

Sibley Wind Project

Sibley County, MN

Comment on Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

IP-6666/WS-08-208

Dear honorable commissioners;

This letter is in response to the open comment period on the 20 MW Sibley Wind Substation wind project under construction in Sibley County MN. I believe the project is not in violation of the State permit. The project started construction in Oct. of 2013 and then was delayed by severe weather which stopped construction that fall. We have opinions from both Foley Lardner, a major Renewable law firm and Deloitte (accounting/advisory firm) that the project has met all conditions under the IRS statute on continuous construction. The Opposition group had voiced concerns that we hadn't done an Avian study and the project was going to kill Eagles; to show a good faith gesture, along with the state it was determined that the avian study needed to do this Avian study. The project then engaged Westwood, a Minnesota Environmental Engineering firm to complete a spring and fall Avian study and that we would hold up on the concrete construction until the results were known even though it wasn't required in the State permit to do this Avian study. This study has just been finished and will have the final published results the first of December 2014 from Westwood.

WESCO Wind has spent millions of dollars to get the project built and we have in place the plan to complete the construction in 2015. These dollars spent were because of the state permit and to have it jeopardized now after willingly going through the Avian study would be a travesty.

In addition, this project will bring in \$75,000 to \$90,000 dollars in production tax revenue to the County and Township for as long as the project is producing power. It will employ at least 3 full time technicians and several dozen construction workers during the construction period. Not to mention all the construction supplies, concrete and gravel purchased locally.

I respectfully ask the Commission to continue to support this clean, cheap, renewable source of electrical energy for the local community that will benefit from this power.

Thanks,

Steven G. Estes

President

WESCO Wind