

**Wind IX Iowa Project  
Status Update for the Iowa Utilities Board  
May 29, 2015**

**FILED WITH  
Executive Secretary  
June 01, 2015**

**IOWA UTILITIES BOARD**

**A. Background**

This is MidAmerican Energy Company's ("MidAmerican") status update for the Iowa Utilities Board ("Board") in response to the Board's January 20, 2015 *Order Approving Settlement with Modifications*, in Docket No. RPU-2014-0002. This document is offered in fulfillment of the requirements established in the said Board order.

**B. Status for Wind IX Iowa Project (Docket No. RPU-2014-0002)**

The Wind IX facilities will be installed at two sites: the 7-MW Highland II site, in O'Brien County, which will include three turbines, and the 154.3-MW Adams site, in Adams County, which will include 64 turbines. Through April 30, 2015 expenditures on Wind IX total \$41.3 million. The currently estimated project cost is \$230.9 million, or \$1,431/kW. The three largest components of the \$230.9 million total are: (i) \$ [REDACTED] million spent or committed for the purchase of the wind turbines from Siemens Energy, Inc., (ii) MidAmerican is negotiating the contract for balance of plant services and it is estimated at approximately \$ [REDACTED] million, (iii) site acquisition costs are estimated at \$ [REDACTED] million. The remaining project costs are estimated at \$27.9 million, approximately 12% of the total estimated cost, for general project expenses such as substation and interconnection costs, studies, landowner construction payments, AFUDC, etc. The estimated project cost of \$1,431/kW compares favorably to the cost cap of \$1,500/kW. The project is expected to be in-service by December 15, 2015.

Actual Operating and Capital Costs of Wind IX

There have been no actual operating costs to date. Capital costs are covered in the paragraph immediately above.

Amount of Customer Rate Relief Flowed Through the EAC or Returned to Ratepayers in Some Other Manner.

None to date.

Retail Fuel Cost Reduction Attributable to Wind IX.

None to date.

Income from PTCs, REC Sales, Capacity Sales, and Net System Benefits Attributed to Wind IX.

None to date.

**C. Transmission Studies and Off-site transmission**

Please see the transmission related discussion under the project updates below.

As stated above, the Wind IX facilities will be installed at two sites: the 7-MW Highland II site in O'Brien County and the 154.3-MW Adams site in Adams County.

**7-MW Highland II Site**

The Highland II site is a wind farm acquired from Highland Wind Energy LLC, that will interconnect to the 345 kV system at a new substation in O'Brien County. This wind farm site received an executed Conditional Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) dated July 22, 2014. No added transmission studies were required beyond what was completed for the Wind VIII Highland site, a summary of which is covered in MidAmerican's March 2, 2015 Wind VIII update.

Operation of the site is guided by the Conditional GIA. Until all identified upgrades and contingent facilities are completed, the site will be limited to a 475 MW injection limit and subject to the Annual ERIS Evaluation and the Quarterly Operating Limit (QOL) studies which may limit the injection further. As reported previously in MidAmerican's March 2, 2015 Wind VIII update, in response to input from stakeholders, including MidAmerican, MISO reviewed its QOL review process. MISO's revised process reduces, but does not eliminate, the possibility of any future limitations at the site while the site is part of the QOL review.

**154.3-MW Adams Site**

The Adams site, located in Adams County, is a wind farm acquired from Adams Wind Energy LLC, that interconnects to the 161 kV system at a new substation in Adams County. This wind farm site has received an executed Provisional Generator Interconnection Agreement (GIA) dated March 23, 2015. The site continues to be studied in the MISOAUG-2014-DPP group.

Operation of the site is guided by the Provisional GIA. Until all identified upgrades and contingent facilities are completed, the site will be subject to the Annual ERIS Evaluation and the Quarterly Operating Limit (QOL) studies which may limit injection. As reported previously in MidAmerican's March 2, 2015 Wind VIII update, in response to input from stakeholders, including MidAmerican, MISO reviewed its QOL review process. MISO's revised process

reduces, but does not eliminate, the possibility of any future limitations at the site while the site is part of the QOL review.

**Next Report**

MidAmerican would propose to harmonize the filing date of its Wind IX updates with the filing dates observed for the Wind VII and Wind VIII updates for the Board. If the Board has no objection to that practice, MidAmerican would propose to file its next Wind IX update on or before September 1, 2015.