

MICHELLE A PHILLIPS

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON – CLEAR LAKE – M.S. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY – B.S. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, MINOR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SKILLS & ABILITIES

Project Management

M&A/Financing Due Diligence

Contractor Management

PUC/PSC Utility-scale Project Permitting in Regulated States

USFWS Section 7 ESA and State Wildlife Agency Consultations

SHPO Coordination

USACE CWA Section 404 Wetland Permitting Coordination

NEPA Review

EXPERIENCE

Senior Associate, Environmental Compliance and Strategy **INVENERGY**

April 2022 – Present

- Responsible for developing environmental strategy for siting design, construction and operation of renewable energy facilities including natural resource assessment, risk analysis, permitting, regulatory compliance, and coordination with federal, state, and regional agencies

Environmental Specialist I **NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES**

July 2021 – February 2022

- Responsible for advising multidisciplinary teams on permitting strategies to facilitate development of projects including renewable generation (wind and solar), battery storage, transmission, and other projects supporting decarbonization of the US economy

Environmental Specialist II **NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES**

July 2019 – July 2021

Associate Environmental Specialist **NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES**

November 2016 – July 2019

PROJECTS

WALLEYE WIND PROJECT, ROCK COUNTY, MN

- Led project acquisition due diligence and completed final siting due diligence including desktop and field verified surveys, report reviews, and impact minimization and/or mitigation for wetlands, cultural resources, wildlife/habitat, pre-construction sound, and pre-construction shadow flicker
- Supported business development, engineering, and operations in cost estimating, budgeting, and scheduling for permitting tasks and timelines

- Represented the project in external communications and meetings to perform local outreach, complete agency consultations, and support public information/scoping meetings and a public hearing
- Executed submittal of a Large Wind Energy Conversion System permit application through Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MNPUC) for a utility scale wind project on a contested public docket including an amendment application filing; achieved final permit issuance September 2021
- Achieved USACE wetland permit issuance under Nationwide Permit 51 for Land-based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities, including impact minimization measures and wetland credit mitigation agreement for permanent impacts
- Completed preparation of filings required for construction transition including environmental compliance matrix, native prairie protection plan, operational sound protocol, shadow flicker management plan, decommissioning plan, avian and bat protection plan (ABPP), invasive species prevention plan, and post construction mortality monitoring protocol
- Oversaw NEPA reviews including Categorical Exclusion (Non-Tower Collocation NEPA/Section 106 Exclusion Checklist) preparation required for Federal Communications Commission licensing of radio antennas on a meteorological tower and Categorical Exclusion preparation required for licensing of a tower mounted Aircraft Detection Lighting System

PERCH WIND DECOMMISSIONING, ROCK COUNTY, MN

- Developed decommissioning plan including overseeing wetland/cultural field studies and development of geospatial constraints and reports

NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA WIND REPOWERS

- Managed wetland/cultural field studies and oversaw development of geospatial constraints, reports, ABPPs, and phase I ESAs to support repowering of Oliver I (ND), Oliver II (ND), and Day County (SD) operational wind projects
- Led environmental due diligence in support of financing including data request responses

CONFIDENTIAL WIND PROJECT, FILLMORE COUNTY, MN

- Implemented non-traditional survey protocols to study bats, including sensitive and federally listed species, and assess habitat quality, study seasonal activity, and determine presence within proposed utility scale wind project area in response to wildlife agency concerns (seasonal acoustic study, mist netting, hibernacula swarming study)

CONFIDENTIAL SOLAR PROJECT, MOWER COUNTY, MN

- Developed a Large Electric Power Generating Plant permit application to be submitted to MNPUC for a utility scale solar project; conducted project siting due diligence including desktop and field verified surveys, report reviews, strategic impact minimization, and initial external outreach
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