

**m** MINNESOTA  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

February 13, 2020

Katrina Hapka, Environmental Review Planner  
Environmental Quality Board  
520 Lafayette Road North  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Petition for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for Freeborn Wind

Dear Ms. Hapka:

Enclosed is the Public Utilities Commission's response to the January 3, 2020 petition requesting preparation of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the Freeborn Wind Project.

At its February 6, 2020 Agenda Meeting, the Commission made the following decision:

Deny the petition on the merits pursuant to Minn. R. 4410.1100, subp. 6, and 4410.1700, subp. 7.

Deny the petition pursuant to Minn. R. 4410.4300, subp. 3(D), and 7854.0500, subp. 7.

Authorize the Executive Secretary to issue a Record of Decision on the matter based on the enclosed draft version, incorporating any Commission modifications or technical corrections by staff.

Pursuant to Minn. R. 4410.1100, subp. 8, this letter serves as notice that the Commission has declined the request to prepare an EAW. The Commission will memorialize its decision and set forth its rationale by written order, and maintain a record of its decision on the need for an EAW.

Sincerely,

*Michelle Anthony for*

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary



Cc:

Carol Overland – Association of Freeborn County Landowners (e-Service)

Christina Brusven - Project Proposer's Representative (e-Service)

Lisa Agrimonti - Project Proposer's Representative (e-Service)

Matthew Harris - Xcel Energy (email)

Denise Wilson, Director - Environmental Review Program, MN EQB (email)

*EQB Monitor* (online submittal - <https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/eqb-monitor>)

Commission Docket Nos. E-002/WS-17-410 and E-002/TL-17-322

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Robin Rice, hereby certify that I have this day, served a true and correct copy of the following document to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list by electronic filing, electronic mail, courier, interoffice mail or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**  
**Letter to EQB**

Docket Number

E-002/WS-17-410 and E-002/TL-17-322

Dated this **13th** day of **February, 2020**

/s/ Robin Rice