

Public Service Commission

NEWS RELEASE Oct. 20, 2015 For Immediate Release, Contact: Julie Fedorchak, (701) 391-1140 Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4091 Brian P. Kalk, (701) 261-0373

## Additional Public Hearing Scheduled for Proposed Rolette Wind Project to Gather Information about Impact to Eagles

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing in Rolette on Monday, November 2, to gather additional information about the impact to eagles as a result of the proposed Rolette Wind Project. <u>Please note that comments at this hearing will be limited to the topic of whether adverse effects on eagle health and safety will be managed and maintained to an acceptable minimum. Comments on other topics will not be allowed at this hearing.</u>

Rolette Power Development, LLC, has filed an application for the Rolette Wind Power Project. The project will have the capacity of up to 100 megawatts and would consist of up to 59 wind turbines and additional facilities. The initial public hearing for this project was held June 29<sup>th</sup> in Rolette. Following the hearing, information was received clarifying that active eagle nests had been identified in the vicinity of the project area. Because of the additional information, it was deemed necessary to hold a second hearing to address this topic.

The wind project would encompass approximately 14,720 acres three miles south of Rolette, N.D. Estimated cost of the project is \$175 million. (Note to the media: A map showing the location of the wind project has been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- When: Monday, November 2, 2015 10 a.m. CST
- Where: Memorial Hall 503 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Rolette, N.D.

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 for the project are encouraged to attend the hearing 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 <u>www.psc.nd.gov.</u>

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