

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY)
TRIPLE H WIND PROJECT, LLC FOR A)
PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN)
HYDE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA)
)
)

**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST
TO WITHDRAW MOTION
FOR ADOPTION OF
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

EL19-007

On February 6, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Facility Permit Application for an Energy Facility Permit (Application) from Triple H Wind, LLC (Triple H or Applicant), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ENGIE North America, Inc. Triple H proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Hyde County, South Dakota (Project). The Project would be located on 27,247.5 acres of privately held land, approximately 3.2 miles southwest of Highmore in the townships of Eagle, Chapelle, Highmore, and Holabird, South Dakota (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 250.24 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 92 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 345-kV collection substation, one permanent meteorological tower, a 345-kV interconnection switching station, a Sonic Detection and Ranging Unit, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project will interconnect to the high-voltage transmission grid via the Leland Olds to Fort Thompson 345-kV transmission line, which crosses the Project Area. Applicant has entered into two 30-year power purchase agreements, one with Walmart for 150 MW and one for 48 MW with a confidential institutional buyer. The remaining 52 MW will be sold on a merchant basis. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be \$300 million.

On February 7, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 8, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On April 9, 2019, Commission staff filed a Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-41B, and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 2, 2019, the Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule came before the Commission. Commission staff requested to withdraw its Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule. The Commission voted unanimously to grant Commission staff's request to withdraw its Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request to withdraw the Motion for Adoption of Procedural Schedule is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 8th day of May 2019.

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>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>05/08/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner