

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF DEUEL HARVEST WIND ENERGY)
LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A WIND)
ENERGY FACILITY AND A 345-KV)
TRANSMISSION LINE IN DEUEL)
COUNTY)
)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE; ORDER
AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO
CONSULTING CONTRACTS**

EL18-053

On November 30, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for Facility Permits (Application) from Deuel Harvest Wind Energy LLC (Deuel Harvest or Applicant), an affiliate of Invenergy LLC. Deuel Harvest proposes to construct a wind energy facility and a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line with an associated 345-kV interconnection substation to be located in Deuel County, South Dakota, known as the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 48,730-acre project area, in the townships of Portland, Lowe, Altamont, Glenwood, and Herrick (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 310.1 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 112 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5 kV electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 345-kV collection substation, up to four permanent meteorological towers, a 345-kV interconnection substation, an approximately 150-foot long 345-kV transmission line connecting the Project substation and the Interconnection substation, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project would interconnect to the regional electric grid along the Big Stone to Brookings 345-kV transmission line via a new 345-kV Interconnection Substation located in Glenwood Township and be able to deliver 300 MW of electricity. Deuel Harvest is negotiating a Generator Interconnection Agreement with Otter Tail Power Company and Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$400,000,000.

SDCL 49-41B-12 authorizes the Commission to assess a maximum fee not to exceed one-quarter of one percent for the first \$100,000,000 of estimated construction costs plus one-twentieth of one percent of all additional estimated construction costs of the Project, with a minimum total fee chargeable of not less than \$8,000. The fee shall be deposited in a subfund in the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee Fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon the Application.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12, 49-41B-26, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 11, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$400,000 with an initial deposit of \$8,000, and to authorize the executive director to enter into consulting contracts needed for review of the Application. Applicant stated it did not object to the fee assessment. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Deuel Harvest a filing fee in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 with a minimum filing fee of \$8,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing commencing from the filing date. The Commission further voted unanimously to authorize the executive director to enter into necessary consulting contracts. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Deuel Harvest shall be assessed a filing fee not to exceed \$400,000 with an initial deposit of \$8,000 and shall from time to time make such additional deposits up to the total amount of the assessment as requested by the Commission's finance manager. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director is authorized to enter into necessary consulting contracts.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 18th day of December 2018.

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: Karon E. Cremes

Date: 12/18/18

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner