

NEWS RELEASE Feb. 17, 2016 For Immediate Release, Contact: Julie Fedorchak, (701) 391-1140 Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4091 Brian P. Kalk, (701) 261-0373

## Public Hearing Scheduled in Dickinson for Proposed Brady Wind Energy Center and Associated Transmission Line

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold two public hearings on Wednesday, March 2, regarding a proposal to construct a wind farm and associated electric transmission line in Stark County.

Brady Wind, LLC (a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources), has submitted applications for permits for the Brady Wind Energy Center and an associated transmission line. The wind farm will have a capacity of approximately 150 megawatts and will consist of up to 87 wind turbine generators and associated facilities. Associated facilities include access roads, electrical collection systems and cabling, a collection substation, an operation and maintenance building, meteorological towers, a construction laydown area, and a temporary turbine storage area. The project area would encompass approximately 29,981 acres in southern Stark County, 15 miles south of Dickinson. It is estimated the permanent project structures will occupy up to 100 acres during operation. Total cost of the wind project is estimated at \$250 million.

The project will also include a 19-mile long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The line would connect the wind project to the Belfield to Rhame 230-kV transmission line approximately 19 miles southeast of Dickinson and will transmit power into the Basin Electric Power Cooperative transmission system. The project would also include a new 30-acre switchyard at the western end of the line. Total cost of the transmission line is estimated at \$12 million.

(Note to the media: Maps showing the proposed location of the wind project and transmission line have been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

## Details for the public hearings are as follows:

- When: Wednesday, March 2, 2016
  9 a.m. MST (10 a.m. CST) Transmission Line
  11 a.m. MST (Noon CST) Wind Project
- Where: Dickinson City Hall
  99 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East, Dickinson, N.D. 58601

The hearings provide an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC's official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at the hearing to be part of the record. People with concerns, questions or support/opposition for the project are encouraged to attend the hearings and present their information. <u>Information received after the</u>

hearings will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission's decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, grain elevators, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or <a href="https://www.psc.nd.gov">www.psc.nd.gov</a>.

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