



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

B0401.BL

AUG 22 2018

Dear Customers and Interested Parties:

This letter is to notify you of the proposed Philip Wind Project (Project) and to request your input on the Project. The Project would involve construction of a 200-260 megawatt (MW) wind farm generating facility that includes approximately 60-80 turbines and associated pads. Other Project components would include an underground power collection system, a new substation, access roads, and a maintenance and operation center. The Project would be located on private land approximately fourteen (14) miles north of Philip, in Haakon County, South Dakota (see enclosed map dated August 20, 2018).

The Project would interconnect with Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) New Underwood-Philip Tap 230-kV Transmission Line. As a result, WAPA will provide federal oversight of the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. 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 Tuesday, September 11, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the American Legion Hall.

Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- By mail to:
Western Area Power Administration
Attn: Ms. Christina Gomer
2900 4th Avenue North
Billings, MT 59101
- By fax to (406) 255-2900
- By email to gomer@wapa.gov
- In writing at the public scoping open house meeting:
September 11, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
American Legion Hall
701 W. Pine Street
Philip, SD 57567

For your input to be considered during preparation of the draft EA, WAPA requests comments by October 12, 2018. 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 in the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alyssa Fellow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Alyssa Fellow
Biologist

Enclosure