

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
BY NORTH BEND WIND PROJECT, LLC)	WITHDRAW PARTY STATUS
FOR A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT AND)	
OPERATE THE NORTH BEND WIND)	EL21-018
PROJECT IN HYDE COUNTY AND)	
HUGHES COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA)	

On June 23, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from North Bend Wind Project, LLC (North Bend Wind) for an application for a permit 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. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be between \$265 and \$285 million.

On June 24, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 23, 2021, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On July 2, 2021, the Commission issued a Notice of Application; Order For and Notice of Public Input Meeting; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status. On August 11, 2021, the Commission held a public input meeting in Pierre, South Dakota. On September 17, 2021, the Commission granted party status to Judi Bollweg, individually and on behalf of Tumbleweed Lodge and Bollweg Family, LLLP, and Michael Bollweg, individually and on behalf of Bollweg Family, LLLP (Intervenors). On November 11, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion for Procedural Schedule. On November 24, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion to Extend Deadline. On December 14, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion to Adopt Revised Procedural Schedule. On March 8, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion to Extend Deadline. On August 17, 2022, North Bend filed a letter Regarding Motion for Scheduling Order and the executed Hughes County Board of Adjustment Conditional Use Permit. On September 19, 2022, North Bend, Intervenors and Commission staff filed a Joint Stipulation and Motion to Adopt Second Revised Procedural Schedule. On September 29, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Granting Joint Stipulation and Motion to Adopt Second Revised Procedural Schedule, setting the evidentiary hearing to begin on December 13, 2022. On November 7, 2022, North Bend filed a Motion to Clarify Hearing Scope. On November 22, 2022, Intervenors filed a letter Regarding Scope of Hearing. On December 6, 2022, Intervenors filed a Motion to Withdraw. On December 9, 2022, North Bend filed a letter Regarding Cancellation of Evidentiary Hearing. On December 13, 2022, North Bend and Commission staff filed a Settlement Stipulation and a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 15-6 and 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-1, 49-41B-4, 49-41B-22, 49-41B-25 and ARSD Chapter 20:10:01, specifically 20:10:01:19 and Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on January 5, 2023, the Commission considered this matter and voted unanimously to grant Intervenors' Motion to Withdraw. It is therefore

ORDERED, that withdrawal of party status is hereby granted to Intervenors.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of January 2023.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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 Huelck</u>
Date: <u>1/10/23</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner