Chokecherry and Sierra Madre
Wind Energy Project

BLM

High Desert District–Rawlins Field Office, Wyoming

Welcome

In 2008, Power Company of Wyoming LLC (PCW) applied to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for right-of-way grants to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project (CCSM) on federal lands within the CCSM Project Site. On June 29, 2012, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the CCSM Project was issued, and on October 9, 2012, the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed. In the ROD, the BLM determined that more than 200,000 acres within the CCSM Project Site are suitable for wind energy development subject to the requirements described under the Selected Alternative.

The CCSM EIS and ROD did not identify individual turbine or infrastructure component locations. Subsequent environmental assessments (EAs) tiered to the EIS will analyze site-specific plans of development. The first EA to be analyzed is for the infrastructure components and scoping was held from September 9 to November 4, 2013. The second EA will address the Phase I Wind Turbine Development. Scoping for the second EA will occur from December 6, 2013 through January 14, 2014.

Scoping is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process. During scoping, federal agencies solicit comments and information from the public, agencies, and tribes. The BLM is conducting two scoping meetings to provide an opportunity for you to learn more about the project, provide comments, and identify potential issues. The BLM encourages your participation and is providing you opportunities to ask questions, express any concerns, and submit your comments. The scoping period will close January 14, 2014.

Scoping Meetings

December 16, 2013
Jeffrey Center
315 W. Pine St.
Rawlins, WY
4-6:30 p.m.*

December 17, 2013
Platte Valley Community Center
210 W. Elm Ave.
Saratoga, WY
4-6:30 p.m.*

**Each meeting will include presentations at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.*

Site-specific Environmental Assessment for Phase I Wind Turbine Development

The Phase I Wind Turbine Development for the CCSM Project consists of 500 wind turbines along with associated facilities and infrastructure designed to provide approximately 1,500 megawatts (MW) of clean, renewable wind energy. The Phase I Wind Turbine Development is located in the westernmost portions of the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Development Areas; each component has been micro-sited to avoid and minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources while maximizing the efficiency of the CCSM Project. In addition to the 500 wind turbines, the Phase I Wind Turbine Development includes approximately 170 miles of access roads, 65 miles of overhead collection and transmission lines, nine meteorological towers, two water stations, three long-term facilities (the Operations Center, Chokecherry Maintenance Building, and Sierra Madre Maintenance Building), and temporary facilities including the construction camp and laydown yards. The long-term facilities are required to operate and maintain the CCSM Project, while the temporary facilities will be used to meet the CCSM Project needs during construction.

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How to Provide Comments

Please complete a comment form and place it in the comment box or give it to a BLM representative at the scoping meeting. Comments can also be submitted in the following ways and must be received by January 14, 2014 to be considered in the EA:

By facsimile: 307-328-4224

By email: blm_wy_pcw_windfarm@blm.gov

By U.S. Mail:

Bureau of Land Management
Rawlins Field Office
Heather Schultz, Project Manager
P.O. Box 2407
1300 N. Third St.
Rawlins, WY 82301

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be publicly available at any time. While you may request we withhold your personal information from public view, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

Making Substantive Comments

Substantive comments help ensure important issues are identified and addressed in the EA.

- Be specific. Give defined reasons, not broad statements or opinions.
- Share site-specific observations, data, or knowledge.
- Detail important environmental and community factors.
- Be timely. Comments must be received by January 14, 2014.

Additional project information is available on the project website at: http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/documents/rfo/Chokecherry.html

Site-specific NEPA Tiering Analysis (to be performed)

Site-specific Environmental Assessments	
Haul Road and Facilities for Phase I	EA 1 9/2013 - 6/2014
West Sinclair Rail Facility	
Road Rock Quarry	
Phase I Wind Turbine Development	EA 2 12/2013 - 9/2014
Phase II Wind Turbine Development (including Haul Road and Facilities for Phase II)	EA 3 (dates to be determined)

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