

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY PHILIP)
WIND PARTNERS, LLC, FOR ENERGY FACILITY)
PERMITS OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A)
230 KV TRANSMISSION FACILITY IN HAAKON)
COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA FOR THE PHILIP WIND)
PROJECT)
)**

**ORDER ESTABLISHING
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND
CONSOLIDATING DOCKETS FOR
EVIDENTIARY HEARING**

EL25-029

On August 15, 2025, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application from Philip Wind Partners, LLC (Applicant) for Energy Facility Permits of a Wind Energy Facility and a 230 kV Transmission Facility (together, "Project") in Haakon County, South Dakota. The Project would be situated within an approximately 68,300-acre project area. The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 333 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity and deliver up to 300 MW to the point of interconnection. The proposed Project includes up to 87 wind turbines, a 34.5kV electrical collection and supervisory control and data acquisition systems, a 230 kV collector substation, an approximately 7-mile long 230 kV generator transmission tie line, an operations and maintenance facility, up to three aircraft detection lighting system towers; access roads, and up to three meteorological towers. The Project will also include temporary construction areas: crane paths, public road improvements, three general construction laydown yards, staging areas, and a concrete batch plant, as needed. The Project will also be supported by a short (less than 1 mile) extension of an existing 230-kV line owned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) that will be separately permitted. In addition, the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) will construct the 230-kV Philip North Switchyard and two tie-in lines to interconnect the Project into WAPA's existing Oahe to New Underwood 230-kV transmission line. Applicant hopes the Project to be in commercial operation in December 2027.

On August 20, 2025, 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 21, 2025, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 14, 2025, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On October 2, 2025, the Commission held a public input meeting for the Project in Philip, South Dakota. To date, no individuals or entities have sought intervention in this matter. On November 25, 2025, commission staff and Applicant filed a Joint Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule; Joint Motion to Consolidate Evidentiary Hearings (Joint Motion).

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 15-6, and 49-41B, specifically 15-6-42(a) and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 2, 2025, the Commission considered this matter. Both Applicant and commission staff requested the Commission grant the Joint Motion. The Commission found, pursuant to SDCL 15-6-42(a), that no party would be prejudiced by consolidating Docket Nos. EL25-029 and EL25-030 for an evidentiary hearing and that consolidation was appropriate based upon the facts and the laws at issue. After hearing from the parties, the Commission found that the procedural schedule set forth in the Joint Motion timely addressed the matters in this case; however, the commission determined that the post hearing procedural schedule should remain flexible at this time. Based on the foregoing findings, the Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion, with the exception of the post-hearing portions of the procedural schedule¹ which will be established at a later date by separate order. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Joint Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule; Joint Motion to Consolidate Evidentiary Hearings is granted with the exclusion of the post hearing portions of the procedural schedule. It is further

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule is established as follows:

¹ This exclusion does not apply to the deadline for a decision, which is established by statute.

Application & Applicant Direct Testimony.....	August 15, 2025
Staff/Intervenor Testimony Due.....	February 4, 2026
Rebuttal Testimony Due.....	February 25, 2026
Final Discovery to All Parties.....	March 11, 2026
Final Responses to Discovery Due.....	March 25, 2026
Witness and Exhibit List Due/Exhibits Prefiled.....	April 1, 2026
Final Pre-hearing Conference.....	April 2, 2026
Evidentiary Hearing.....	April 8-10, 2026
Decision Due.....	May 15, 2026

It is further

ORDERED, that this docket shall be consolidated with EL25-030 pursuant to SDCL 15-6-42(a) for evidentiary hearing. It is further

ORDERED, that responses to discovery are due ten business days after service of discovery except as provided in the procedural schedule above. It is further

ORDERED, that prefiled testimony must be submitted for all witnesses as a prerequisite to providing testimony at the evidentiary hearing, with the exception of rebuttal witnesses responding to new issues raised at the evidentiary hearing. It is further

ORDERED that all exhibits be marked and filed prior to the evidentiary hearing.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of December 2025.

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Jennie L. Everso</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/04/2025</u></p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner