

Department of Energy

Western Area Power Administration P.O. Box 145 Fort Peck, Montana 59223

B0401.BL

Dear Customers, Interested Parties and Tribes:

This letter is to notify you of the proposed Wibaux Wind Farm (Project) and to request your input on the Project. The Project would involve the construction of a 235-megawatt (MW) wind farm generating facility that includes between 40-70 wind turbine generators and associated pads. Other project components would include an electrical collection system, a new substation, a new overhead transmission line, access roads, energy storage facilities, meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance facility. The project would be on private land about one (1) mile west of Wibaux, in Wibaux County, Montana (see enclosed map).

The Project would interconnect with Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) existing Mingusville substation. As a result, WAPA will provide federal oversight of the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EA will evaluate the 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.

WAPA is announcing a public scoping period for the Project. 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 public scoping meeting (open house format) 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 Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., at the Wibaux County Courthouse.

Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

• By mail to:

Western Area Power Administration Attn: Mr. Gregory Liebelt P.O. Box 145 Fort Peck. MT 59223

- By fax to (406) 526-8501
- By email to <u>NEPA@wapa.gov</u> with "Wibaux Comment in the subject line"

• In writing at the public scoping open house meeting:

Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024 5:00-7:00 p.m. Wibaux County Courthouse 203 Wibaux St S Wibaux, MT 59353 For your input to be considered during preparation of the draft EA, WAPA requests comments by April 12th, 2024. If you have any questions, or need more information about the project, please contact WAPA using the methods listed above. Thank you for your time and interest.

Sincerely,

GREGORY LIEBELT Digitally signed by GREGORY LIEBELT Date: 2024.02.27 15:41:28

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Gregory Liebelt

Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosure