



Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 35800
Billings, MT 59107-5800

B0400.BL

Dear Interested Parties:

This letter is to notify you of the proposed Moose Creek Wind Project (Project) and to request your input on the Project. NextEra Energy Resources, LLC proposes to construct an approximately 100-megawatt (MW) wind energy generating facility that includes approximately 30 to 45 turbines and associated pads. Other project components would include access roads to each turbine, electric collection lines, a fiber optics communication system, meteorological towers, operations and maintenance facilities, a 115-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie transmission line, a substation, and a switchyard that would interconnect to Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA's) existing Valley City 115-kV substation. The Project would be located on private land approximately four miles east of Valley City, North Dakota, in Barnes County (see enclosed map).

The Project would interconnect to WAPA's electrical transmission system at our existing Valley City 115-kV substation. The proposed interconnection is a federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As a result, WAPA is providing federal oversight of the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) under NEPA. The EA will include potential environmental effects of the proposed Project on resources such as wetlands, vegetation and wildlife, cultural and recreation resources, as well as other social, economic, and environmental effects. The EA will be tiered to the WAPA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2015 *Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*.

WAPA is announcing a public scoping period for the Project from October 18 – November 17, 2023. The scoping period provides an opportunity for the general public, government agencies, and tribal governments to identify issues and alternatives that will help WAPA define the scope of the EA.

One virtual public scoping meeting will be held to provide an opportunity for interested parties to discuss the Project with resource specialists and to submit comments. The meeting will be held on Monday, October 30, 2023, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM CDT.

Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- **By mail to:**
Western Area Power Administration
Attn: Mr. John Russell, Environmental Manager
2900 4th Avenue North
Billings, Montana 59101

- **By email to:** NEPA@wapa.gov
- **By fax to:** (406) 255-2900
- **By commenting during the virtual public scoping meeting:**
Zoom: <https://swca.zoom.us/j/93851450557>
Webinar ID: 938 5145 0557
One Tap Mobile: +17209289299,,93851450557# US (Denver)
+16027530140,,93851450557# US (Phoenix)
Telephone: +16513728299
Disclaimer: To remain anonymous, call in or insert the Meeting ID in the Zoom application.

Thank you for your time and interest in the Project. For your input to be considered during preparation of the draft EA, WAPA requests comments be postmarked no later than November 17, 2023. For additional information please visit our Project website:

<https://www.wapa.gov/regions/UGP/Environment/Pages/Moose-Creek-Wind-Project.aspx>

Sincerely,

JOHN RUSSELL

Digitally signed by JOHN
RUSSELL
Date: 2023.10.12 15:53:39 -06'00'

John Russell
Environmental Manager

Enclosures – 1
Project Area Map