Programmatic Biological Assessment Project Consistency Evaluation Form* Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program

						(for USF	WS Internal U	se Only) 7	TAILS S7 Bundle #:	
								Indiv	vidual TAILS Log #:	
Project Proponent										
		Canada				onem	D .	0 1		
Proje	ect Name State		ell County Wir				Develope City	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ell County Wind Farm 2 LLC	
	County					_	State			
Township, Range &				9. 10. 17. 18. 19.	20, 21, 22:	_	POC		ldi / Larry Folks	
126T-78R-Section 1, 1	I3; 127T-7	7R-Sections 7				34;	Phone	-)-4964 / 619-380-1393	
127T-78R-Sections 1,	127T-78R-Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 36									
				Federal A	Agency/Poir	nt of C	ontact			
	/ildlife Sei	vice Ecolog	ical Services Fi	ield Office			-		Power Administration	
City: Pierre						City:	Billing			
State: South D POC: Natalie						State: POC:	Monta	na Russell		
Phone: 605-224		ext. 227			F	Phone:		55-2810		
For options in whit		Lone later	ata.							
For actions involving				icabla					X	NI
USFWS Wetland N City:	vianagem	ent District:	Not Appl	State:					Y USFWS Property Interest □	N X
POC:										
Phone:								Grass	sland Easement Exchange	
			Projo	ct Descriptio	n Overview	with I	Rost Esti	natos		
Construction	n Initiatio	n Date: C	2 2025		. Turbine Ht:			nates	Project Area Size: ~12,000 a	acres
	Construction Initiation Date:Q2 2025Max. Turbine Ht:551 ftProject Area Size:~12,000 acresConstruction Completion Date:Q4 2026Turbine Pad Size:2,400 ft2Wind Reserve Area Size:NA									
	umber Tu				of New Road				enerating Initiation Date: Q4 20	26
Turbine Tow	0	t (ft/m): 3	22 ft	Miles (km) Imp			,		roject Termination Date: Q4 20	
	Turbine RSA: 145,411 ft2 Miles (km) Existing County Rd: 19.09 mi (30.72 km)									
Turbine Size (MW),	Turbine Size (MW), Make & Model: GE 3.4 MW model									
Collector Lines from	Collector Lines from Turbine to Substation: Miles Buried: 30.64 miles Miles Overhead: 277 feet (0.05 miles)									
To help der	monstrate	e compliance	e with the BMP	s, Species Spe	cific Avoidand	ce and N	Ainimizatio	n Measures, a		
To help demonstrate compliance with the BMPs, Species Specific Avoidance and Minimization Measures, a complete application must include maps of the project area and associated species/habitat/buffer zones. Maps attached Yes X No										
Land Cover Types Affected										
				Acres		574100				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	'es No	Private	State	Federal	Subtotal	% T	otal		Description/Comments	
		1.0	0	0	1.0	3.5	Bau		and T. Butler 2016. Quantifying undistrubed (native)	
		6.3	0	0	6.3	22.	1 NLC	0 2021 Hay/Pasture	13. South Dakota State University Extension, Brooki and Herbaceous land cover types minus Native Gra	
		18.7	-	0	18.7	65.	abov	e D 2021 data		
, °		0	0	0	0			2024 data		
		0	0	0	0	0		2024 data; none ide	ntified	
		0	0	0	0	0		D 2021 data: none id		
-		2.5		0	2.5	8.8			pped land cover type(s)	
Other L Total		2.5	0	0	2.5		Thio		conservative estimate and based on maximum build	l-out.
TOLAI		20.5	0	0	20.5	10	0% Acre	age may change with	h final layout.	
	Plants	6	Inverte	brates	Fish	า		Birds	Mammals	
	P Fringed	Orchid	American E	Burying Beetle	🗌 Bull Tro	out	🛛 Pipii	ng Plover	Black-footed Ferret	
	ead's Milł	weed	Dakota Ski	pper	Pallid S	turgeon	🖄 Rufa	Red Knot	🗌 Canada Lynx	
🗌 Pr	rairie Bus	n Clover	Higgins Eye		 Topeka	-		oping Crane	Gray Wolf	
Ut	te Ladies'		Poweshiek					-	Grizzly Bear	
	P Fringed		Salt Creek						☐ Indiana Bat	
	/hitebark l		Scaleshell	-					── ⊠ N. Long-Eared Bat	

Programmatic Biological Assessment Project Consistency Evaluation Form* Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program

X Project proponent has reviewed the Programmatic Consistency Evaluation Forms, U.S. Fish and W Conservation Strategy.		
Commitment to incorporate applicable BMPs and Species	• • • • •	
Joon Park, VP of Central Development	Joon Park	1/14/2025
Project Proponent (Point of Contact)	Signatúře ^{7B53BD735406}	Date
Certification of Compliance with the Programmatic Wind	Energy Biological Assess	sment:
BRIAN PAULY	Digitally signed by BRIAN PAULY Date: 2025.04.21 15:51:59 -05'00'	
Western Area Power Administration (Point of Contact)	Signature	Date
Christopher Swanson, Project Leader	CHRISTOPH	ER SWANSON Digitally signed by CHRISTOPHER SWANSON Date: 2025.03.19 08:16:51 -05'00'
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Point of Contact)	Signature	Date
Natalie Gates, Fish and Wildlife Biologist	NATALIE GATES	Digitally signed by NATALIE GATES Date: 2025.03.18 14:32:41 -05'00'
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (ES Field Office Lead Biologist)	Signature	Date

*Version 2: March 2014

Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program Impact Information and Consistency Determination

		Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)
	Project Name:	Campbell County Wind Farm 2
	Company:	Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC
		Best Management Practices
X	Program and table 4.8 implemented where	s stated in the final <i>Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy</i> 5-1 of the final <i>Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program,</i> will be appropriate, during each phase of the project (i.e., site characterization, construction, operations, and though not all-inclusive, several of the more important BMPs for the conservation of this species follow.
	(e.g., wetlands,	towers shall not be located in sensitive habitats or in areas where resources known to be sensitive to human activities cultural resources, and listed species) are present. Installation of towers shall be scheduled to avoid disruption of wildlife tivities or other important behaviors, and the disturbed area will be minimized.
		wires on meteorological towers shall be avoided or minimized. Any needed guy wires shall have guys appropriately proved bird flight diverters.
	X Place marking o bird species.	devices on any newly constructed or upgraded transmission lines, where appropriate, within suitable habitats for sensitive
		Species-Specific Avoidance Measures
X	Conduct preconstruction project boundaries.	on evaluations and/or surveys in areas of potential occurrence to identify suitable habitat and areas of occurrence within
X		access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within the Missouri (including Niobrara River) and Yellowstone ns or any closer than 1.5 mi (2.4 km) from known/suitable sandbar habitat and reservoir shorelines with nesting, resting,
Χ		access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within the Platte River (including Loup and Elkhorn Rivers) ny closer than 1.5 mi (2.4 km) from known/suitable riverine habitat.
X		access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within 1.5 mi (2.4 km) of known sandpit nesting, resting, and ne Platte River (including Loup and Elkhorn Rivers) system.
Χ		ansmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 3.0 mi (4.8 km) of alkali lakes where piping plover nesting or those designated as critical habitat.
Χ	,	transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities in between any alkali lakes identified with a 3.0 mi (4.8 km) limit of the buffer zones are less than 3.0 mi (4.8 km) apart.
Χ		ransmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 1.5 mi (2.4 km) of riverine designated critical habitat or li wetlands designated as critical habitat.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

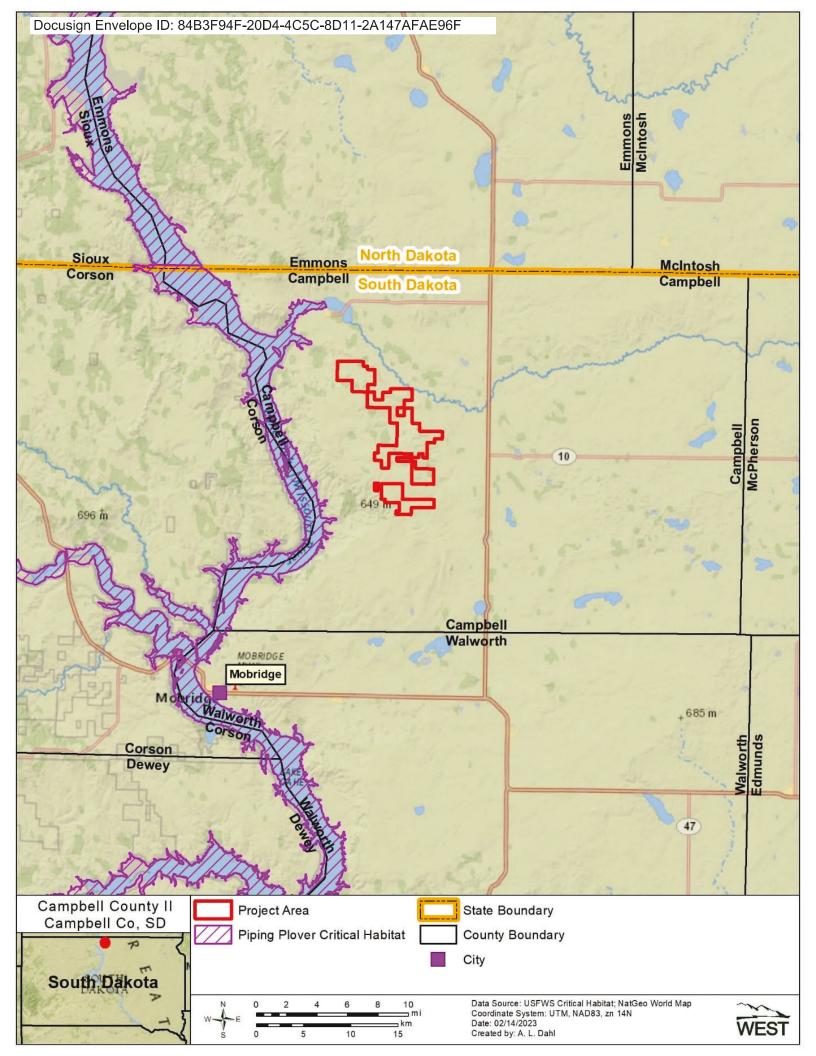
Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the piping plover have not been identified at this time. The identified avoidance measures together with general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species.

Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)

Impact Information							
Project within county with recorded piping plovers?	Yes	X No					
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	X Yes	No	Dates:	Avian Use Surveys (Jun. 2020 - May 2021 Mar. 2023 - Feb. 2024)			
Parties involved: <u>Campbell County Wind Farm 2</u>	LLC; WEST,	, Inc.					
Suitable habitat in or near project footprint?	X Yes	No					
Distance from suitable riverine, reservoir, or alkali lake habitat:	2.1	Mile	S				
Distance from designated critical habitat:	2.1	Mile	S				
Has habitat been surveyed to protocol?	Yes	X No	Dates of survey:				
Result of survey:	Occupi	ied (specie	s detected)	Not occupied (species not detected)			
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	X Yes	No.	•				
Distance from occupied piping plover habitat:	16.3	Mi	es				
Marking with bird flight diverters proposed?	X Yes	No.	•				
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	X Yes	No.	1				

Effects—Explanation of consistency determination with programmatic effects determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" or "no effect":

No piping plover observations were recorded during pre-construction avian use surveys. The nearest reported piping plover is a 2016 sighting approximately 16.3 miles from the Project (data from eBird, accessed Feb 15 2023). Most nearby reported observations of piping plover occurred near Mobridge, SD, about 16.5 miles west of the Project. The nearest suitable piping plover habitat is the Missouri River (designated critical habitat), approximately 2.1 miles from the Project's boundary. Piping plover may also use alkali lakes but no alkali lakes were observed within 3.0 miles of the Project footprint. However, in dry years, piping plover could occur within dried up wetlands. There is limited (e.g., dried up wetlands periodically) to no suitable habitat within the Project footprint. Bird flight diverters and marking devices specified in the Programmatic Biological Assessment would be installed and maintained on newly constructed overhead lines following industry standards (APLIC 2012) for the life of the Project. In summary, WAPA has considered this information and determined there is a low likelihood of collision risk and determined the Project may affect, not likely to adversely affect.



Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program Impact Information and Consistency Determination

Rufa red knot (Calidris canutus rufa)

	ame: Campbell County Wind Farm 2	
Company:		Dany: Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC
X	Program and t implemented	MPs, as stated in the final <i>Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy</i> table 4.5-1 of the final <i>Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program</i> , will be where appropriate, during each phase of the project (i.e., site characterization, construction, operations, and ing). Although not all-inclusive, several of the more important BMPs for the conservation of this species follow.
		e of guy wires on meteorological towers shall be avoided or minimized. Any needed guy wires shall have guys appropriately with approved bird flight diverters.
		parking devices on any newly constructed or ungraded transmission lines, where appropriate, within suitable babitate for sensitive

Place marking devices on any newly constructed or upgraded transmission lines, where appropriate, within suitable habitats for sensitive bird species.

Conduct preconstruction evaluations and/or surveys in areas of potential occurrence to identify suitable habitat and areas of occurrence within project boundaries.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

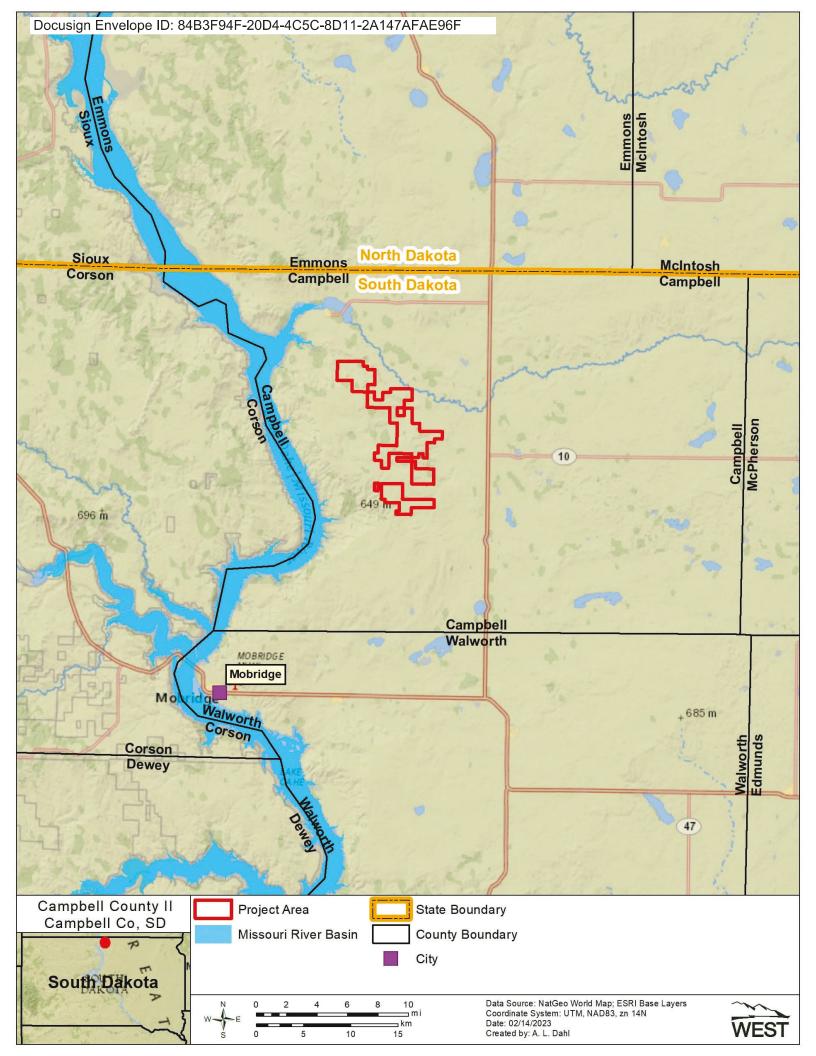
Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the rufa red knot have not been identified at this time. The identified general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species. Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the rufa red knot have not been identified at this time. The identified general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species.

Coordinate with the local USFWS field office regarding new species information or conservation measures during planning stages.

Project within county with recorded rufa red knot as a transient? Yes No Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS? No Dates: Avian Use Surveys (Jun. 2020 - May 20 Mar. 2023 - Feb. 2024)	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	
	2021
Parties involved: Campbell Country Wind Farm 2 LLC; WEST, Inc.	
Suitable stopover habitat in or near project footprint?	
Distance from suitable habitat: 2.1 Miles	
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	
Distance from suitable stopover habitat? 2.1 Miles	
Marking with approved bird flight diverters proposed?	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	

Effects-Explanation of consistency determination with programmatic effects determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" or "no

effect": Preconstruction evaluations determined the nearest potential rufa red knot habitat is approximately 2.1 miles from the Project's boundary at the Missouri River (see map). Rufa red knot may be found during migration, although avian use surveys have not opportunistically detect them. The nearest reported red knot (presumed to be rufa), was detected in Edmunds County in 2022 and is approximately 28.3 miles from the Project boundary. (Data from eBird, accessed Feb 15, 2023).



Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program Impact Information and Consistency Determination

		Whooping crane (Grus americana)
	Project Name:	Campbell County Wind Farm 2
	Company:	Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC
		Best Management Practices
X	<i>Program</i> and table 4. implemented where	s stated in the final <i>Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy</i> 5-1 of the final <i>Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program</i> , will be appropriate, during each phase of the project (i.e., site characterization, construction, operations, and though not all-inclusive, several of the more important BMPs for the conservation of this species follow.
		y wires on meteorological towers shall be avoided or minimized. Any needed guy wires shall have guys appropriately proved bird flight diverters.
		Species-Specific Avoidance Measures
For p	rojects that occur within	the portion of the whooping crane migration corridor that encompasses 95 percent of historic sightings:
X	Conduct preconstruct occurrence within proj	ion evaluations and/or surveys to identify wetlands that provide potentially suitable stopover habitat and areas of ect boundaries.
		ransmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 1 mi (1.6 km) of wetlands that provide suitable stopover 8 km) of the Platte or Niobrara Rivers in Nebraska.
X	Do not site turbines, tr	ansmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 5 mi (8 km) of designated critical habitat.
		Species-Specific Minimization Measures
For p	rojects that that occur w	vithin the portion of the whooping crane migration corridor that encompasses 95 percent of historic sightings:
Χ	Place approved bird fl 1 mi (1.6 km) of suitab	ight diverters on the top static wire on any new or upgraded overhead collector, distribution, and transmission lines within le stopover habitat.
X	for monitoring the proj of the project (or as de whooping crane sighti of the monitoring and	e for preventing whooping crane collisions with turbines during operations by establishing and implementing formal plans ject site and surrounding area for whooping cranes during spring and fall migration periods throughout the operational life etermined by the local USFWS field office) and shutting down turbines and/or construction activities within 2 mi (3.2 km) of ngs. Monitoring can be done by existing onsite personnel trained in whooping crane identification. Specific requirements I shutdown plan will be determined during preconstruction evaluations. Sightings of whooping cranes in the vicinity of ed to the appropriate USFWS field office immediately.

Instruct workers in the identification and reporting of sandhill and whooping cranes and to avoid disturbance of cranes present near project areas.

X The acreage of wetlands that are potentially suitable migratory stopover habitat located within a 0.5 mi (0.8 km) radius of turbines may be mitigated based upon site-specific evaluations.

Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program Impact Information and Consistency Determination

Whooping crane (Grus americana)

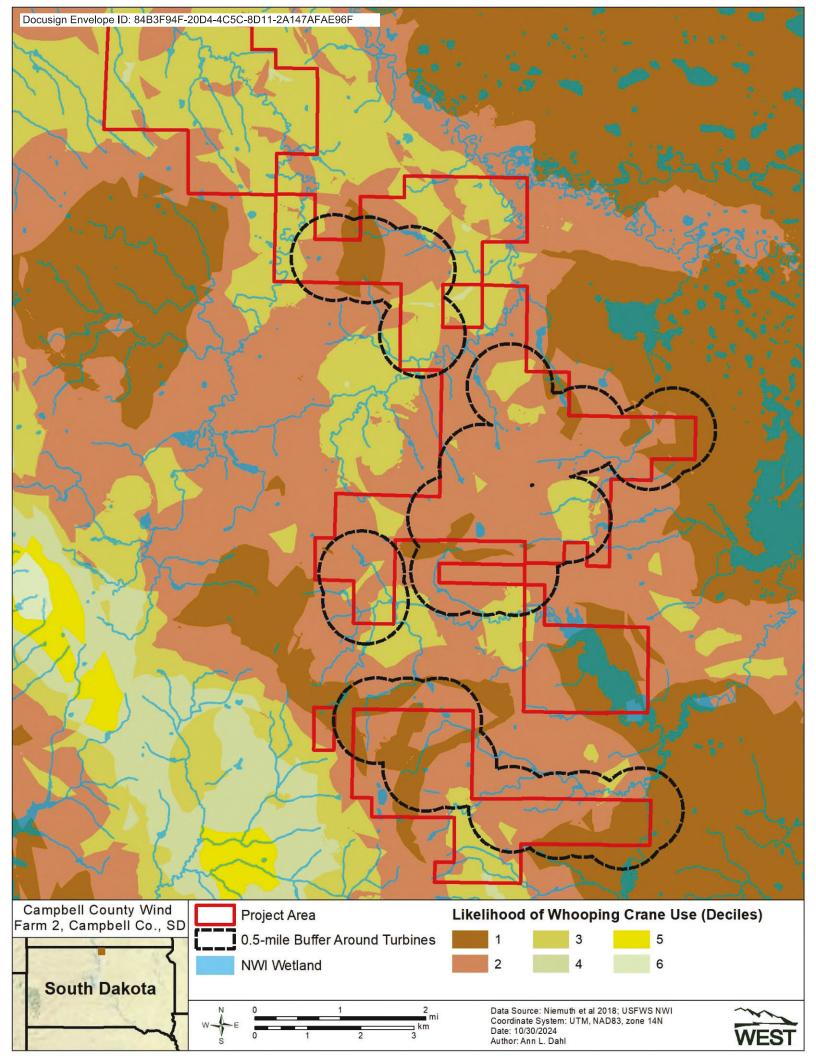
Impact Information							
Project within county with recorded whooping crane?	X Yes No						
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	X Yes No Dates: June 2020 - May 2021						
Parties involved: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 I	LLC, WEST, Inc						
Suitable habitat in or near project footprint?	X Yes No						
Distance from suitable stopover habitat:	0 Miles						
Distance from designated critical habitat?							
Distance from the Platte or Niobrara River?	 193.6 Miles						
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	X Yes No						
Distance from suitable stopover habitat?	< 1.0 Miles						
Marking with approved bird flight diverters proposed?	X Yes No						
Monitoring plan for spring/fall migration (copy attached)?	X Yes No						
Employees trained in identification of whooping cranes?	X Yes No						
Shut-down protocol for sitings within 2 mi (3.2 km) (attached)?	X Yes No						
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	X Yes No						

Effects—Explanation of consistency determination with programmatic effects determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" or "no effect":

The Campbell County Wind Farm 2 (Project) is tiering from the Upper Great Plains PEIS and Programmatic Biological Assessment (PBA). All conditions prescribed by the Consistency Evaluation Form for whooping crane have been met with the exception of the species-specific avoidance measure stipulating that Project infrastructure not be sited within one mile of wetlands that may provide suitable stopover habitat. Distance to wetlands were maximized for turbine siting to the extent possible, considering other project development constraints. We provide a mitigation solution for any remaining potential impacts following the species-specific minimization measure in the consistency form that indicates that impacts to potentially suitable migratory stopover habitat located within a 0.5 mile (mi) radius of turbines may be mitigated based on site-specific evaluation.

Niemuth et al. (2018) developed a model that used 13 variables to identify whooping crane relative probability of use across the landscape in North and South Dakota. This probability dataset was then divided into 10 equal-area bins, or deciles, to aid in conservation planning (Niemuth et al. 2018). For this Project, suitable habitat for whooping cranes was defined as wetlands (NWI; USFWS 2021) that intersect the five highest use deciles (Niemuth et al. 2018).

To determine the total acreage of suitable whooping crane stopover habitat for mitigation, the total acres of NWI that overlapped with the five deciles of highest whooping crane use (Niemuth et al. 2018) within 0.5 mi of the 29 proposed and 2 alternate turbine locations was calculated, as the Project has committed to mitigation for a total of 31 turbines. This resulted in a total of 132.6 acres of wetlands for mitigation (see map) that the Project commits to fund (including third-party administrative fees) through a third-party mitigation provider within the South Dakota 95% whooping crane corridor and within the top five deciles of the Niemuth et al. (2018) model, or any 132.6 wetland acres within the SD 50% whooping crane corridor. Wetlands shall be protected for perpetuity and may include existing, restored, or created wetlands. These acres will be identified, and documentation of receipt will be provided by the Project and third-party prior to project interconnection to both WAPA and USFWS. Furthermore, bird flight diverters and marking devices specified in the Programmatic Biological Assessment would be installed and maintained on newly constructed overhead lines following industry standards (APLIC 2012) for the life of the Project. In summary, WAPA has considered this information and determined that the Project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the whooping crane.



Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

Project Name: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 Company: Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC

Best Management Practices

All general BMPs, as stated in table 2.3-2 of the final *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program* and table 4.5-1 of the final *Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program,* would be implemented as applicable, during all phases of the project (i.e., site characterization, construction, operations, and decommissioning).

Species-Specific Avoidance Measures

Species-specific avoidance and minimization measures for this form have been updated in response to the 2023 uplisting of the northern long-eared bat (NLEB; *Myotis septentrionalis*) to endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the availability of the USFWS's October 2024 *Land-based Wind Energy Voluntary Operational Avoidance Guidance for the Northern Long-eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis*) (the wind guidance). This form is aligned with that guidance and will be updated if/when the wind guidance is updated. The wind guidance articulates how (new or existing) land-based wind energy facilities can operate such that incidental take of NLEB under the ESA is not "reasonably certain to occur" and describes standard post-construction monitoring to validate the effectiveness of the guidance at individual wind facilities. For wind projects within the current wind range of the species, the presence of migrating NLEBs is assumed in the airspace affected by wind turbines while the bats are migrating, even if the species is not detected onsite during summer surveys. The map used by the USFWS when evaluating the impacts of wind projects to the NLEB can be found here: https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/land-based-wind-energy-voluntary-avoidance-guidance-northern-long-eared-bat.

For projects within the current wind range and/or consultation range (potential summer habitat) of the NLEB, contact the local USFWS Ecological Services Field Office (Field Office) to coordinate habitat evaluations and determine if the project area contains or is within 3.0 miles (4.83 km) of recent summer confirmed NLEB summer occurrence record(s). The USFWS recommends turbines be sited > 3 miles (4.8 km) away from recent summer occurrences and > 1,000 ft (300 meters) away from suitable roosting habitat to the edge of the turbine rotor-swept area.

If species summer presence is not known, summer presence may be assumed if the project falls within the consultation range of the NLEB. If a project proponent instead chooses to conduct surveys to determine summer presence/probable absence, a survey plan aligned with the most recent version of the *Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines* (survey guidelines) shall be submitted to the USFWS for approval by the local Field Office prior to conducting preconstruction surveys within suitable foraging and roosting habitat.

Within confirmed or assumed NLEB summer habitat, do not remove live or dead trees during the NLEB's active period, including the spring and fall migratory periods. Avoid tree cutting in a way that would fragment a forested connection (e.g., tree line) between two or more forest patches of at least 5 acres. For further guidance on tree removal, coordinate with the local Field Office prior to any removal activities.

Identify potential NLEB hibernacula within project boundaries and surrounding 10 mile buffer as recommended in the USFWS's Potential Hibernaculum Survey Guidance (App. H of the survey guidelines). Do not site turbines ≤ 10 miles (16 km) from NLEB hibernacula.

Disturbance of hibernacula is prohibited throughout the year. Do not clear woody vegetation, snags, dead/dying trees, and trees of any size \leq 0.25 miles (400 meters) from NLEB hibernacula nor \leq 5 miles from NLEB hibernacula during spring staging and fall swarming periods. Do not conduct drilling or blasting activities \leq 5 miles from NLEB hibernacula during the entire active bat season.

Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

Implement a seasonal blanket curtailment (recommended), an algorithm-based informed curtailment (ABIC), or real-time acoustic-activated smart curtailment strategy approved by USFWS that are at least as protective as blanket curtailment. Blanket curtailment is described in the NLEB wind guidance. Algorithm-based and real-time acoustic curtailment strategies are described in *Land-based Wind Energy Voluntary Operational Avoidance Guidance for the Tricolored Bat (Perimyotis subflavus).* If using algorithm-based or real-time acoustic curtailment strategies, leave the following seasonal blanket curtailment box unchecked, and elaborate further in the explanation of conservation measures section.

Spring (migration/staging): From 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise, feather turbine blades when wind speeds are below the manufacturer's cut-in speed and temps are > 40°F (4.44°C).

Summer (pup season):

- If the project is outside the consultation range or probable summer absence is determined based on completion of surveys following the USFWS NLEB survey guidelines, continue feathering below manufacturer's cut-in speeds as described above for the spring season.
- If summer presence is either assumed or determined based on completion of surveys following the USFWS NLEB survey guidelines, from 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise, feather turbines and do not cut-in until wind speeds are ≥ 5.0 m/sec (11.2 mph) when temps are > 40°F (4.44°C).

Fall (migration/swarming): From 1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise, feather turbines and do not cut-in until wind speeds are ≥ 5.0 m/sec (11.2 mph) when temps are $> 40^{\circ}$ F (4.44°C).

Seasonal Dates for Blanket Curtailment in UGP Service Area States						
STATES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL			
IA, NE	April 1 – May 14	May 15 – July 31	Aug. 1 – Nov. 15			
MN, MT, ND, SD Plains	April 15 – May 31	June 1 – Aug. 15	Aug. 16 – Oct. 31			
SD Black Hills	May 1 – June 14	June 15 – Aug 31	Aug 16 – Sept. 30			

- For projects implementing blanket or smart curtailment, conduct <u>1 year of standardized post-construction monitoring</u> during the entire NLEB active season (IA, NE = Apr 1 - Nov 15; MN, MT, ND, SD Plains = Apr 15 - Oct 31; SD Black Hills = May 1 – Sept 30) that meets or exceeds PCM frequencies, g-values, and other criteria, including bat identification requirements, outlined in the wind guidance. Additional efficacy monitoring, as outlined in the NLEB wind guidance, would be based on results of previous PCMM efforts. For projects implementing ABIC curtailment, adhere to criteria in the *Land-based Wind Energy Voluntary Operational Avoidance Guidance for the Tricolored Bat (Perimyotis subflavus)*. Monitoring may be modified if no northern long-eared bats are detected as outlined in the wind guidelines.
- Annual operating reports (showing turbine operation statistics relative to date, time, and environmental factors), regardless of monitoring effort, shall be submitted to the USFWS local Field Office by January 31, annually.
- Any take of listed species shall be reported to the local USFWS Field Office and USFWS Office of Law Enforcement within 24 hours of discovery.

Seasonal Blanket Curtailment

Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form
Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program
Impact Information and Consistency Determination

Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)
Impact Information
Within current consultation range of NLEB (potential summer habitat present)?
Coordinated with USFWS on NLEB record(s) in area? 🔲 Yes 🗌 No
Preconstruction summer and/or hibernacula habitat evaluations conducted in coordination with USFWS? IN Yes Dates:
>1,000 Ninimum distance from rotor-swept areas to suitable roosting habitat (1,000 ft recommended) ft.
Habitat within 1000 ft of rotor-swept areas acres.
Distance from closest proposed turbine location to known hibernacula (>10 mi required for turbine siting; >0.25 mi required for woody vegetation clearing): >180 miles
Survey study plans submitted to and approved by USFWS prior to summer surveys? 🔲 Yes 🗌 No
Summer and hibernacula habitat surveyed for NLEB July 31 - August 9, 2023 presence/probable absence using the USFWS's survey guidelines? I Yes No Dates of survey:
Survey report provided to USFWS? 🔳 Yes 🗌 No
Results of surveys: 🗌 Occupied (spp. detected) 🔲 Probable Absence (not detected)
Version of USFWS survey guidelines used:year or version
Manufacturer's turbine cut-in speed: <u>3.0</u> m/sec
Turbine cut-in speed during fall migration risk: <u>5.0</u> m/sec

3.0

Turbine cut-in speed during summer risk:

m/sec

No

Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

Explanation of conservation measures to be implemented and effects determination of "no effect" or "not likely to adversely affect" (attach additional pages as necessary):

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has been coordinating with Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and RWE on behalf of the Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC (Project Company) regarding their development of the Campbell County Wind Farm 2 (Project), an approximately 99 MW wind energy facility in Campbell County, South Dakota. This form documents compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended) for northern long-eared bats (Myotis septentrionalis) following the Service's Land-based Wind Energy Voluntary Avoidance Guidance for the Northern Long-eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis) (dated August 2024) using the blanket curtailment approach.

Pre-construction surveys of the Campbell County Wind Farm 2 wind facility from July 31 - August 9, 2023 indicated no summer presence of the northern long-eared bat. In addition, the Service is not aware of any northern long-eared bat maternity colonies within 3 miles of the project area outlined in the Guidance. The Campbell County Wind Farm 2 can operate project turbines during the summer risk periods June 1 - August 15 feathered below the Project's turbine(s) manufacturer's cut-in speeds.

To ensure that take of the federally listed northern long-eared bat is not likely to occur, Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC commits to the following operating procedures (Table 1), monitoring, and reporting procedures for their Project:

Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

Table 1. Operational measures (cut-in speeds in miles per hour [mph] and meters per second [m/s]) by date, for NLEB by season, at the Campbell County Wind Farm 2 wind facility in Campbell County, South Dakota. At minimum, turbines should be feathered below the curtailment wind speeds starting 30 minutes before sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise when temperatures measured at the nacelle are above 40°F.

April 15 -	6.7 mph (3.0 m/s)	From ½ hour before
May 31		sunset to ½ hour after
		sunrise
	6.7 mph (3.0 m/s)	From ½ hour before
	0.7 mph (0.0 m/s)	sunset to ½ hour after
June 1 -		sunrise
August 15		
	11.2 mmh (F.0.m/a)	From 1/ hour hoforo
	11.2 mpn (5.0 m/s)	From ½ hour before sunset to ½ hour after
Colober 01		
		sunrise
	May 31	May 31 June 1 - August 15 August 16 - 11.2 mph (5.0 m/s)

The Project should feather turbines below these cut-in speeds. Feathering occurs when turbine blades are pitched parallel with the prevailing wind direction to slow rotation speeds (generally less than 1 rotation per minute).

In addition to implementing the operational measures specified in Table 1, Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC will develop and implement a detailed post-construction mortality monitoring plan (PCMM) in coordination with the Service's South Dakota Field Office that will include specifics on the numbers of turbines searched, size of plots, frequency of searches, details on bias correction trials, and statistical analyses. By January 31 of each year Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC will provide an annual report to the Service's South Dakota Field Office that describes the operational measures implemented that year, along with the methods and results of the monitoring as prescribed in the detailed PCMM plan created in coordination with the Service. The framework for the monitoring program is as follows:

• The Project will develop and implement a detailed monitoring plan in consultation with the Service and will use EoA to design a post-construction mortality monitoring plan to achieve a minimum cumulative detection probability of g=0.2 for NLEB. The plan will specify data to be collected, searcher efficiency trials, carcass persistence trials, area correction, and other appropriate measures. The Project may periodically consult with the Service regarding cost-effective and logistically feasible changes to the monitoring approach and implementation of applicable new methods or regulatory changes.

• Efficacy monitoring protocol will consist of two components: (1) post-construction fatality monitoring for one year designed to achieve a minimum detection probability (g) of 0.2 during the entire active season for NLEB bats from April 15 - October 3; and (2) post- construction fatality monitoring every 7 years afterward designed to achieve a g of 0.08 during the entire active season for NLEB bats April 15 - October 31.

• If any northern long-eared bat carcasses are found during PCMM, Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC will report the fatality within 24 hours of discovery to the Service's South Dakota Field Office (605-224-8693) and the Service's Office of Law Enforcement (OLE; 303-236-7540). If bat identification of a found carcass is not possible, genetic testing will occur, while waiting for results the project will continue to operate. In addition, the Project will immediately work with the Service's South Dakota Field Office to determine and implement avoidance measures for northern long-eared bats (e.g., cut-in speeds).

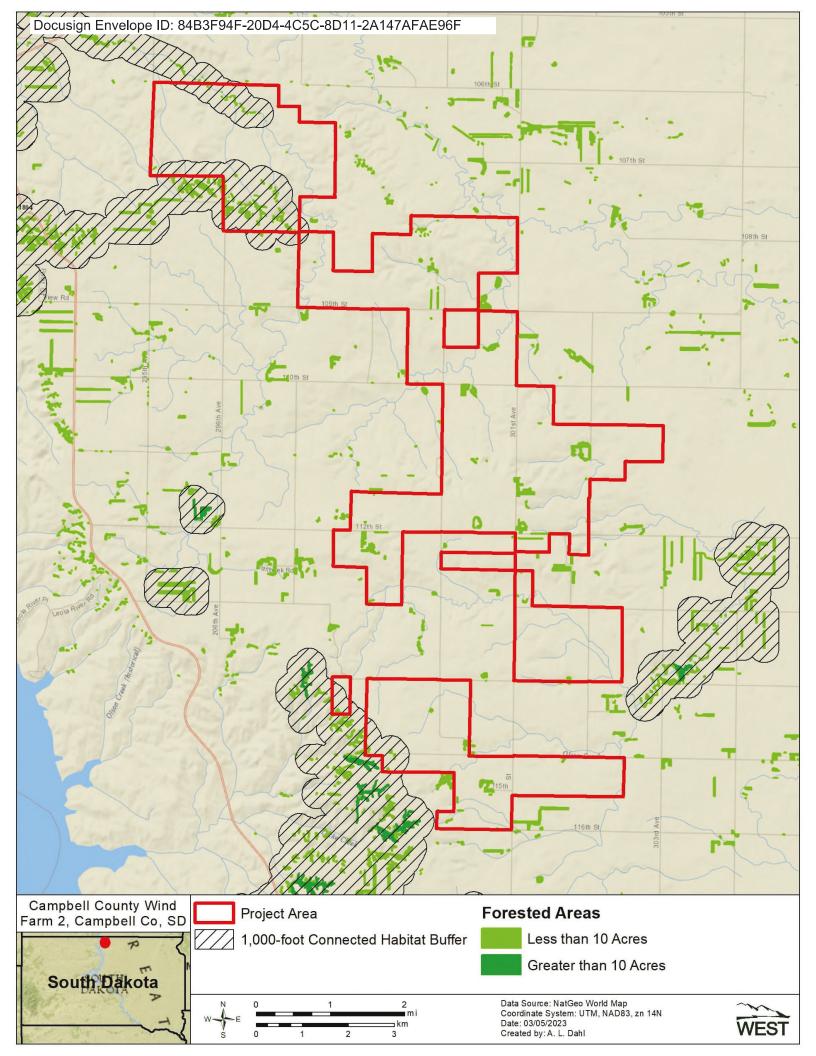
Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

Annual reports will be sent to the appropriate local Field Office by January 31st following standardized PCMM efforts of the previous year. Annual reports will reaffirm that operational commitments were implemented (i.e., operating at cut-in wind speeds and if post- construction mortality monitoring was implemented as designed). Annual reports with post-construction mortality monitoring will include compiled bat fatality data for all bat species using this reporting form (Region 3 Wind Post-Construction Monitoring Bat Reporting Form | FWS.gov). Once the report is submitted, the Project should continue to operate and the Service will provide email confirmation that the NLEB methods herein are still valid within 90 days after a report is received.

As of the date of this signed form, WAPA concludes, through coordination and ongoing discussions with the Service and that the Campbell County Wind Farm 2 is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB. Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC commits in writing to WAPA and the Service via signature and inclusion of this NLEB consistency form, that the above measures will be implemented while the Service's final NLEB wind guidance is in effect. If applicable, the Project Company would coordinate these plans with the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks (605-223-7660) if the NLEB is a state-listed species or species of conservation concern.

The South Dakota Field Office is not authorized to provide guidance regarding the Service's OLE investigative priorities involving federally listed species. However, the Service, WAPA, and Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLC understands that OLE carries out its mission to protect ESA-listed species through investigation and enforcement, as well as by fostering relationships with individuals, companies, and industries that have taken effective steps to minimize the likelihood of take such that it is not reasonably certain to occur for northern long-eared bats. It is not possible to absolve individuals or companies from liability for unpermitted take of listed species, even if such take occurs despite the implementation of appropriate minimization strategies to which the likelihood of take is not reasonably certain to occur, as described in this guidance. However, the OLE focuses its enforcement resources on individuals and companies that take listed species without identifying and implementing all reasonable, prudent, and effective measures to minimize the likelihood of take such that take is not reasonably certain to occur. To comply with the take prohibitions of the ESA, the facility would be willing to work with the Field Office to implement avoidance measures (e.g., not operating at night during the period of risk, etc.) and consider applying for an incidental take permit under 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, if needed.

If the Campbell County Wind Farm 2, LLL follows the measures above, the Campbell County Wind Farm 2 project is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB.



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Browsers (for SIGNERS):	Internet Explorer 6.0?, Mozilla FireFox 1.0,
	NetScape 7.2 (or above)
Email:	Access to a valid email account
Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum
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	•Allow per session cookies
	•Users accessing the internet behind a Proxy
	Server must enable HTTP 1.1 settings via
	proxy connection

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