



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

**PSC Schedules Public Hearing for Proposed Additions
to the Lonesome Creek Station in McKenzie County**

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a public hearing in Watford City on Thursday, March 26, regarding a proposal to expand the capacity of the Lonesome Creek Station in McKenzie County.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative has submitted an application for the Lonesome Creek Station Phase III project, which would allow them to construct and operate three 45-megawatt (MW) simple cycle natural gas-fired combustion turbines. The turbines would be adjacent to three existing 45 MW turbines at the location, bringing the total output capability at the site to 270 MW. In addition, two waste collection tanks would be installed and a new warehouse building for equipment storage would be constructed. Total cost for this project is estimated at \$99.3 million.

The Lonesome Creek Station is located approximately 14 miles west of Watford City. The new units would occupy about 5.5 acres within the 48-acre facility area. (Note to the media: A map showing the location of the Lonesome Creek Station has been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Details for the public hearing are as follows:

- **When: Thursday, March 26, 2015 – 9 a.m. CDT**
- **Where: Teddy's Residential Suites
113 9th Avenue SE, Watford City, N.D.**

The hearings provide 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 the 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 hearing schedule provides for the company to present its case and answer questions from the Commissioners first, after which the Commission will take comments from other parties and the public.

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.

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