

Public hearing and comment period:

Prairie Wind's Transmission Line Proposal

Prairie Wind Transmission, LLC (Prairie Wind) has filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) seeking approval for the construction of a double circuit 345 kV transmission line in Sedgwick, Sumner, Harper, and Barber Counties, Kansas.

Public Hearing

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning the proposed transmission line that Prairie Wind has requested. This hearing will allow the Prairie Wind customers to learn more about the proposed transmission line and provide an opportunity for customers to present testimony or comments for the Commission's review.

The public hearing will take place in two parts. First, during the question and answer period, representatives of Prairie Wind, the KCC staff, and CURB will be available to answer customers' questions pertaining to the proposed transmission line. In the second part of the hearing, customers will be allowed to make formal statements to the three-member Commission.

The KCC has scheduled a public hearing regarding Prairie Wind's transmission line proposal:

Thursday, April 07, 2011

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Harper Elementary School (Band Room)

1317 Walnut Street

Harper, Kansas 67058

The Commission will accept written comments from Prairie Wind customers through April 18, 2011. Comments regarding this case should reference Docket No. 11-PWTE-600-MIS and should be sent to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to the Commission at public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov.

A complete copy of Prairie Wind Transmission, LLC's application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at <http://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/portal/kcc/page/docket-docs/PSC/DocketDetails.aspx?DocketId=edafcc71-e4ea-45e9-bb2c-65015484fdde>. The KCC has until June 28, 2011 to make a decision on the proposed transmission line.

Prairie Wind's construction of a double circuit 345kV transmission line

On February 28, 2011, Prairie Wind Transmission, LLC (Prairie Wind) filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) for a siting permit granting Prairie Wind the right to construct a double circuit 345kV transmission line from Westar Energy, Inc.'s (Westar) Wichita substation to a new 345 kV substation near Medicine Lodge, Kansas (the "Thistle

Substation”), to be constructed by ITC Great Plains, LLC (ITC) and from the Thistle Substation to the Kansas/Oklahoma border.

With the Commission’s approval, Prairie Wind would begin working with affected landowners to acquire easements in July 2011. Construction would take approximately three years beginning in January 2012, if right-of-way can be acquired in time, so that the project would be completed in December 2014.

The two line segments to be built by Prairie Wind constitute a significant portion of a Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) project that has been referred to as the “Y Plan”. The Y Plan has been identified by the SPP as one of a group of five regional priority projects that as a group will provide substantial benefits to Kansas and the SPP region. Prairie Wind’s application states the increased capacity provided by Prairie Wind’s proposed line is expected to reduce transmission constraints significantly and improve reliability in the region facilitating the import and export of power to and from Westar Energy’s control area and Kansas. Prairie Wind’s application also states the additional capacity will support economic dispatch of generation in the region as well as off-system sales and purchases, all of which will benefit Westar Energy’s customers and other customers in Kansas. The application further states the proposed line will also provide needed additional capacity to move power from wind farms located in remote areas to load centers and help facilitate the development of wind generation in the state of Kansas.

Additional Information Available

For more information about the transmission line proposal, public hearing or technical hearing, contact the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Any person requiring special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act needs to give notice to the Commission at least 10 days before the scheduled hearing date.

The Citizens’ Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) can also be contacted 785-271-3200 for further information.