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September 13, 2024

Public Utilities Commission

Attn: Patricia Van Gerpen, Exec. Director

VIA FILING SERVICE: patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us

RE: In the Matter of the Application by North Bend Wind Project, LLC for a Permit to Construct and Operate the North Bend Wind Project in Hyde County and Hughes County, South Dakota – <u>PUC Docket</u>: EL21-018

MAGT File: 7900

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

I write today regarding the Aircraft Detection Lighting System ("ADLS") for the North Bend Wind Project. This letter continues the Project's commitment to provide biweekly progress updates in the docket until such time as sensor control of the turbine lights is established.

I am pleased to report that, despite the previously mentioned service interruptions in the last two weeks due to WAPA outages, the Project continues to make progress toward that goal. During the past two weeks, the Project has concluded work on installing the replacement network switches in all the North Bend turbines. Communication between the ADLS system and the replacement switches has been confirmed, and the ADLS system is now controlling approximately half of North Bend's turbines. FAA lighting on the balance of the turbines requires additional troubleshooting; however, this does not appear to be an issue with the ADLS system itself, but rather a combination of installation, firmware, and settings issues. The Project and its contractors are currently working to resolve those issues.

Despite the progress by the Project team and their vendors noted above, because of the earlier WAPA outages the Project will not be able to meet its September 15 target. We previously indicated WAPA has scheduled another transmission outage for September 16-October 25. During this period there will be no power to the Project's turbines and FAA lights, which will hamper efforts to complete troubleshooting on the outstanding towers. Project staff will file an appropriate NOTAM with the FAA for this period to ensure no hazards to air navigation. The Project plans to complete all remaining work after WAPA has restored service later in the fall and is working as quickly and safely as possible to resolve all remaining issues.

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Please file this letter into the docket pursuant to Condition 35. As always, thank you for your courtesies in this matter.

Very truly yours,

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

AARON P. SCHEIBE

APS | jrw

CC/att:

EL21-018 Service List