



NEWS RELEASE
May 18, 2016

For Immediate Release, Contact:
Julie Fedorchak, (701) 391-1140
Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4091
Brian P. Kalk, (701) 261-0373

**Public Hearing Scheduled in Mandan for Proposed Oliver III Wind Project
and Associated Transmission Line**

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing in Mandan on Wednesday, June 1, regarding a proposal to construct the Oliver III Wind Project and associated electric transmission line in Oliver and Morton Counties.

Oliver Wind III, LLC (a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC), has submitted applications for permits for the Oliver III Wind Energy Center and an associated transmission line. The wind farm will have a capacity of approximately 100 megawatts and will consist of up to 48 wind turbines and associated facilities. Associated facilities include access roads, electrical collection systems and cabling, a collection substation, an operations and maintenance building, meteorological towers, and a construction laydown area. The project area encompasses approximately 21,878 acres in northeastern Morton County and southeastern Oliver County. It is estimated the permanent structures will occupy approximately 50 acres during operation. All but one turbine will be located in Morton County. Total cost of the wind project is estimated at \$153 million.

The project will also include a 4.5-mile long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a five-acre switchyard that will be constructed at the northern end of the line. The line will connect the proposed Oliver III Wind Energy Center to the electrical grid via a tap to the existing Minnkota Power Cooperative line located approximately 14 miles southeast of Center, N.D. Total cost of the transmission line is estimated at \$11.4 million.

(Note to the media: Maps showing the proposed location of the wind project and transmission line have been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Please note that this is a consolidated hearing for both the wind project and the transmission line. Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- **When: Wednesday, June 1, 2016 – 9 a.m. (Central)**
- **Where: Mandan City Hall
205 2nd Ave. NW, Mandan, ND 58554**

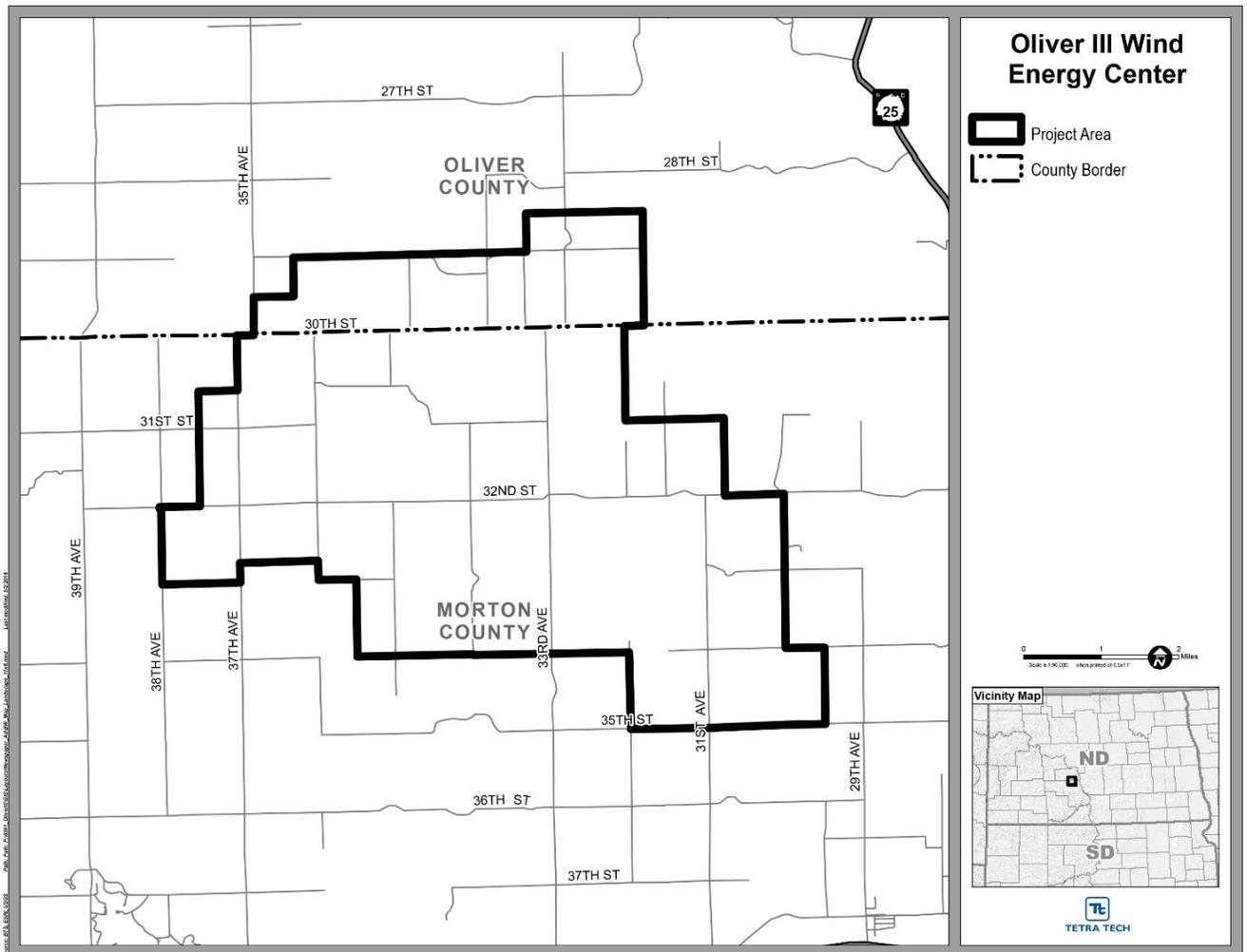
The hearing provides an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC's official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at the hearing to be part of the record. People with concerns, questions or support/opposition for the project are encouraged to attend the hearings and present their information. [Information received after the](#)

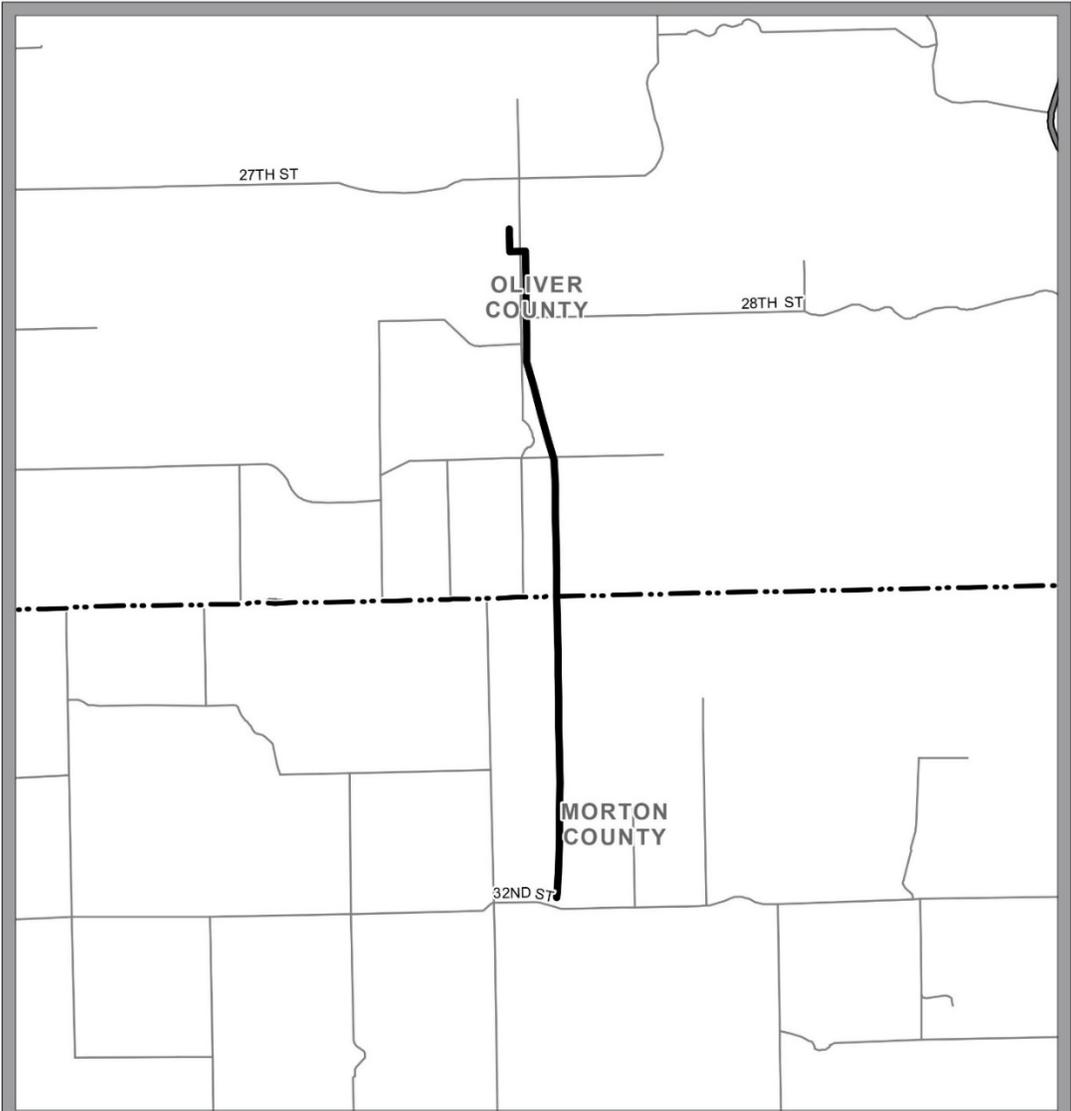
hearing will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission's decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

###

Find us on Twitter: twitter.com/ndpsc or [@NDPSC](https://twitter.com/NDPSC)





Oliver III Transmission Line

-  Proposed Transmission Line
-  Corridor/Route
-  County Border

