, EL21-018 or by contacting the Commission 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 the Applicant and the Commission staff. Each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; or any person residing in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited, or any directly interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making timely written application to the Commission. Applications for party status may be obtained from the Commission's website or by contacting the Commission. Applications for party status must be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CDT, August 23, 2021. 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 meeting, the Commission may schedule a formal administrative evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening 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, North Bend 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.

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