

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: May 10, 2018

In the Matter of the Application of Nobles 2 Power Partners, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 260 megawatt Nobles 2 Wind Project and Associated Facilities in Nobles County

PUC Docket Number(s): IP6964/CN-16-289

OAH Docket Number: 71-2500-35110

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes **July 2, 2018 at 4:30pm**
Reply comment period closes **July 11, 2018 at 4:30pm**

The Commission may determine that it will not consider comments received after the close of the comment period.

Topic(s) Open for Comment:

- Are there any contested issues of fact with respect to the representations made in the application?
- Should the Commission grant a certificate of need for the project?
- Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

Background: On October 13, 2017, Nobles 2 Power Partners, LLC submitted applications to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to construct and operate a large wind energy conversion system in Nobles County.

The proposed project would entail construction of between 65 to 82 wind turbines for a combined nameplate capacity of up to 260 megawatts in Bloom, Larkin, Leota, Lismore, Summit Lake, and Wilmont townships in Nobles County. Additional facilities associated with the project include underground electrical collection and communication lines, a project substation with an interconnection switchyard, an operations and maintenance building, permanent meteorological towers, and gravel access roads. The applicant has separately filed a site permit application for the project as Commission docket number IP6964/WS-17-597.

The project falls under the definition of a “large energy facility” in Minn. Stat. § 216B.2421, subd. 2(1) because it has a combined capacity of 50,000 kilowatts or more. Under Minn. Stat. § 216B.243, Subd. 2, no large energy

facility can be sited or constructed without the issuance of a certificate of need by the Commission. The operative rules for this application are found in Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7849.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!* to find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc by selecting *Search eDockets*, entering the year (16) and docket number (289), and selecting *Search*.

Subscribe to the Docket: To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket, go to the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe* and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff analyst Michael Kaluzniak, at mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us or 651-201-2257 or the public advisor Charley Bruce, at publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us or 651-201-2251.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Jamie Eschbach at 651-201-2204.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.