

Appendix A: Agency and Tribal Correspondence



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Lindsay Terry
6020 28th Avenue South
Suite 102
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2700

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Meghan:

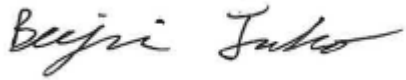
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Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko

Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



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February 7, 2024

Meghan Brown
332 Minnesota Street
Suite E1500
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

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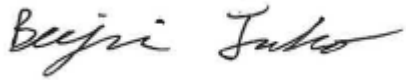
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Ryan Rasmusson
411 Broadway South PO Box 1147
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Ryan:

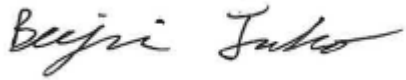
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February 7, 2024

David Walker
411 Broadway South PO Box 1147
Albert Lea, MN 56007

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Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear David:

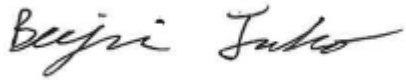
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Jason Jacobusse
29053 762nd Avenue
Clarks Grove, MN 56016

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Jason:

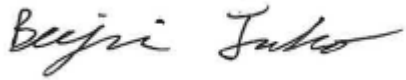
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Bruce Hansen
PO Box 66
Clarks Grove, MN 56016

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Bruce:

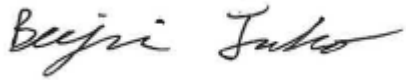
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Brad Edwin
72458 239 Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007

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Dear Brad:

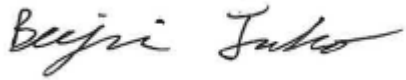
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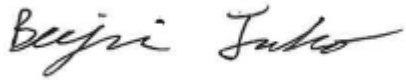
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Brenda Lageson
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007

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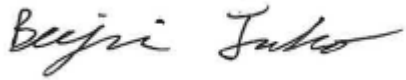
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Christopher Shoff
405 Garden Road
Albert Lea, MN 56007

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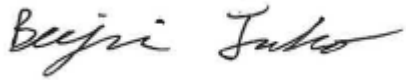
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Darwyn Olson
71835 290th Street
Hartland, MN 56042

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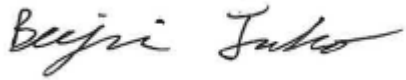
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Senior Renewable Development Specialist

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Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

David Walker
411 Broadway South PO Box 1147
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear David:

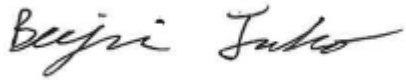
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February 7, 2024

Dawn Kaasa
81025 140th Street
Glenville, MN 56036

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Dawn:

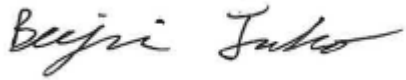
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February 7, 2024

Jason Jacobusse
29053 762nd Avenue
Clarks Grove, MN 56016

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Jason:

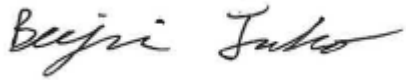
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February 7, 2024

John Forman
117 Bridge Avenue
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear John:

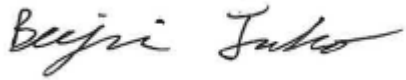
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February 7, 2024

Kelly Routh
603 North Star Lane
Hartland, MN 56042

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Kelly:

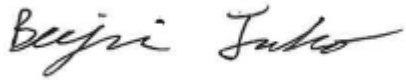
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February 7, 2024

Nicole Eckstrom
72099 Wineglass Road
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Nicole:

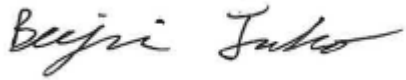
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February 7, 2024

411 Broadway South PO Box 1147
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
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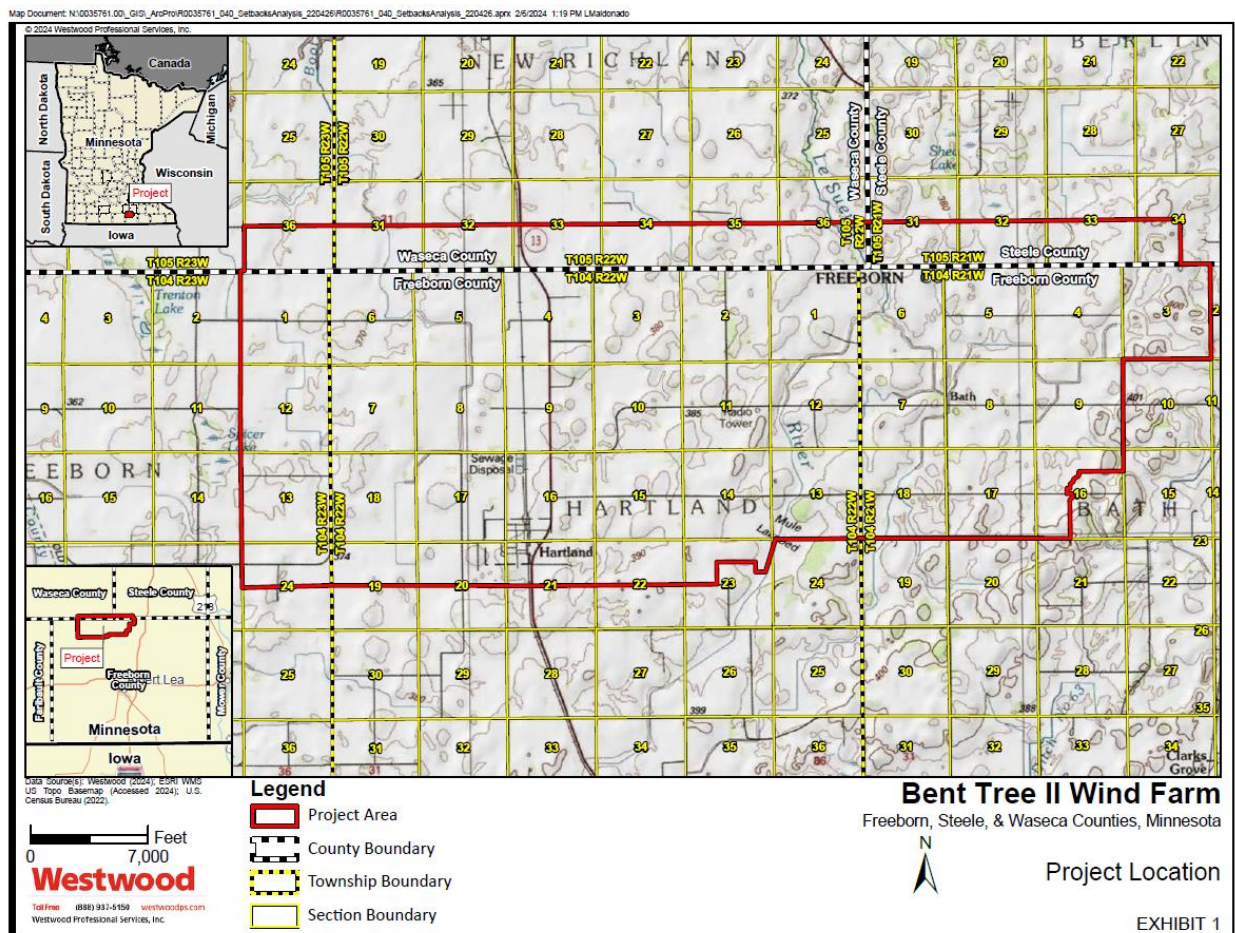
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February 7, 2024

Dawn Kaasa
81025 140th Street
Glenville, MN 56036

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
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Dear Dawn:

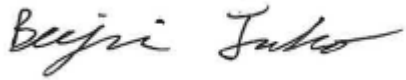
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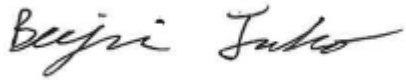
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February 7, 2024

Christopher Shoff
405 Garden Road
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
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Dear Christopher:

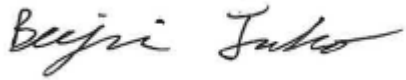
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Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Nicole Eckstrom
72099 Wineglass Road
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Nicole:

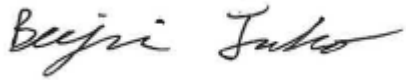
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Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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February 7, 2024

Kelly Routh
603 North Star Lane
Hartland, MN 56042

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Kelly:

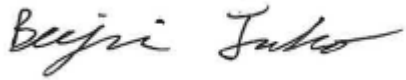
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February 7, 2024

Darwyn Olson
71835 290th Street
Hartland, MN 56042

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Darwyn:

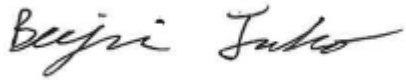
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Alliant Energy

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February 7, 2024

Brenda Lageson
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Brenda:

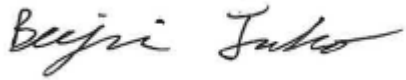
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Ben Tanko

Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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February 7, 2024

Stephan Roos
625 Robert Street North,
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Stephan:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

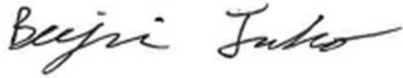
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February 7, 2024
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Ben Tanko
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February 7, 2024

Brooke Cunningham
625 Robert Street North,
St. Paul MN, 55164-0975

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Brooke:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

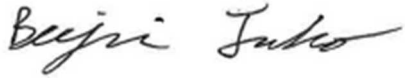
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February 7, 2024

Lisa Hughes
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200
St. Paul MN, 55101

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Lisa:

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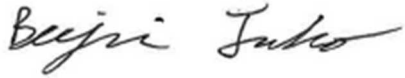
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February 7, 2024
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February 7, 2024

Darlene Dahlseide
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 410
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Darlene:

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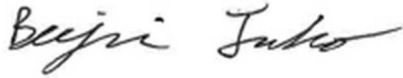
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February 7, 2024

Stacy Kotch Egstad
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 678
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Stacy:

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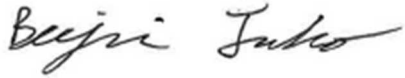
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February 7, 2024

Dan Card
520 Lafayette Road,
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Dan:

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February 7, 2024

Sarah Beimers
50 Sherburne Avenue, 203 Administration Building
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Sarah:

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February 7, 2024
Page 2

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Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 9, 2024

Dan Shaw
520 Lafayette Road,
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Dan:

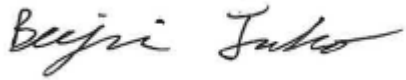
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Ben Tanko

Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

From: [Carl Anfang](#)
To: lisa.hughes@state.mn.us; DEED.CustomerService@state.mn.us
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:37:24 AM
Attachments: [2024-02-07 Lisa MnDEED Agency Comment Letter.pdf](#)
[BT_Ex01_ProjectLocation_240206.pdf](#)

Lisa,

I meant to include the following documents with my email, one is a formal letter requesting comment, and the other is a site map. Let us know if you need anything else.

Thanks!

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: Carl Anfang
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:29 AM
To: lisa.hughes@state.mn.us; DEED.CustomerService@state.mn.us
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

Good morning Lisa,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
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February 8, 2024

Julia Forbes
303 South Cedar Ave
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Julia:

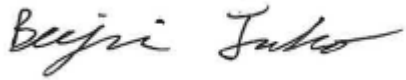
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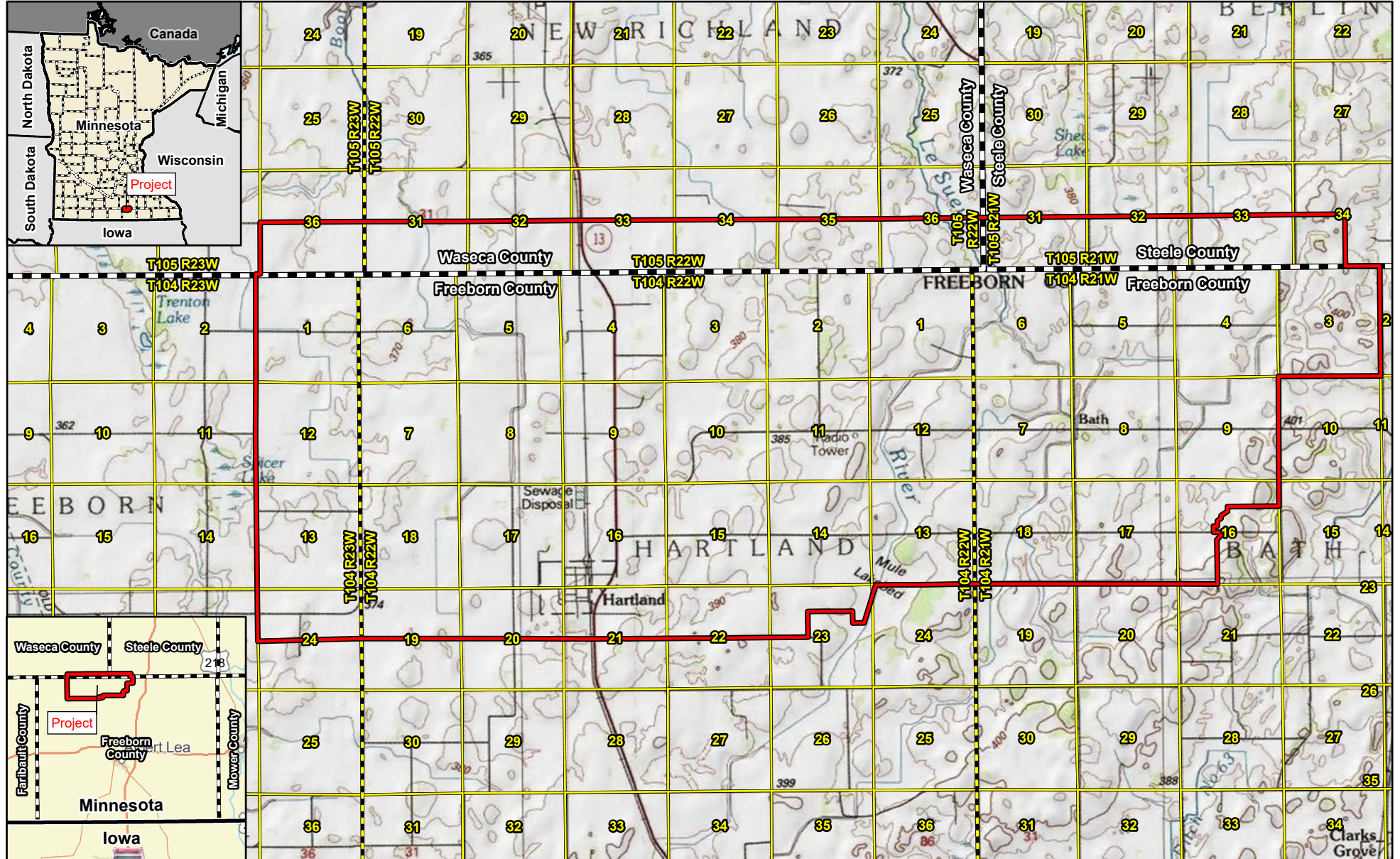
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Map Document: N:\0035761_00\GIS\ArcPro\R0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426\R0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426.aprx 2/6/2024 1:19 PM LMaldonado

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Data Source(s): Westwood (2024); ESRI WMS
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0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Richard Johnson
13304 SW 67th Avenue
New Richmond, MN 56072

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Richard:

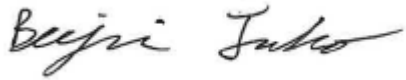
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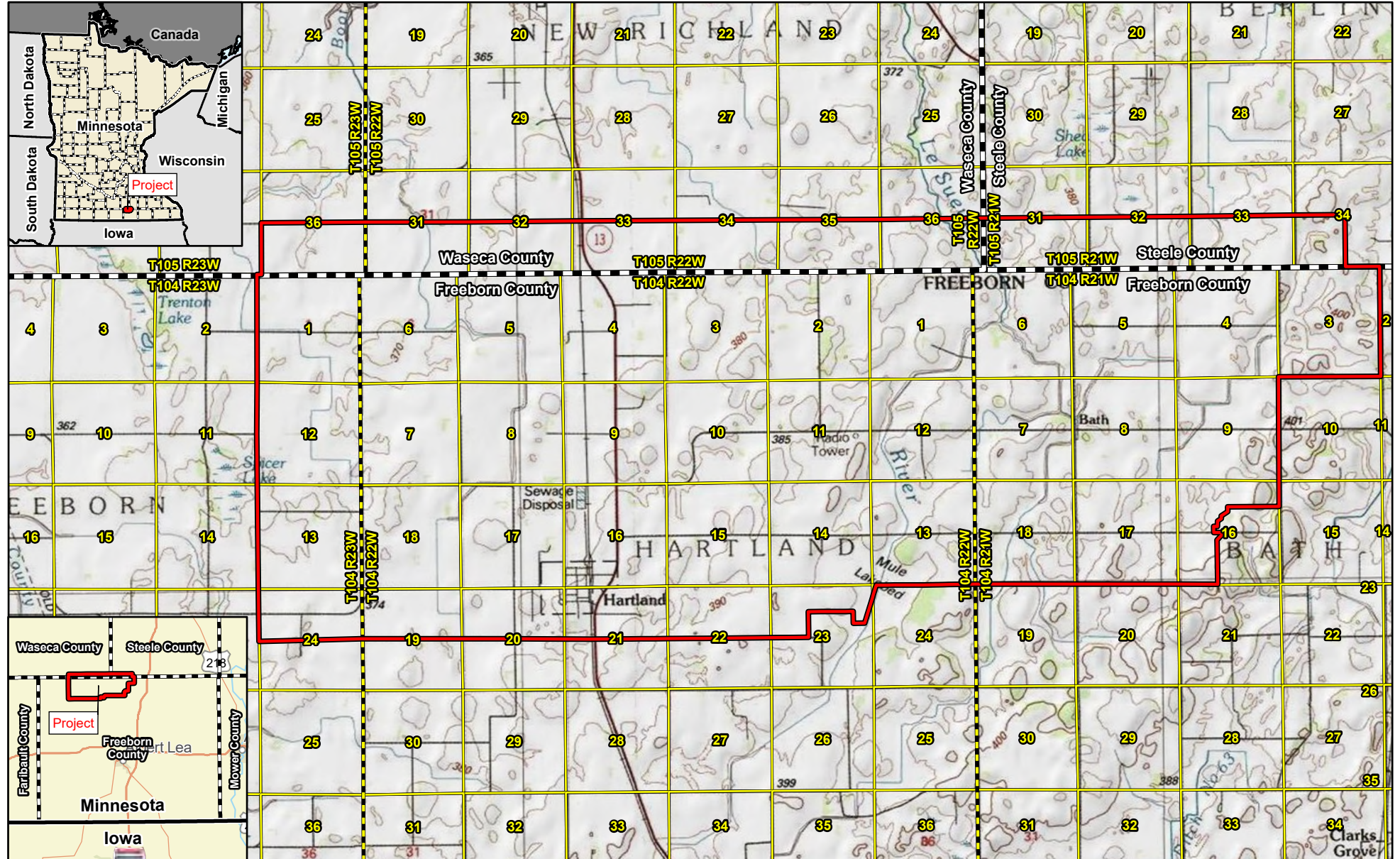
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

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Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

James Brady
9106 NM 66th Street
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear James:

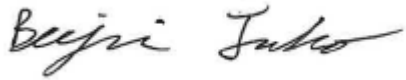
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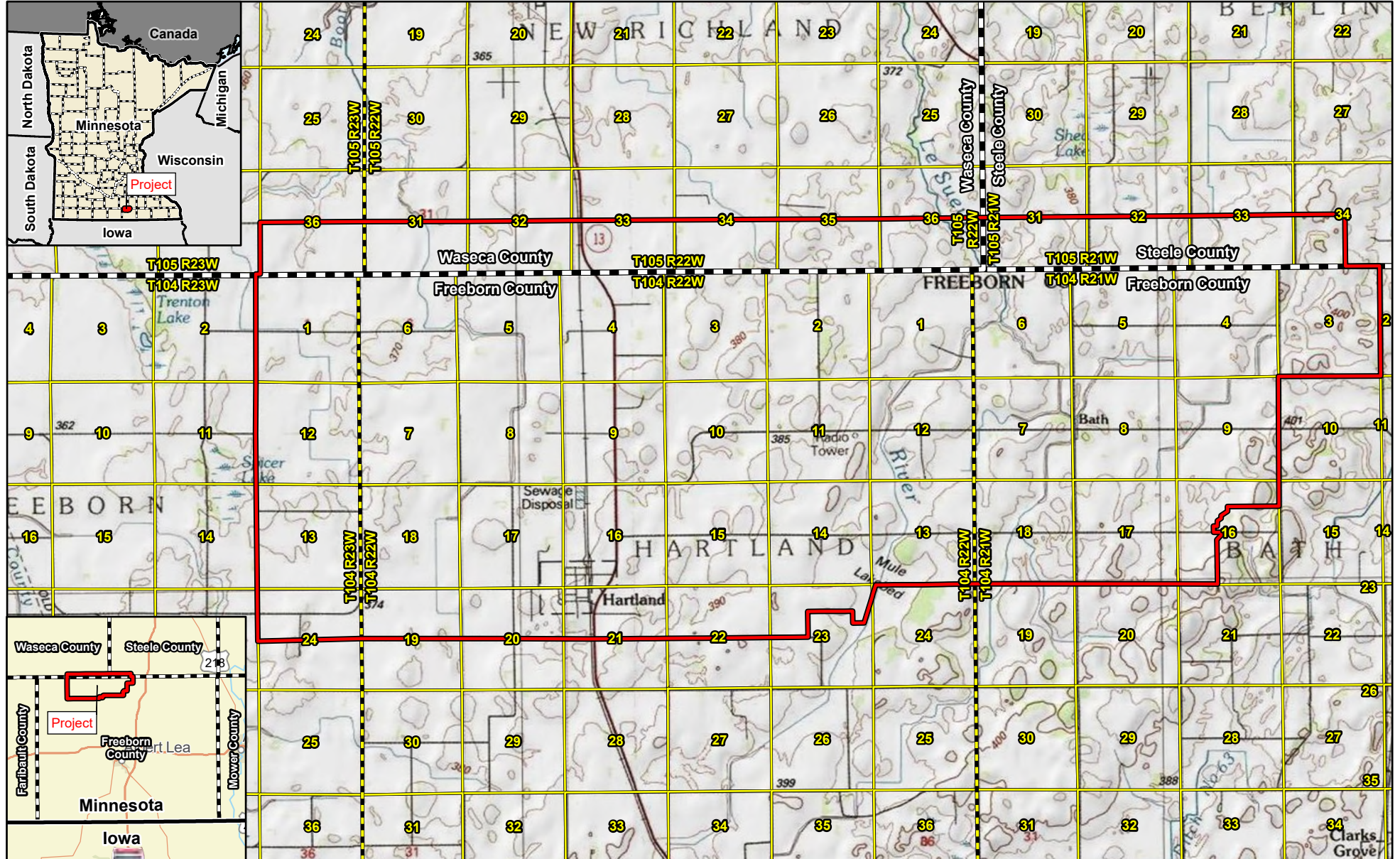
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

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- Project Area
- County Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

John Glynn
4146 Lemond Road
PO Box 701
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear John:

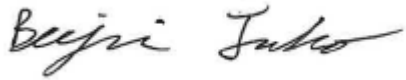
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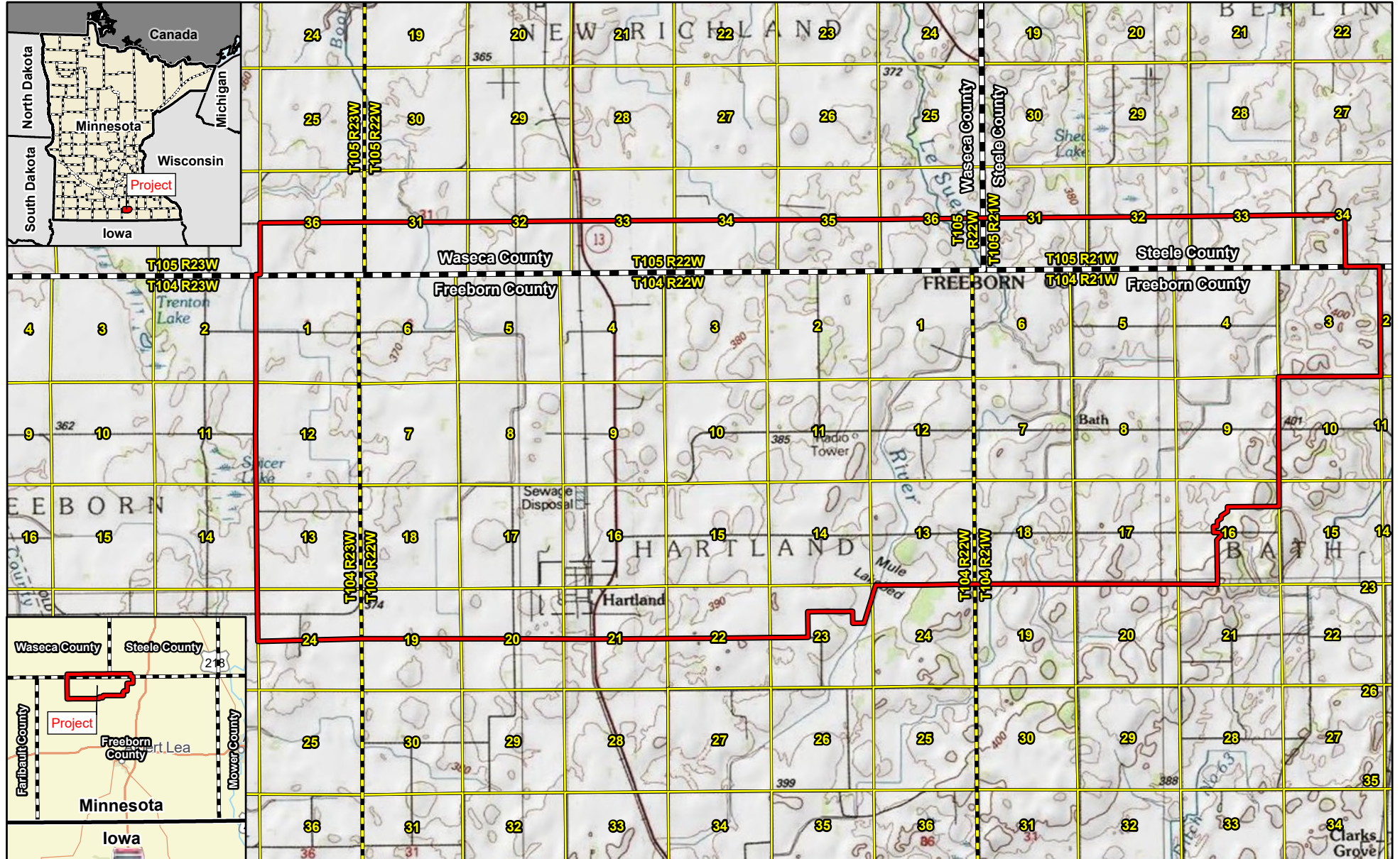
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

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1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
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February 8, 2024

Rick Gnemi
404 S Cedar Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

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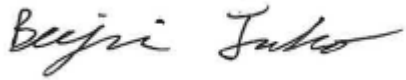
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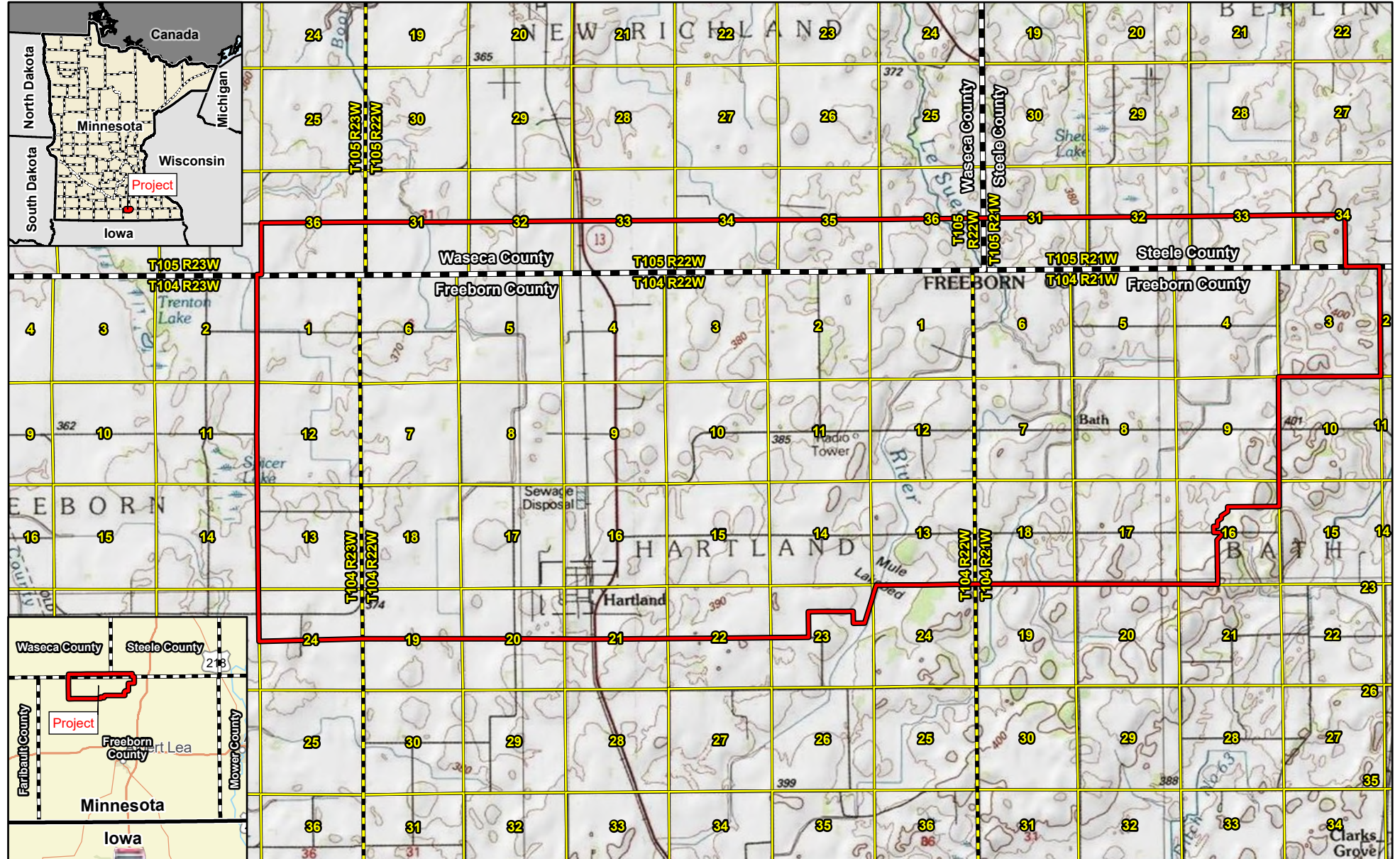
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

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www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Jim Abbe
413 Pebble Beach Drive
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

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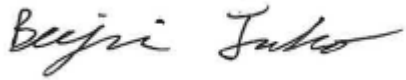
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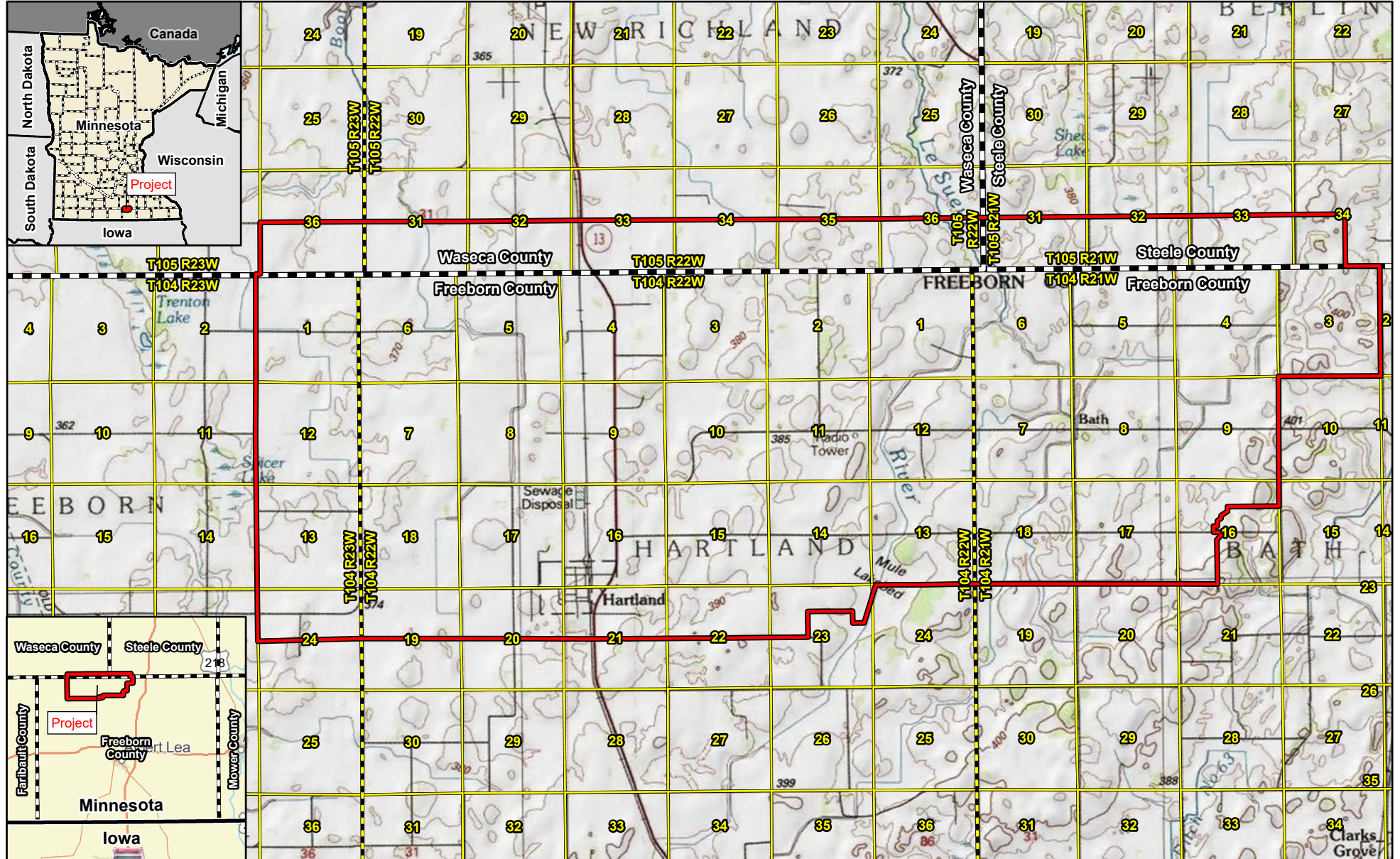
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Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

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- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Greg Kruegger
1365 Edinburgh Place NE
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Greg:

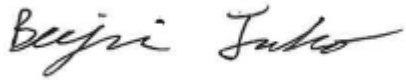
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Ben Tanko

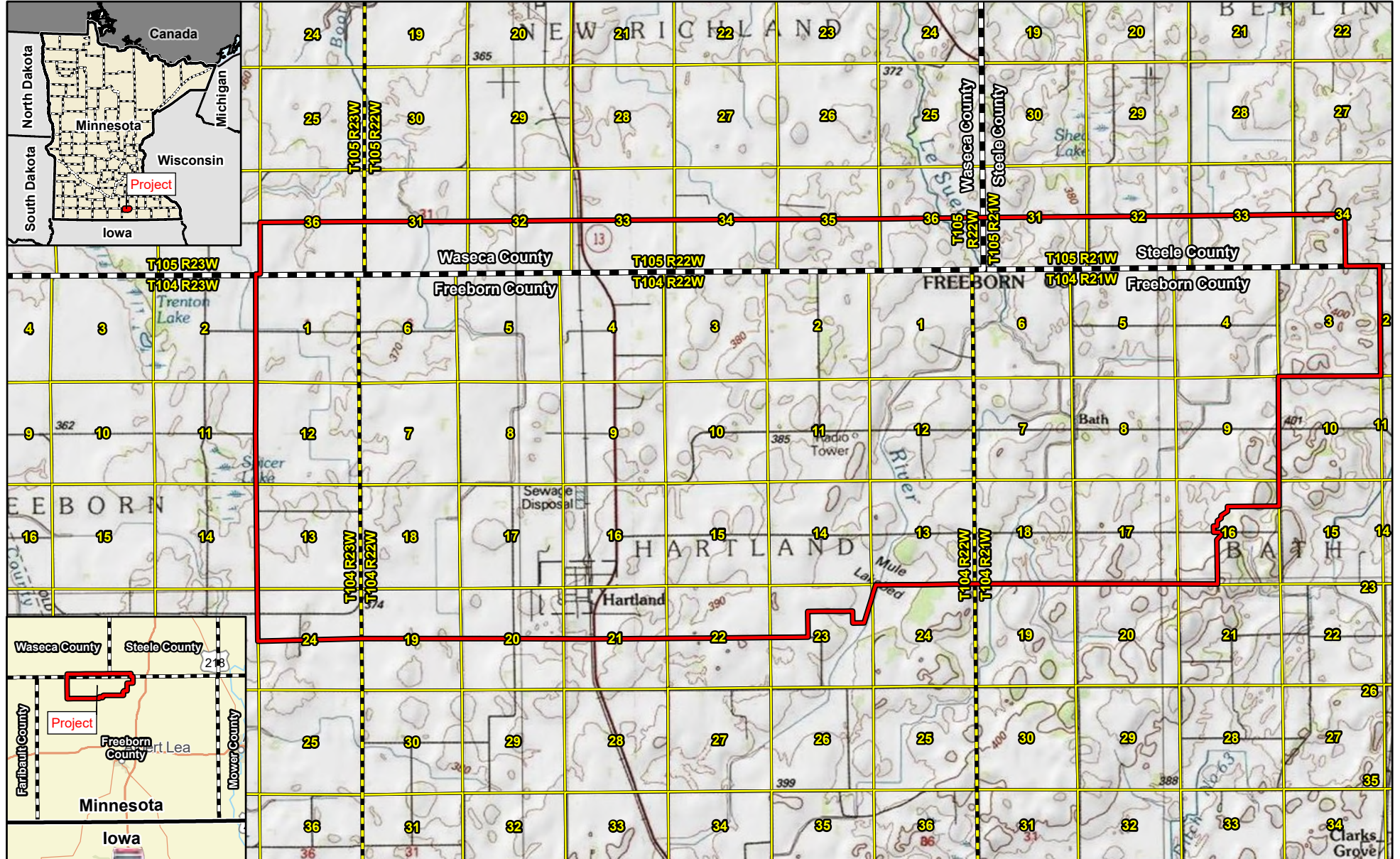
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

Map Document: N:\0035761_00\GIS\ArcPro\R0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426\R0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426.aprx 2/6/2024 1:19 PM LMaldonado

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Data Source(s): Westwood (2024); ESRI WMS
 US Topo Basemap (Accessed 2024); U.S.
 Census Bureau (2022).

0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
 Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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4902 North Biltmore Lane
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Matthew Bartsch
106 Sixth Avenue W
PO Box 385
Ellendale, MN 56026

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Matthew:

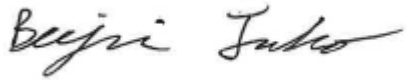
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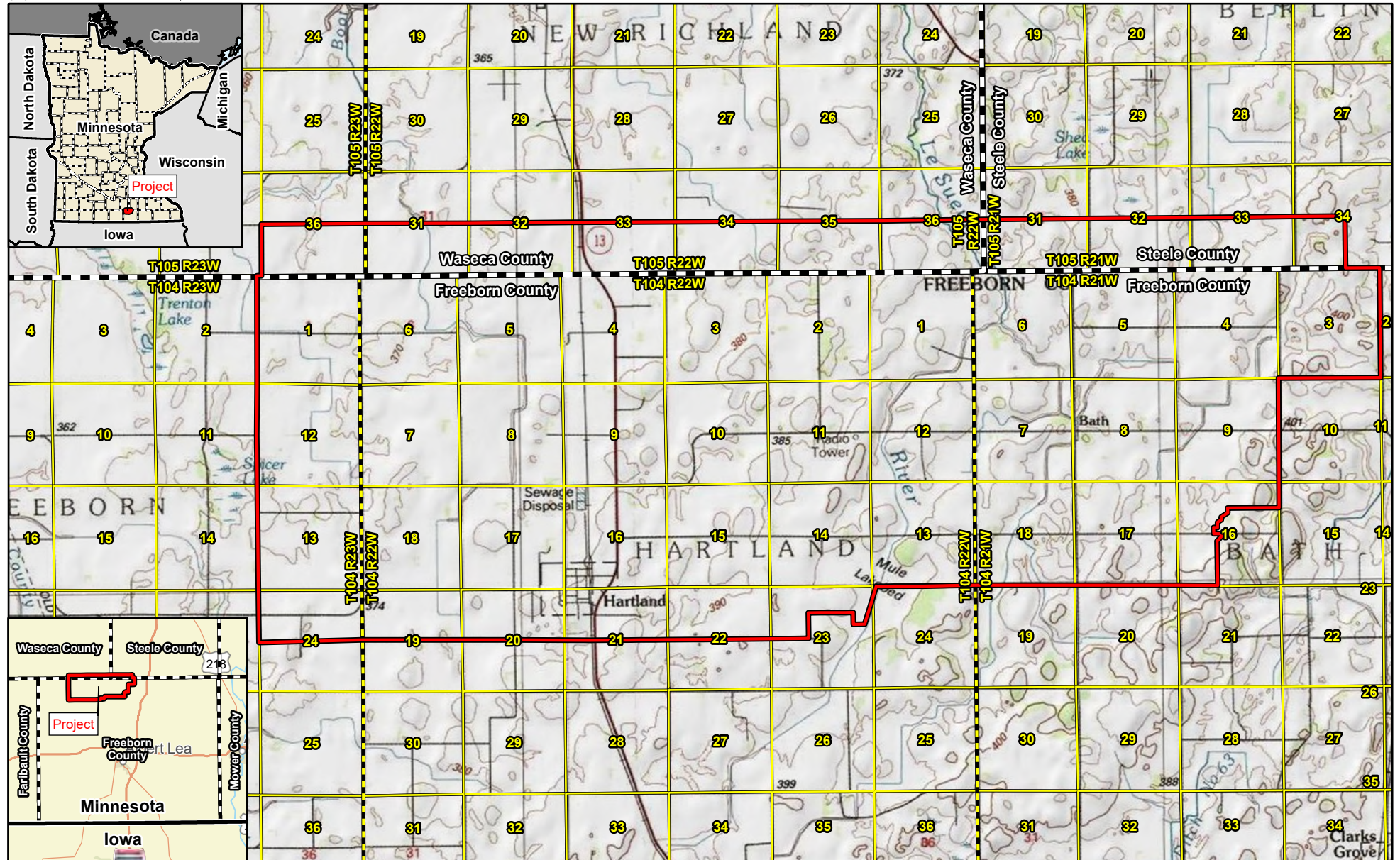
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
 Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
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Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Dale Oolman
630 Florence Ave
PO Box 890
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Dale:

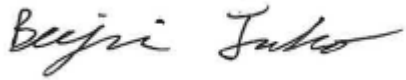
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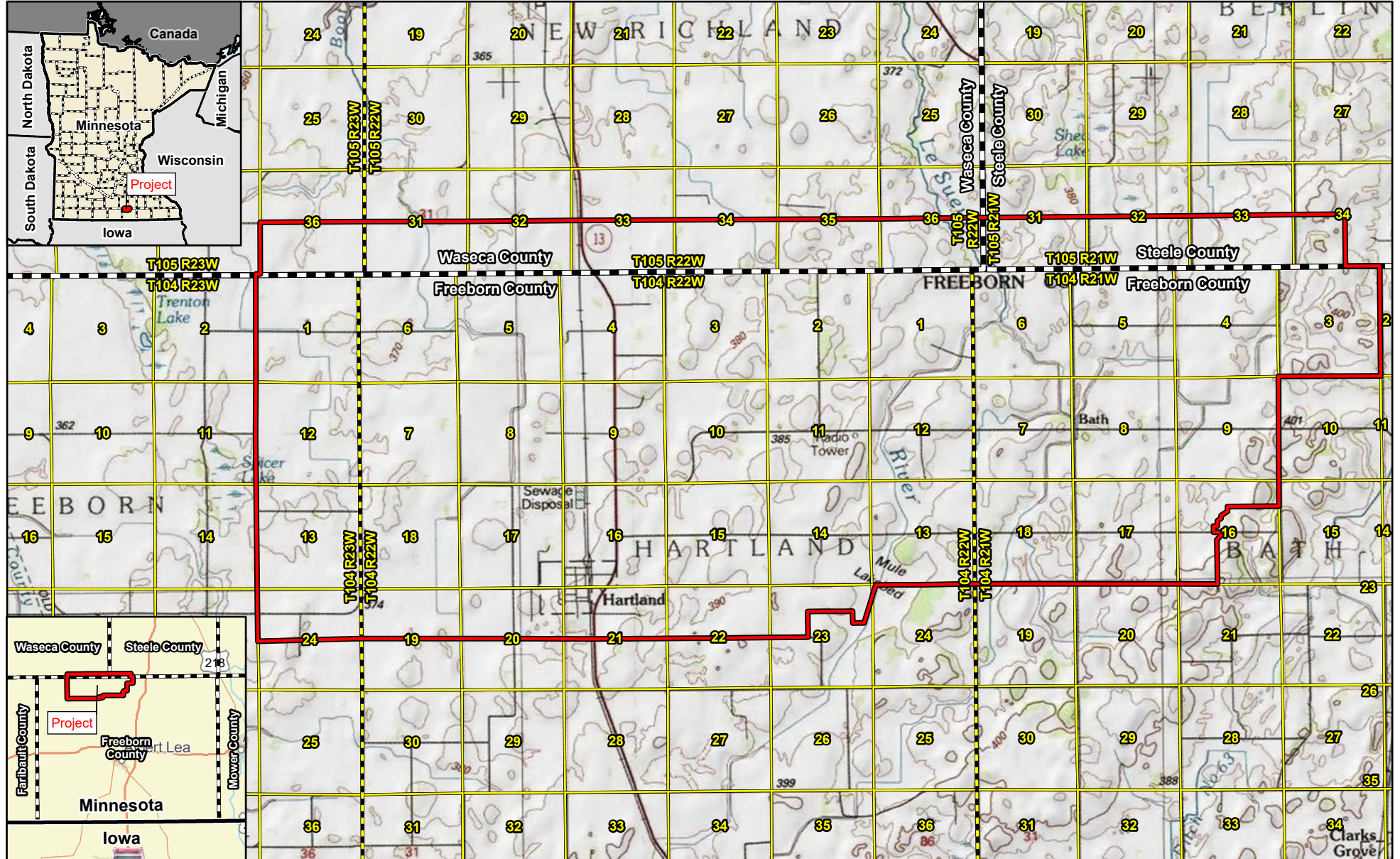
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Eric Gulbransen
235 Cedardale Drive SE
Owatonna, MN 55060

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Eric:

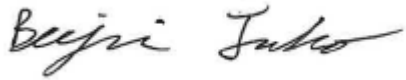
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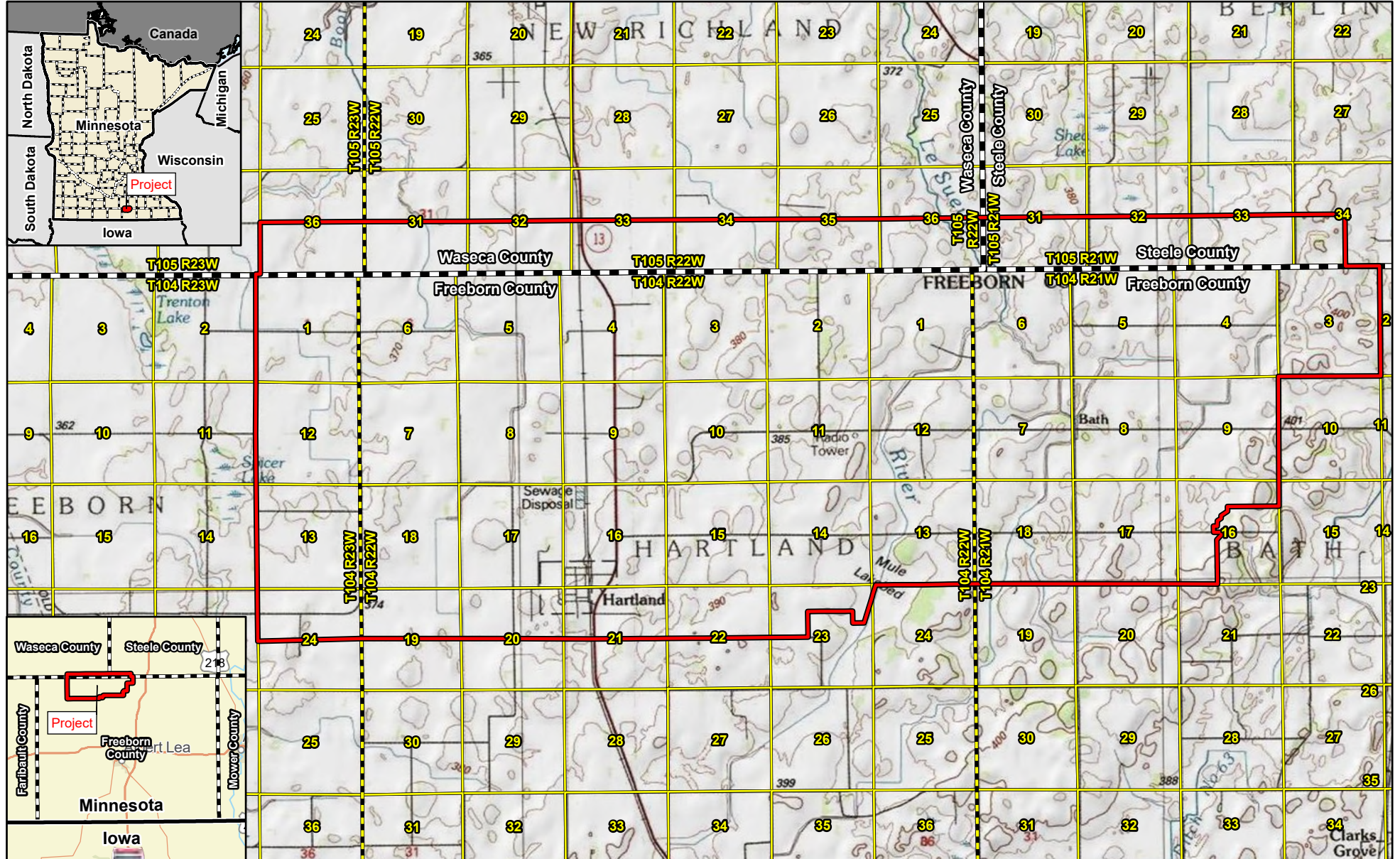
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Robert Wenzel
9108 250th Avenue
New Richmond, MN 56072

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Robert:

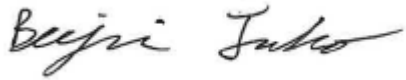
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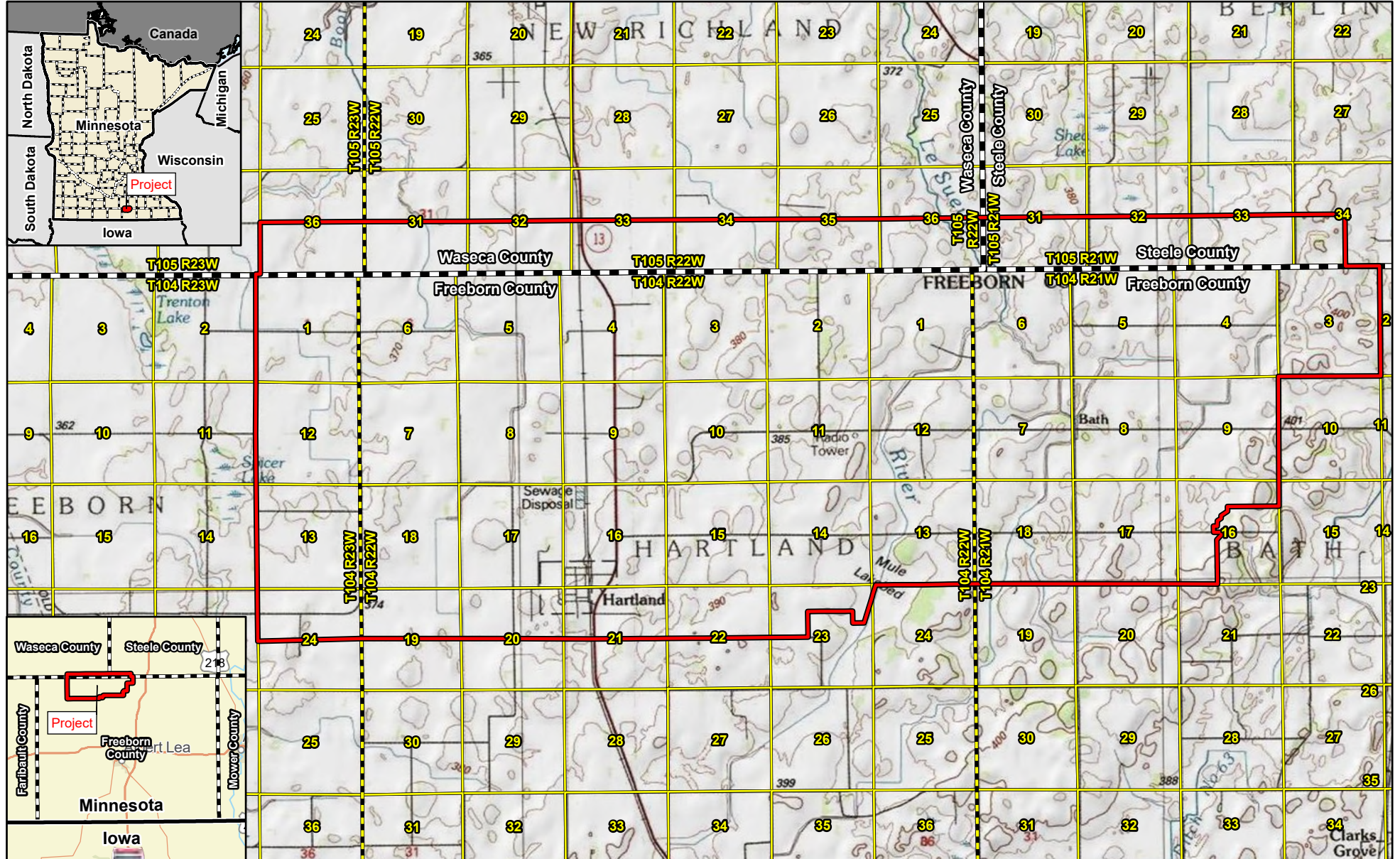
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

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Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Curt Krause
6730 205th Avenue
New Richmond, MN 56072

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Curt:

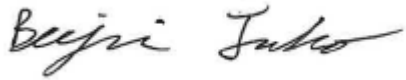
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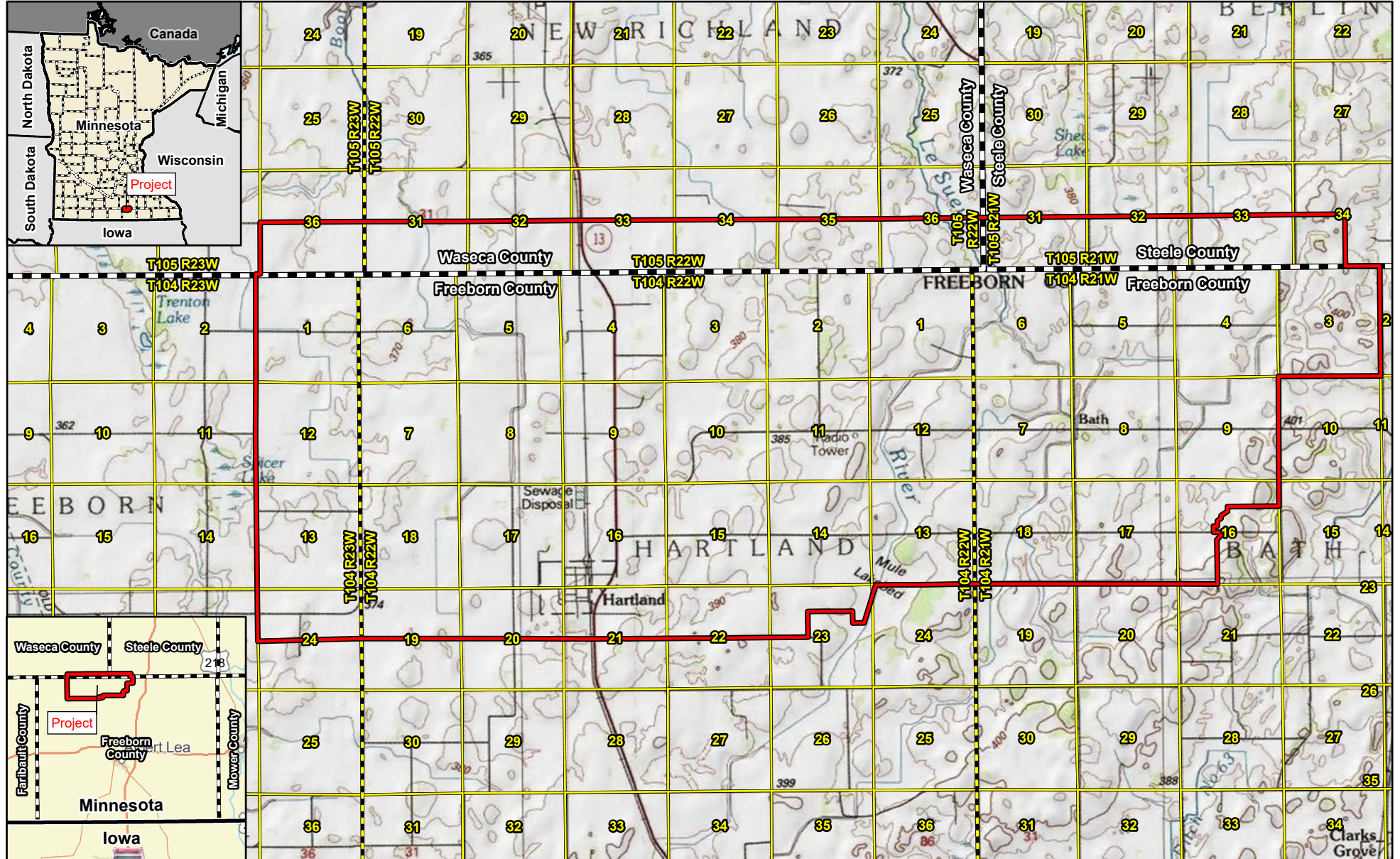
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

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February 8, 2024

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10902 205th Avenue
New Richmond, MN 56072

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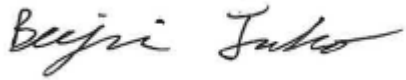
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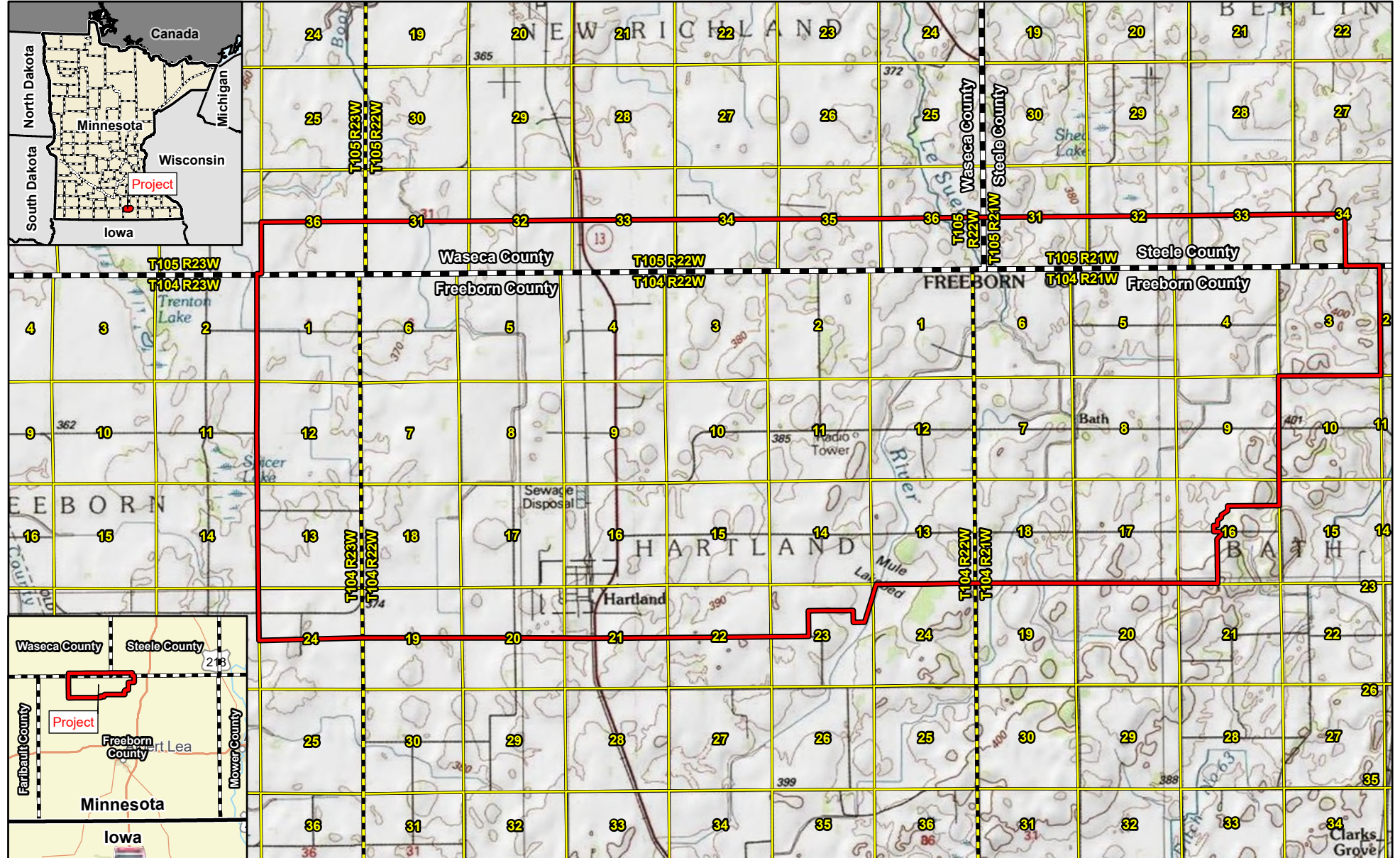
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Westwood

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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Doug Christopherson
14205 275th Avenue
New Richland, MN 56072

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Doug:

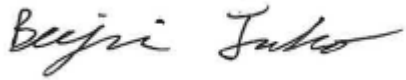
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Ben Tanko

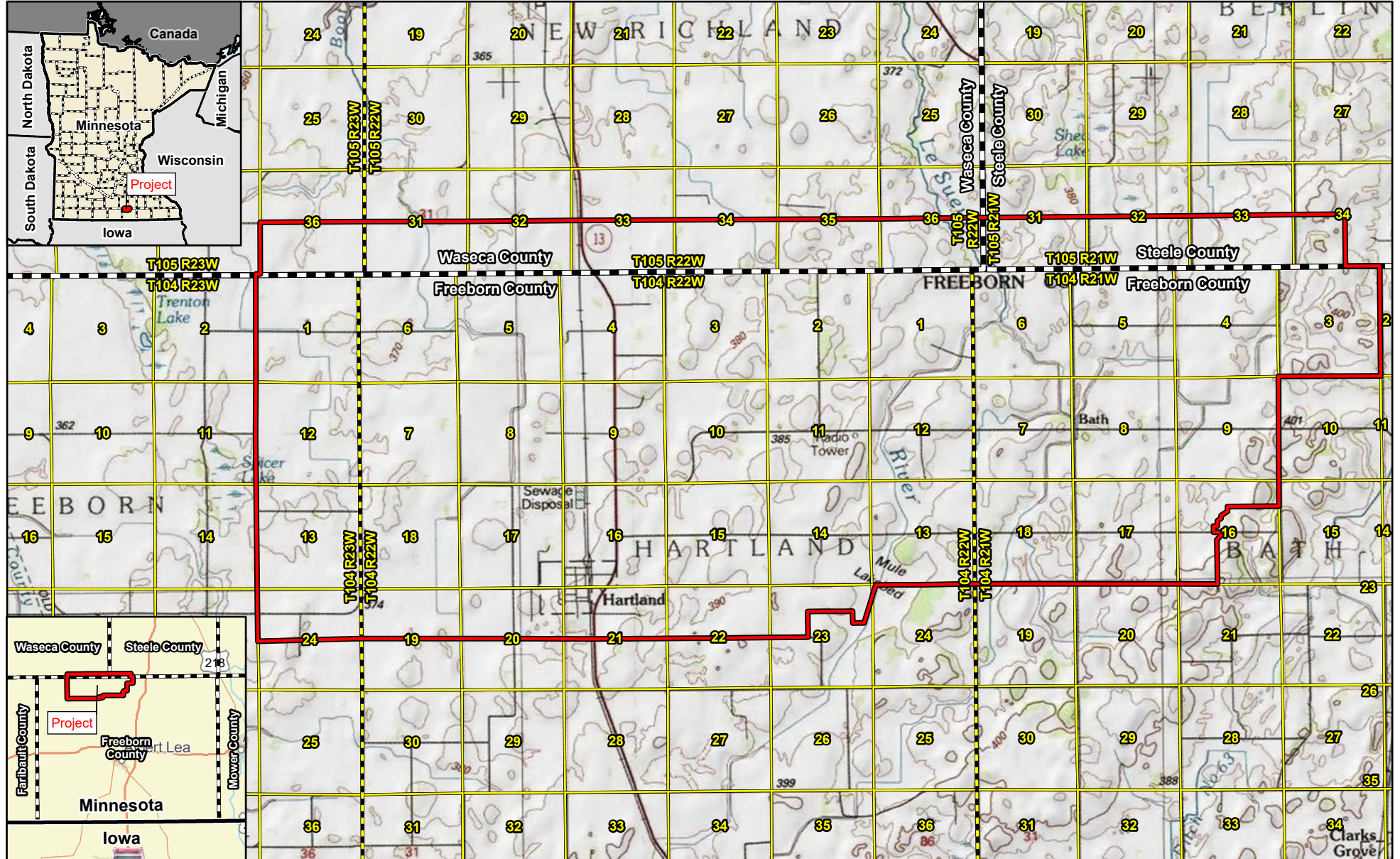
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

Map Document: N:\0035761_00\GIS\ArcPro\0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426\0035761_040_SetbacksAnalysis_220426.aprx 2/6/2024 1:19 PM LMaldonado

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Data Source(s): Westwood (2024); ESRI WMS
US Topo Basemap (Accessed 2024); U.S.
Census Bureau (2022).

0 7,000 Feet

Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Brian Harguth
32674 State Highway 13
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Brian:

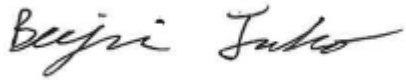
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Ben Tanko

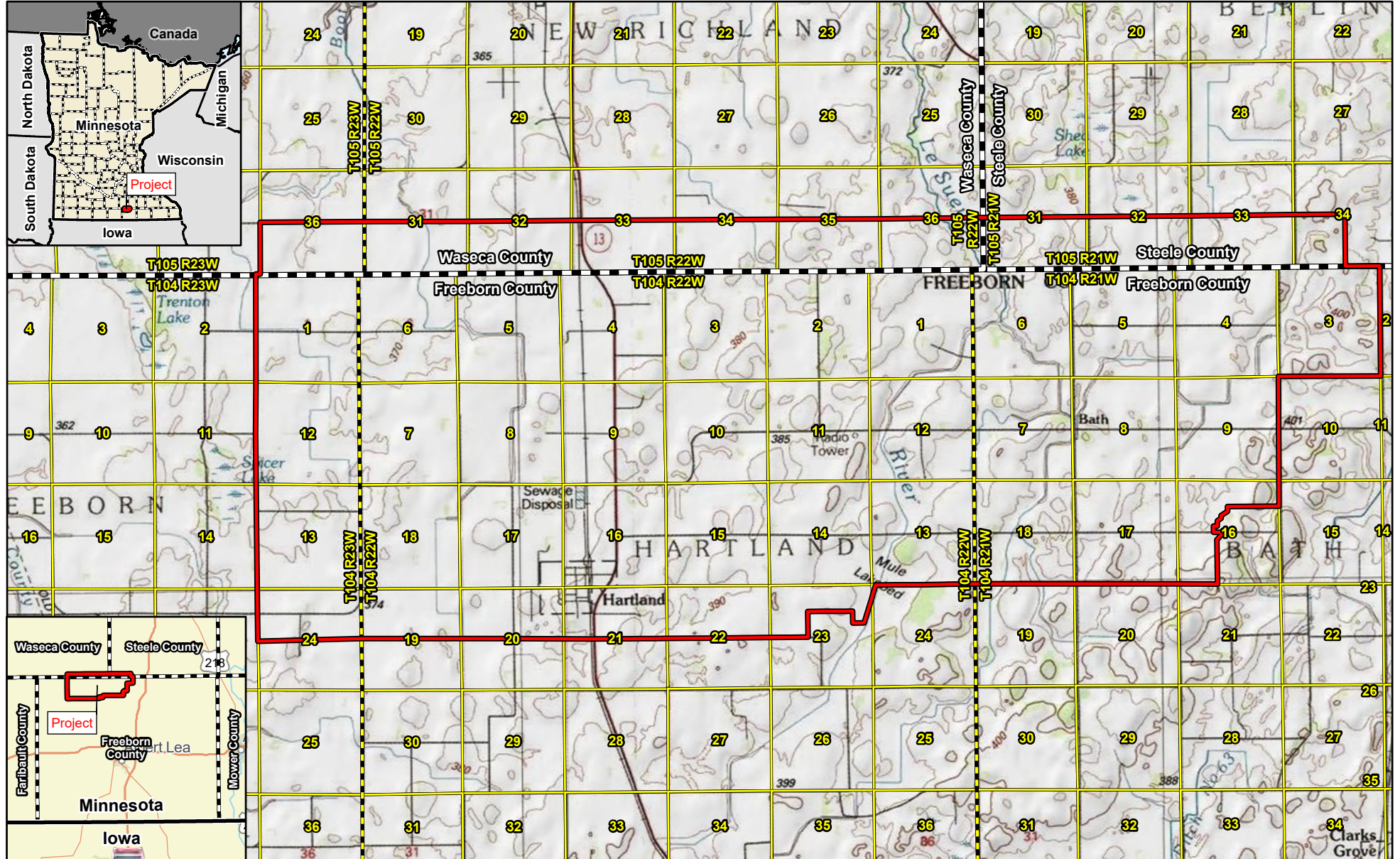
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

DeAnne Malterer
307 N State Street
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear DeAnne:

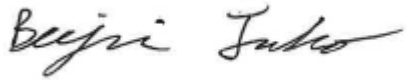
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Ben Tanko

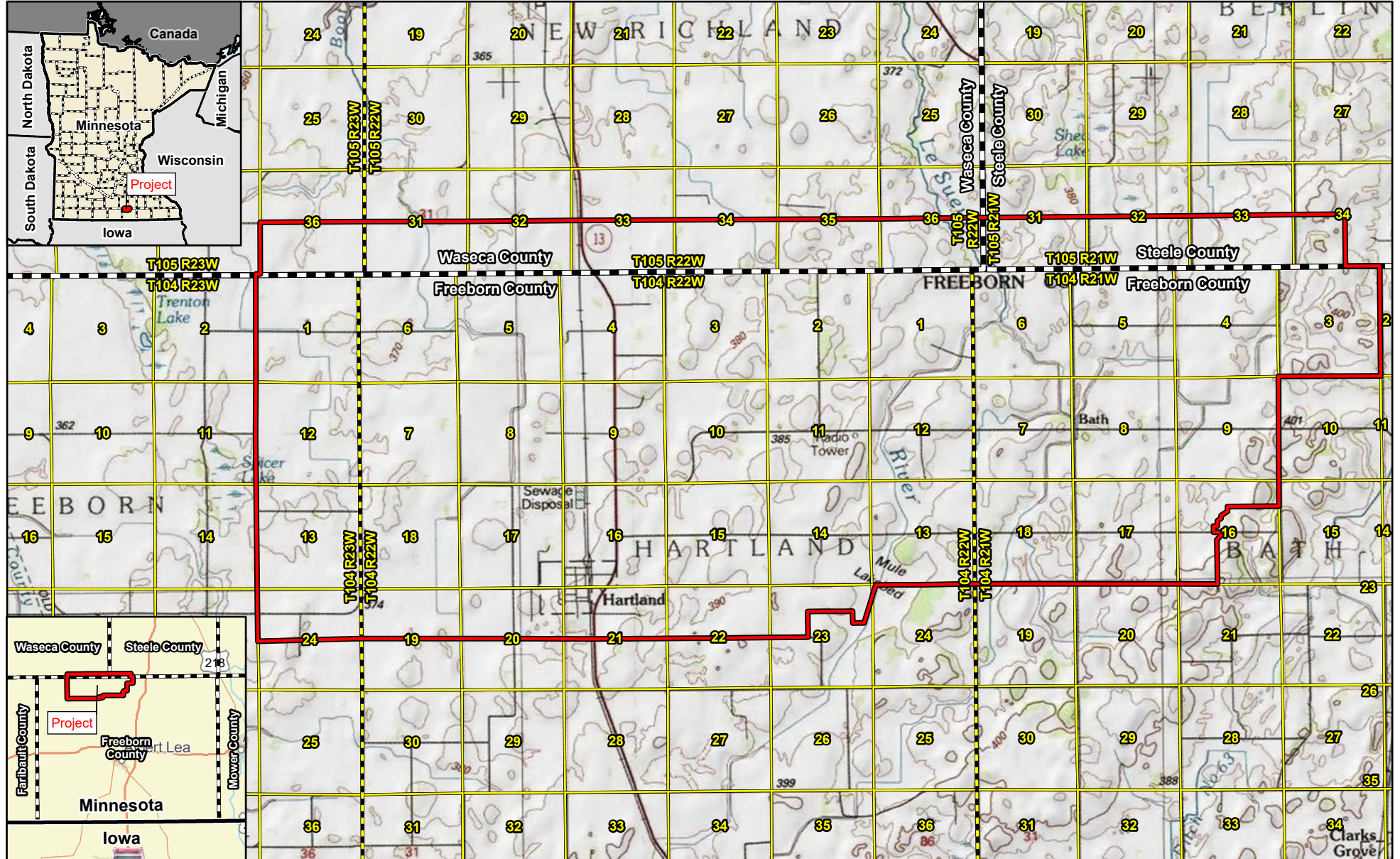
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

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Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Brad Krause
9499 Wilton Bridge Road
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Brad:

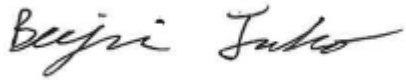
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Ben Tanko

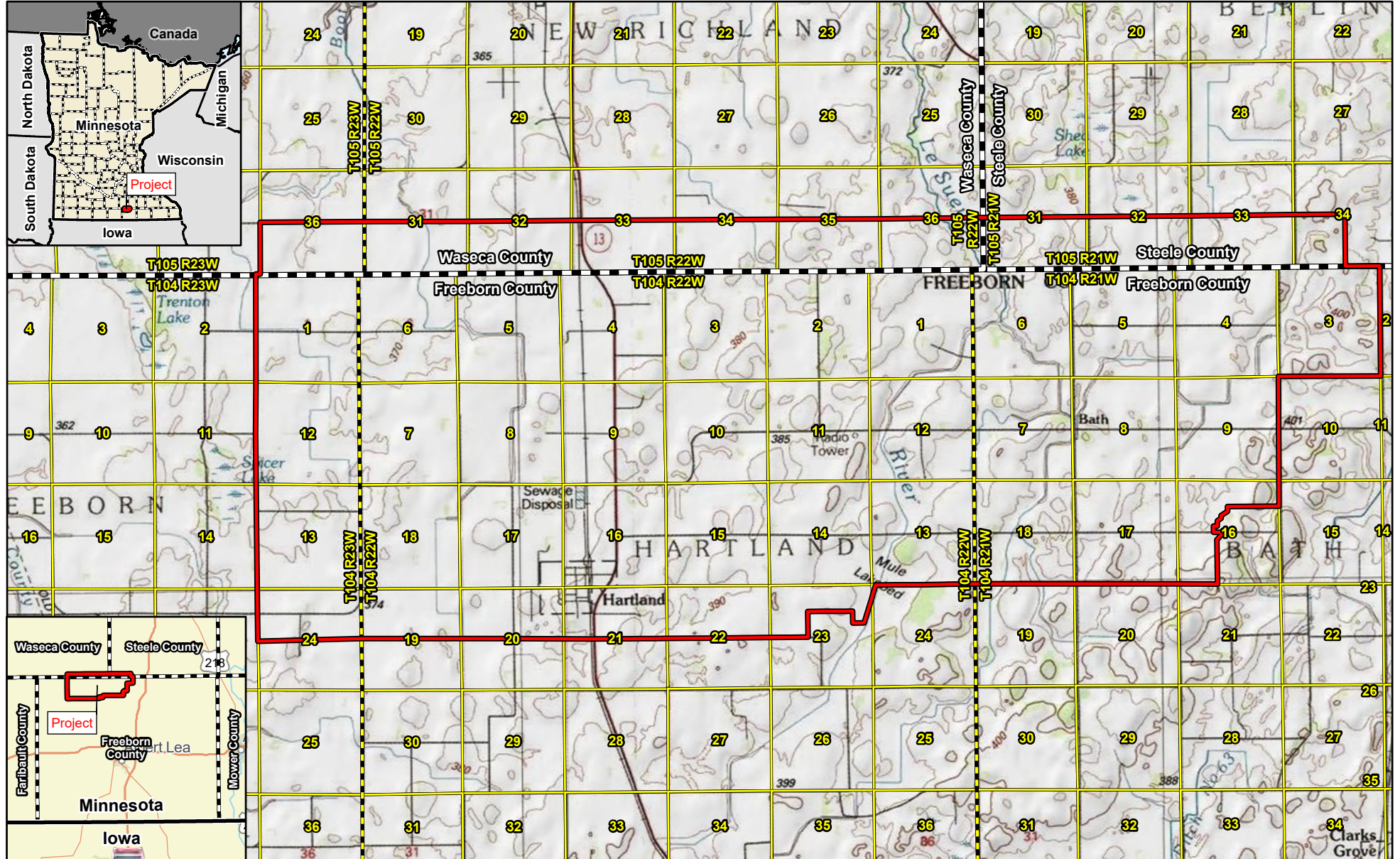
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Nicholas Budach
17434 State Highway 30
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Nicholas:

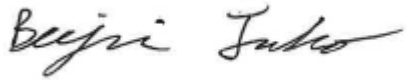
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Ben Tanko

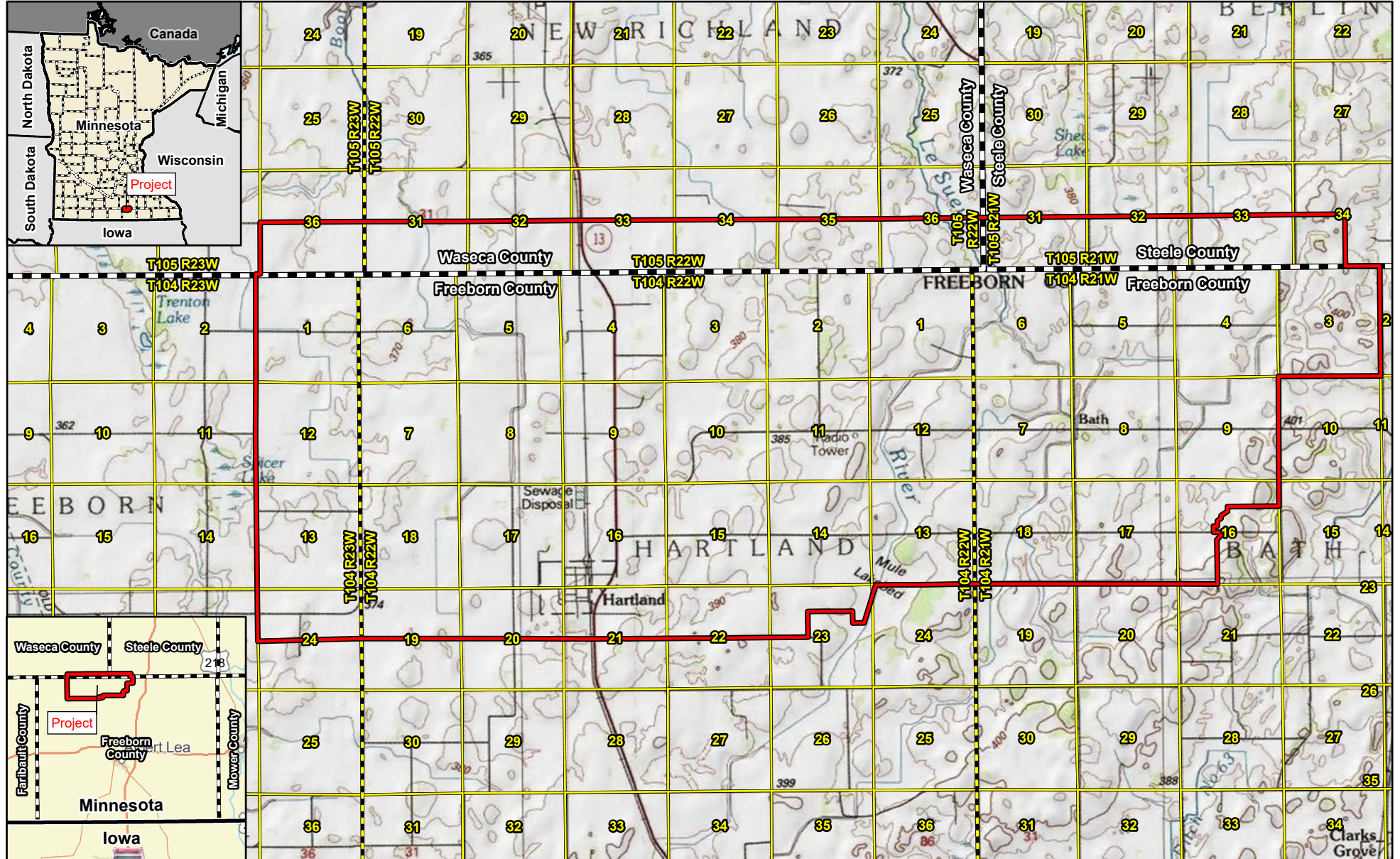
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

Alliant Energy

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Westwood

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

- Project Area
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Section Boundary

Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Maame Yorke
300 N State Street
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Maame:

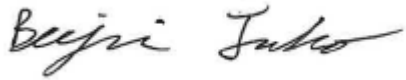
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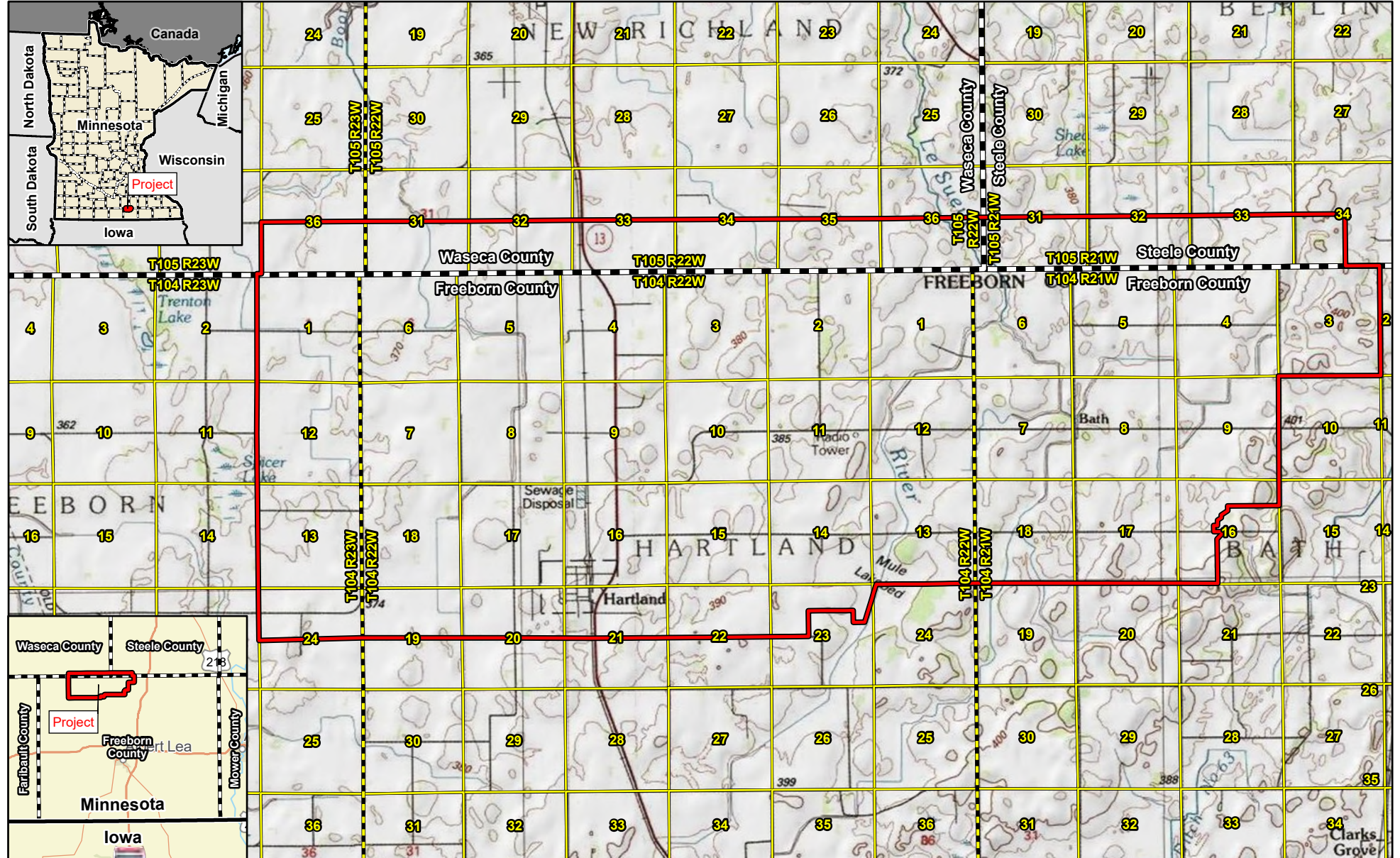
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

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Westwood

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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Mark Schaetzke
300 N State Street
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Mark:

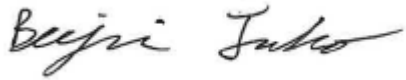
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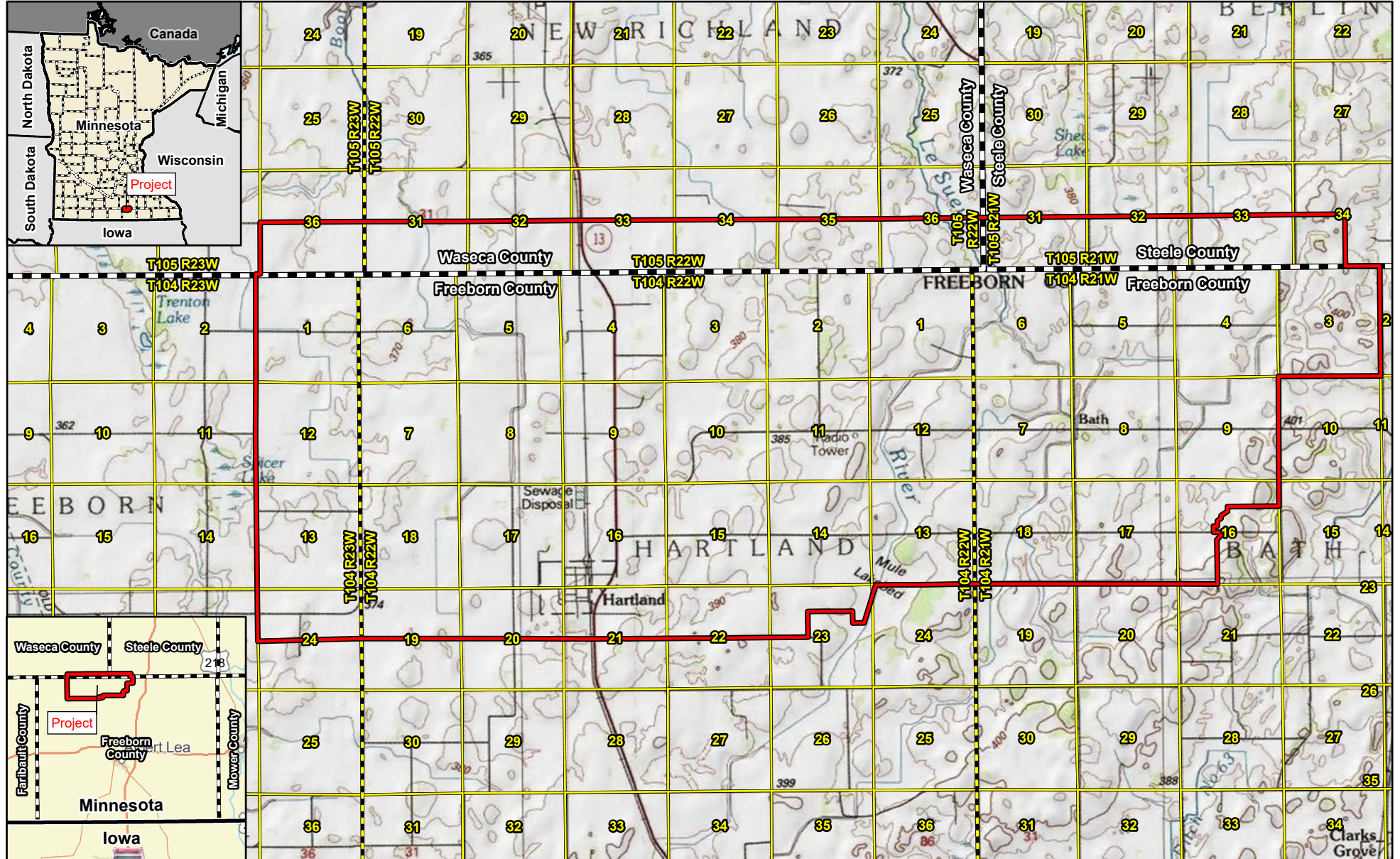
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

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Westwood

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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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Corporate Headquarters
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 8, 2024

Rachel Cornelius
307 N State Street
Waseca, MN 56093

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Rachel:

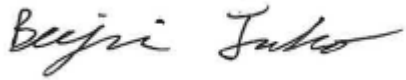
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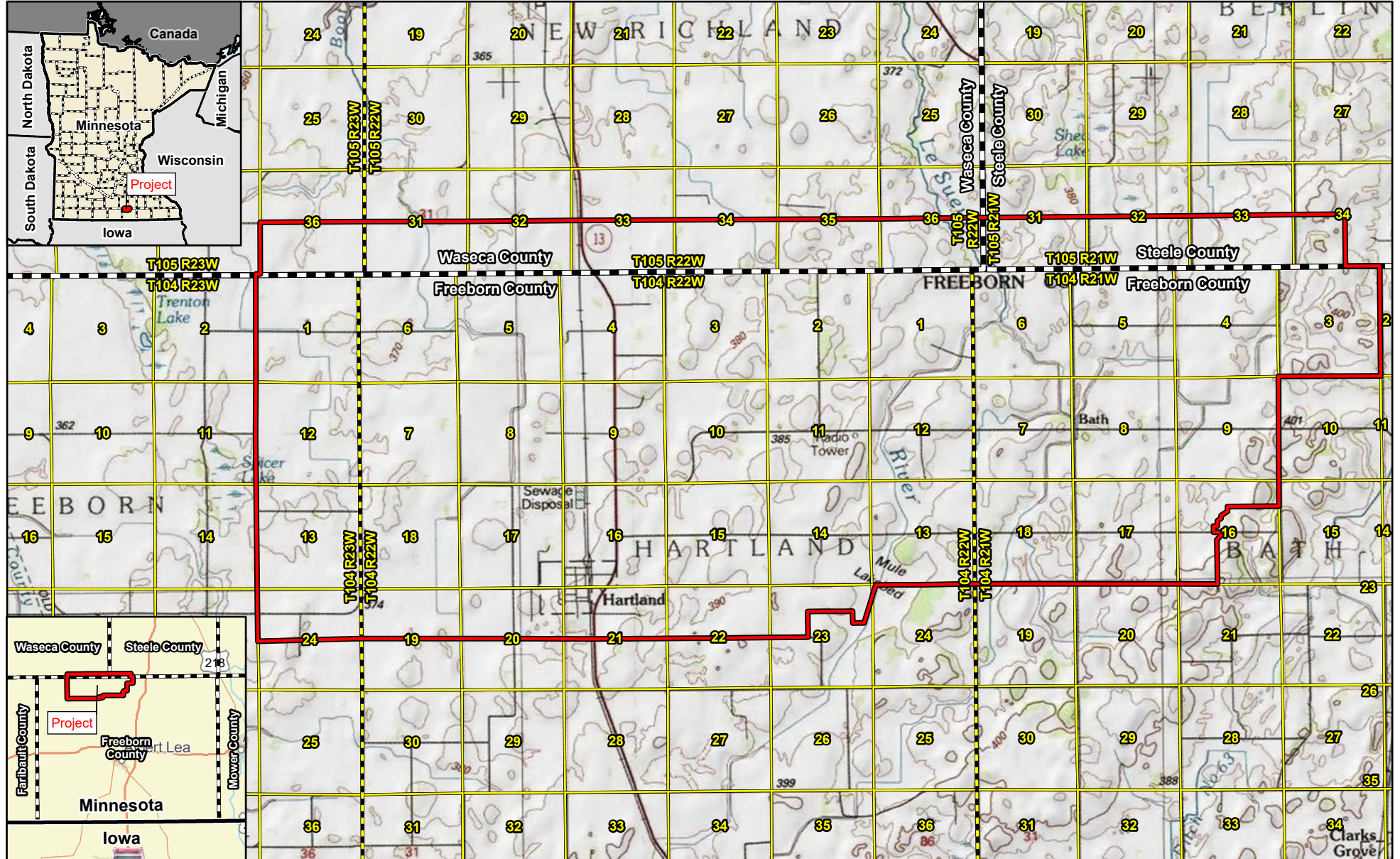
Senior Renewable Development Specialist

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Westwood

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Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Legend

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- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
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Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Freeborn, Steele, & Waseca Counties, Minnesota



Project Location

EXHIBIT 1



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Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Billmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Jaylen Strong
5344 Lake Shore Drive, PO Box 16,
Nett Lake MN, 55772

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Jaylen,

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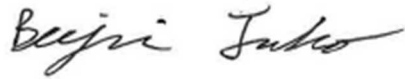
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February 7, 2024
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Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Billmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Evan Schroeder
1720 Big Lake Road,
Cloquet MN, 55720

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Evan,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

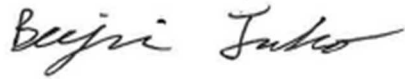
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February 7, 2024

Rob Hull
PO Box 428,
Grand Portage MN, 55605

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Rob,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

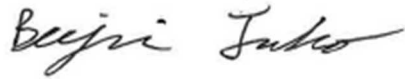
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February 7, 2024

Amy Burnette
190 Sailstar Dr NW,
Cass Lake MN, 56633

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Amy,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

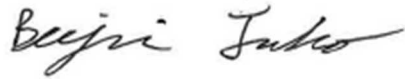
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February 7, 2024

Cheyenne St. John
39527 Highway 1,
Morton MN, 56270

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Cheyenne,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

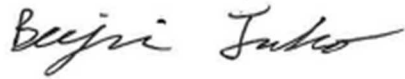
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February 7, 2024

Melissa Cerda
161 St. Anthony Avenue, Suite 919
St. Paul, MN, 55103

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Melissa,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

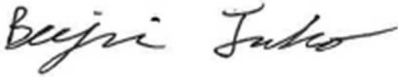
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February 7, 2024

Mike Wilson
43408 Oodena Drive,
Onamia MN, 56349

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Mike,

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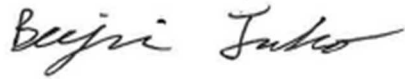
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February 7, 2024

Noah White
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road,
Welch MN, 55089

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Noah,

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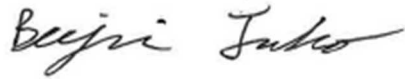
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February 7, 2024

Kade Ferris
PO Box 274,
Red Lake MN, 56671

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Kade,

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February 7, 2024

Leonard Wabasha
2330 Sioux Trail NW,
Prior Lake MN, 55372

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Leonard,

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February 7, 2024

Samantha Odegard
PO Box 147,
Granite Falls MN, 56241

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Samantha,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

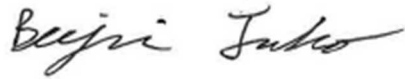
The Project is a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) with a proposed nameplate energy generation capacity of about 120 to 150 megawatts (MW) and requires a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) prior to construction. Alliant anticipates submitting the Site Permit Application to the PUC in mid-2024. Alliant continues to collect information to inform Project design. The turbine layout, access roads, crane paths, and electrical connections have not been finalized. The Project will likely include a 161 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will connect the Project to an existing transmission substation.

As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested Tribal Nations and regulatory and government agencies. Recognizing the need for timely and meaningful communication with Tribes as sovereign nations, we are providing notification to Tribes who may have cultural or historical ties in the vicinity of the Project Area. We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential sites of historic or cultural significance. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the Site Permit Application.

February 7, 2024
Page 2

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please contact Shannon Hansen at (952) 937-5150 or at shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Tanko". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Billmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Jaime Arsenault
PO Box 418,
White Earth MN, 56591

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Jaime,

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

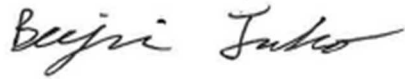
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February 7, 2024
Page 2

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Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



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1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Cynthia Warzecha
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Cynthia:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

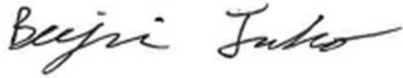
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As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested regulatory and government agencies, as well as Tribal Nations. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys. We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential risks with the Project. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the Site Permit Application.

February 7, 2024
Page 2

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Tanko". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



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An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
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Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Haley Byron
117 Rogers Street,
Mankato MN, 56001

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Haley:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

The Project is a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) with a proposed nameplate energy generation capacity of about 120 to 150 megawatts (MW) and requires a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) prior to construction. Alliant anticipates submitting the Site Permit Application to the PUC in mid-2024. Alliant continues to collect information to inform Project design. The turbine layout, access roads, crane paths, and electrical connections have not been finalized. The Project will likely include a 161 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will connect the Project to an existing transmission substation.

As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested regulatory and government agencies, as well as Tribal Nations. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys. We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential risks with the Project. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the Site Permit Application.

February 7, 2024
Page 2

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please contact Shannon Hansen at (952) 937-5150 or at shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Tanko". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Billmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Lisa Joyal
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul MN, 55155

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Lisa:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

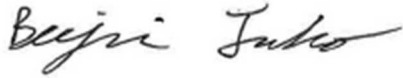
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As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested regulatory and government agencies, as well as Tribal Nations. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys. We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential risks with the Project. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the Site Permit Application.

February 7, 2024
Page 2

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please contact Shannon Hansen at (952) 937-5150 or at shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com.

Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

Main (952) 937-5150
Fax (952) 937-5822

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

Westwood

VIA U.S. Mail and Email

February 27, 2024

Steve Ausen
Supervisor – Freeborn County
30085 670th Ave.
Hartland MN, 56042

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree Wind Phase 2 Project
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Ausen

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree Phase 2 Wind Project (Project) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. Portions of the Project within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

The Project is a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) with a proposed nameplate energy generation capacity of up to 120 megawatts (MW) and requires a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) prior to construction. Alliant anticipates submitting the Site Permit Application to the PUC in Q2 2024. Alliant continues to collect information to inform Project design. The turbine layout, access roads, crane paths, and electrical connections have not been finalized. The Project will likely include a 400-440 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will connect the Project to an existing transmission line that crosses through the Project Area. As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested regulatory and government agencies, as well as Tribal Nations. Recognizing the need for timely and meaningful communication with agencies, we are providing notification to agencies that have a keen interest in renewable energy, protecting the state's resources, and/or serving their community.

We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential risks with the Project. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the

January 29, 2024
Page 2

Site Permit Application. If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please contact Ben Tanko, Alliant Energy, at (608) 290-5442 or at bentanko@alliantenergy.com, or me at (952) 937-5150 or at shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com.

Sincerely,

WESTWOOD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Shannon Hansen
Sr. Permitting Specialist

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Billmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Dawn Marsh
3815 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Dawn:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

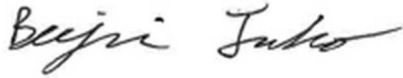
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As part of the site permitting process, Alliant is conducting outreach to potentially interested regulatory and government agencies, as well as Tribal Nations. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys. We are interested in your input regarding the Project and help identifying any potential risks with the Project. We welcome any comments you may have at this time and throughout the site permit application process. Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any written comments provided in response to this letter will be incorporated into the PUC's review of the Site Permit Application.

February 7, 2024
Page 2

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please contact Shannon Hansen at (952) 937-5150 or at shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Tanko". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map



Wisconsin Power and Light Co.
An Alliant Energy Company

Corporate Headquarters
4902 North Biltmore Lane
Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

1-800-ALLIANT (255-4268)
www.alliantenergy.com

February 7, 2024

Reena Bowman
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Reena:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

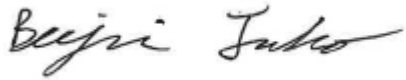
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February 7, 2024
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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

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Madison, WI 53718-2148

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February 7, 2024

Shauna Marquardt
3815 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Re: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota**

Dear Shauna:

On behalf of Alliant Energy Corporation (Alliant), Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is gathering information and requesting agency comments for the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm (Project) located primarily in Freeborn County, Minnesota, with buffer areas extending into Waseca, and Steele Counties, Minnesota (**Exhibit 1**). The Project encompasses approximately 21,000 acres (Project Area) of mainly cultivated croplands with scattered farmsteads throughout the Project Area. The Project Area is generally located north of Albert Lea and south of New Richmond, just west of U.S. Interstate 35W with State Highway 13 traveling north south through the western portion of the Project Area. The enclosed map provides the Project Area and location. The portions of Project Area within Waseca and Steele Counties are required to satisfy wind access buffers - no Project infrastructure is proposed within these counties.

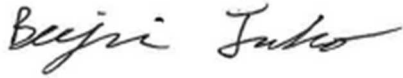
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February 7, 2024
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Sincerely,

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Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy

Enclosure (1): Exhibit 1 - Project Location Map

From: [Carl Anfang](#)
To: [Service, Customer \(DEED\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:38:00 AM

Apologies, we have sent her an email as well, I was told to include this address as well. We will remove this address from future correspondence

Thanks!

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: Service, Customer (DEED) <deed.customerservice@state.mn.us>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:33 AM
To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello, You can contact Lisa Hughes, Economic Development Program Specialist, at 507-344-3601.

From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Hughes, Lisa (DEED) <lisa.hughes@state.mn.us>; Service, Customer (DEED) <deed.customerservice@state.mn.us>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carl.anfang@westwoodps.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Good morning Lisa,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Warzecha, Cynthia \(DNR\)](#)
To: [Carl Anfang](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#); [Byron, Haley \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:47:47 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Carl,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm in Freeborn County. I understand that you have also reached out to Haley Byron, the Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist in the DNR's South Region. Note that Haley will be your primary contact during early coordination. I will become the primary contact after the site permit application has been submitted to the PUC. Please continue to copy me on any correspondence and include me in any early coordination meetings.

Thanks again!

Cynthia Warzecha

Energy Projects Planner

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: 651-259-5078

Email: cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us



From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:23 AM

To: Warzecha, Cynthia (DNR) <cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us>

Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

You don't often get email from carl.anfang@westwoodps.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Good Afternoon Cynthia,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Carl Anfang](#)
To: [Warzecha, Cynthia \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#); [Byron, Haley \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MNDNR
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:56:13 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Cynthia, Haley,

Thank you both for the prompt responses, we are looking forward to working with both of you on this project. On our end Shannon Hansen will be handling the coordination for this phase of the project. I am simply initiating communication. I would expect you to hear more from us on Bent wind II in the near future.

Thanks!

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind
carl.anfang@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Warzecha, Cynthia (DNR) <cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:48 AM
To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>; Byron, Haley (DNR) <Haley.Byron@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

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Hello Carl,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm in Freeborn County. I understand that you have also reached out to Haley Byron, the Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist in the DNR's South Region. Note that Haley will be your primary contact during early coordination. I will become the primary contact after the site permit application has been submitted to the PUC. Please continue to copy me on any correspondence and include me in any early coordination meetings.

Thanks again!

Cynthia Warzecha

Energy Projects Planner

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: 651-259-5078

Email: cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us



From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:23 AM

To: Warzecha, Cynthia (DNR) <cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us>

Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

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Good Afternoon Cynthia,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: [Carl Anfang](#)
To: [MN_MDH_Review](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MDH
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:04:50 AM

Excellent, thank you for the confirmation.

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind
carl.anfang@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: MN_MDH_Review <Health.Review@state.mn.us>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:04 AM
To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>; MN_MDH_Review <Health.Review@state.mn.us>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MDH

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Commissioner Brooke Cunningham is the head of the Minnesota Department of Health. This email inbox is the correct place to send project notifications such as this one. If MDH has any comments it will get to the appropriate staff via this inbox.

From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:42 AM
To: MN_MDH_Review <Health.Review@state.mn.us>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm, MDH

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Good morning Brooke,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The

Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Additionally, If this address does not direct to Brooke Cunningham, can contact information be provided?

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Samantha Odegard](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Cc: [Upper Sioux THPO](#); [Jack Achhamer](#)
Subject: RE: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 11:40:24 AM

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Good Morning Shannon,

We would like to do a tribal survey some of the areas or participate in the field work if it hasn't yet been in the areas we are most interested in.

That the work is in cultivated fields actually makes identification more difficult. I think it would be best to plan a conversation/virtual meeting. Is Westwood doing the field work? It would be good to have them in the conversation as well. If you are contracting that work out it would also be beneficial but conversations with them could be later on.

Thank you,

Samantha Odegard

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer | Upper Sioux Community | Phone: 320-564-6334

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From: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 10:49 AM
To: Samantha Odegard <samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Cc: Upper Sioux THPO <thpo@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>; Jack Achhamer <Jack.Achhamer@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO

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Hello Samantha,

Thank you for your response. The field surveys that were recently performed only examined potential turbine locations to derisk the Project at a very early stage and a comprehensive

investigation has not yet been initiated. The Project has been designed to be constructed within cultivated fields. No undisturbed locations are anticipated to be utilized for the proposed turbine locations or associated structures. As the Project continues to develop, Project design will be available for your review and comment. If a tribal representative is interested in visiting the site during the remaining field investigations this fall, we can let you know the dates when they are scheduled.

Regards,
Shannon

Shannon Hansen

Sr. Environmental Permitting Specialist
shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 207-7653
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 702-0936

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Samantha Odegard <samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 2:31 PM
To: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Cc: Upper Sioux THPO <thpo@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>; Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO

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Thank you Shannon,

What about the tribal participation in the field survey or our own separate survey without archaeologist? Usually it is worked out for us to join them in the field to combine their work and ours in one mobilization but you mentioned field investigations are underway. There are some areas of the project that are high potential for unrecorded cultural sites and burials and standard archaeology may not identify.

Respectfully,

Samantha Odegard

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer | Upper Sioux Community | Phone: 320-564-6334

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From: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 11:49 AM
To: Samantha Odegard <samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Cc: Upper Sioux THPO <thpo@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>; Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO

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Good morning Samantha,

I wanted to circle back on your request for information on the Bent Tree North project timeline and what work has been done to identify cultural resources.

Attached is the Phase Ia cultural resources literature review that describes the background research and the findings that have been done so far. The field investigations are underway.

Let me know if you have any further questions. The Site Permit Application is anticipated to be submitted to the MN Public Utilities Commission in the next 2-3 months.

Thank you,
Shannon

Shannon Hansen
Sr. Environmental Permitting Specialist
shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 207-7653
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 702-0936

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Samantha Odegard <samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:23 AM

To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>; Upper Sioux THPO
<thpo@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Subject: RE: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO

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Good Morning Carl,

This project location is within the homelands of the Upper Sioux Community, in areas where we lived, hunted, prayed and buried our dead for thousands of years. Our THPO is interested in further consultation on this project, primarily focused on the work to be done to identify cultural resources and the tribal participation in that process.

It is early in the process but I'd be interested in hearing more about the project timeline and other details.

Respectfully,

Samantha Odegard

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer | Upper Sioux Community | Phone: 320-564-6334

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From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:07 AM
To: Samantha Odegard <samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request For Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Upper Sioux THPO

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Good morning Samantha,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Marquardt, Shauna R](#)
To: [Sophia Fisher](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm USFWS
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:52:46 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-kpv3h34q.png](#)

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Received, Sophia. Thank you. I've forwarded your messages to our renewable energy lead, Dawn Marsh for review.

Shauna Marquardt ([she/her](#))
Field Office Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
mobile: 573-239-3293

The Vision of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Office is to foster a sustainable and just environment for future generations through science, collaboration, and stewardship.



From: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:17 AM
To: Marquardt, Shauna R <Shauna_Marquardt@fws.gov>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm USFWS

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hi Shauna,

Also see attached Map.

Thanks,

Sophia Fisher ([she/her](#))
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Sophia Fisher
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:15 AM
To: Shauna_Marquardt@fws.gov
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm USFWS

Good afternoon, Shauna

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th. We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to set up a meeting to discuss the Project in greater detail and ongoing wildlife surveys.

Thanks,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: [Sophia Fisher](#)
To: [Hahn, Robert \(FAA\)](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#); [Annie Anderson](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Federal Aviation Administration
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 4:23:31 PM

Hi Robert,

Thank you for your prompt response; Alliant will be filing all required FAA notices as the project progresses and turbine locations are determined. We will include your comments and add results of the FAA determination letters to the site permit applications.

Best,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Hahn, Robert (FAA) <Robert.Hahn@faa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 2:13 PM
To: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Subject: FW: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Federal Aviation Administration

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Ms. Fisher,

Submit points for each subject wind turbine at the following site:

[Obstruction Evaluation / Airport Airspace Analysis \(OE/AAA\) \(faa.gov\)](#) **If construction or alteration IS NOT LOCATED on an airport:**

This is assuming the wind turbines are over 200' AGL (above ground level).

"Any construction or alteration exceeding 200 feet above ground level, regardless of location."

Also, one can get the marking & lighting for each site from the forthcoming determination letters.

Note: I don't see any airports looking at the Aeronautical Chart - using the 100:1 notification surface criterion.

“100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 ft. from the nearest point of the nearest runway of each airport described in 14 CFR 77.9(d) with its longest runway more than 3,200 ft. in actual length, excluding heliports.”
Thanks,

Robert Hahn
FAA - Dakota-Minnesota ADO
6020 28th Ave S
Suite 102
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2700
W 612-253-4639
E-mail: Robert.Hahn@faa.gov

From: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 2:19:36 PM
To: Terry, Lindsay (FAA) <Lindsay.Terry@faa.gov>
Subject: FW: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Federal Aviation Administration

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lindsay,

I may have sent this letter to the wrong email address (see below). Sending this to ensure you receive the request for comment.

Thank you,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Sophia Fisher
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:10 AM
To: Lindsay.terry@faa.gov
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Federal Aviation Administration

Good afternoon, Lindsay

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Thanks,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)

Project Assistant, Wind

sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Green, Chris \(MPCA\)](#)
To: [Carl Anfang](#); [Ness, Jenna \(COMM\)](#)
Cc: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - MPCA
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 1:31:13 PM

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Hi Carl,

We typically don't conduct reviews on projects without ER docs, so once the EAW or other related ER doc is ready for review then feel free to send it my way,

Chris Green
Project Manager
Environmental Review
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
504 Fairgrounds Rd Suite 200
Marshall MN 56258-1688
Office: 507-476-4258
Cell: 507-696-9718
Chris.Green@state.mn.us

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From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Card, Dan (MPCA) <dan.card@state.mn.us>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - MPCA

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Good morning Dan,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

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Thank you

From: [Shannon Hansen](#)
To: [Leonard Wabasha \(TO\)](#); [CulturalResources](#)
Cc: [David Weetman](#); [Jack Achhamer](#); [Ryan Grohnke](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 8:59:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning,

Thank you for the initial response and inquiry. At this time, the literature review is currently in progress and the Westwood cultural team is coordinating with the OSA and SHPO.

When the literature review is completed, we will work with Alliant (the Applicant) to determine how to best share the information with interested parties.

In the meantime, please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Shannon

Shannon Hansen

Sr. Permitting Specialist
shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 207-7653
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 702-0936

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:52 AM
To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>; CulturalResources@ShakopeeDakota.org
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota

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I will need to see a desktop survey of previously recorded sites in or near the project APE before I can make a determination. Generally speaking, a project proposer will check with the Office of the State Archaeologist site files and or the State Historic Preservation Office for previously recorded significant archaeological or architectural sites.



LEONARD WABASHA

Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
d: 952.496.6120
[shakopeedakota.org](mailto:leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)
Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Indian tribe located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a focus on being a good neighbor, good steward of the earth, and good employer, the SMSC is committed to charitable donations, community partnerships, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.

From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:18 AM

To: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>; CulturalResources <CulturalResources@ShakopeeDakota.org>

Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota

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Leonard, I have attached the relevant documents for you to review here. My apologies, I meant to attach it to my last email.

Thanks!

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind
carl.anfang@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Carl Anfang

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:15 AM

To: 'leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org' <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>; 'culturalresources@shakopeedakota.org' <culturalresources@shakopeedakota.org>

Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm - Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota

Good morning Leonard,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The

Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

~~~~~

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~~~~~


From: [Shannon Hansen](#)
To: [Mark Schaetzke](#)
Cc: [David Weetman](#); [Jack Achamer](#); [Annie Anderson](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Waseca County
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 9:12:00 AM

Good morning Mark,
Thank you for the timely response.

If questions or concerns arise about the project, please reach out to myself and copy the group on this email.

Sincerely,
Shannon

Shannon Hansen
Sr. Permitting Specialist
shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 207-7653
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 702-0936

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Mark Schaetzke <marks.swcd@wasecacounty.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:47 AM
To: Aaron Leschisin <Aaron.Leschisin@westwoodps.com>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Waseca County

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Good morning Aaron,

Since there is no proposed infrastructure within Waseca County I would have no comments.

Thanks,

Mark Schaetzke
District Manager

Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District
300 N State Street
Waseca, MN 56093
507 835-0623

From: Aaron Leschisin <Aaron.Leschisin@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:11 AM
To: Mark Schaetzke <marks.swcd@wasecacounty.gov>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm Waseca County

You don't often get email from aaron.leschisin@westwoodps.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Waseca County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good morning Mark,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Thank you!

Aaron Leschisin
Project Assistant, Wind
aaron.leschisin@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 697-5728
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: [Sophia Fisher](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Cc: [Annie Anderson](#)
Subject: FW: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 11:02:18 AM
Attachments: [BT_Ex01_ProjectLocation_240206.pdf](#)
[2024-02-07 Meghan Federal Letter.pdf](#)

From: Brown, Meghan J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Meghan.J.Brown@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:56 AM
To: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Subject: FW: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Ms. Fisher,

The Corps of Engineers St. Paul District Regulatory Division (the Corps) recently received a request for comments on the attached project.

Our office is committed to efficient, helpful service. It is unclear if your project will have impacts to jurisdictional waters. If your project will have impacts to aquatic resources, please submit a permit application with the impacts clearly identified and we can assist you through our permit review process if authorization is required.

You may also request a pre-application meeting to discuss your project prior to submitting a permit application. You can find more information on our permit program and our joint application here: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permitting-Process-Procedures/>. **Be sure to select the pre-application box on the joint application.*

Please note this recommendation is only pertaining to the Corps process and does NOT indicate whether a review is required from the state or local authorities.

Respectfully,
Meghan Brown (she/her)
Lead Project Manager
St. Paul District – Regulatory Division
(651) 290-5688

From: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:14 AM
To: Meghan.Brown@usace.army.mil; USACE_Requests_MN
<USACE_Requests_MN@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Good afternoon, Meghan

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Thanks,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: [Sophia Fisher](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: Fw: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 10:17:31 AM

See below!

Sophia Fisher (she/her)

Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 10:27 AM
To: Brown, Meghan J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Meghan.J.Brown@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>; Annie Anderson
<Annie.Anderson@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Hi Meghan,

Thank you for your review and comment at this stage. Impacts to jurisdictional waters are not known at this time but will be determined during the preliminary engineering design process. If jurisdictional waters are impacted the applicant will apply for all required permits.

Best,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)
Project Assistant, Wind
sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Brown, Meghan J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Meghan.J.Brown@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:56 AM

To: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

Subject: FW: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Ms. Fisher,

The Corps of Engineers St. Paul District Regulatory Division (the Corps) recently received a request for comments on the attached project.

Our office is committed to efficient, helpful service. It is unclear if your project will have impacts to jurisdictional waters. If your project will have impacts to aquatic resources, please submit a permit application with the impacts clearly identified and we can assist you through our permit review process if authorization is required.

You may also request a pre-application meeting to discuss your project prior to submitting a permit application. You can find more information on our permit program and our joint application here: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permitting-Process-Procedures/>. **Be sure to select the pre-application box on the joint application.*

Please note this recommendation is only pertaining to the Corps process and does NOT indicate whether a review is required from the state or local authorities.

Respectfully,
Meghan Brown (she/her)
Lead Project Manager
St. Paul District – Regulatory Division
(651) 290-5688

From: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:14 AM

To: Meghan.Brown@usace.army.mil; USACE_Requests_MN
<USACE_Requests_MN@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Good afternoon, Meghan

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your

agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.

Thanks,

Sophia Fisher (she/her)

Project Assistant, Wind

sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150

From: [Shannon Hansen](#)
To: [Anita Cloud](#)
Cc: [Gina Lemon](#)
Subject: RE: thpo # 24-065
Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:35:00 AM

Good afternoon Anita. Thank you for the updated contact information. I will note the change in our records.

Nice to meet you Gina. Your response letter will be documented and included with the Site Permit Application materials that will be submitted to the MN Public Utilities Commission later this spring/summer.

Regards,
Shannon

Shannon Hansen
Sr. Permitting Specialist
shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 207-7653
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 702-0936

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Anita Cloud <anita.cloud@llojibwe.net>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Shannon Hansen <shannon.hansen@westwoodps.com>
Cc: Gina Lemon <gina.lemon@llojibwe.net>
Subject: thpo # 24-065

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good afternoon Amy Burnette is no longer with LLBO/THPO.
I have included the new THPO officer introduction letter.
Please update your records accordingly.

Have a great rest of your day....

Respectfully,

Anita M Cloud

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Tribal Historic Preservation Assistant
190 Sailstar Drive NE
Cass Lake, MN 56633
anita.cloud@llojibwe.net



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
3815 American Blvd East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1659
Phone: (952) 858-0793



In Reply Refer To:

03/19/2024 14:28:03 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0064759

Project Name: Bent Tree North

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

This response has been generated by the Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) system to provide information on natural resources that could be affected by your project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides this response under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

Threatened and Endangered Species

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirement for obtaining a Technical Assistance Letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Consultation Technical Assistance

Please refer to our [Section 7 website](#) for guidance and technical assistance, including [step-by-step instructions](#) for making effects determinations for each species that might be present and for specific guidance on the following types of projects: projects in developed areas, HUD, CDBG, EDA, USDA Rural Development projects, pipelines, buried utilities, telecommunications, and requests for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA.

We recommend running the project (if it qualifies) through our **Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key (Minnesota-Wisconsin ("D-key"))**. A [demonstration video](#) showing how-to access and use the determination key is available. Please note that the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key is the third option of 3 available d-keys. D-keys are tools to help Federal agencies and other project proponents determine if their proposed action has the potential to adversely affect federally listed species and designated critical habitat. The Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key includes a structured set of questions that assists a project proponent in determining whether a proposed project qualifies for a certain predetermined consultation outcome for all federally listed species found in Minnesota and Wisconsin (except for the northern long-eared bat- see below), which includes determinations of “no effect” or “may affect, not likely to adversely affect.” In each case, the Service has compiled and analyzed the best available information on the species’ biology and the impacts of certain activities to support these determinations.

If your completed d-key output letter shows a "No Effect" (NE) determination for all listed species, print your IPaC output letter for your files to document your compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

For Federal projects with a “Not Likely to Adversely Affect” (NLAA) determination, our concurrence becomes valid if you do not hear otherwise from us after a 30-day review period, as indicated in your letter.

If your d-key output letter indicates additional coordination with the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office is necessary (i.e., you get a “May Affect” determination), you will be provided additional guidance on contacting the Service to continue ESA coordination outside of the key; ESA compliance cannot be concluded using the key for “May Affect” determinations unless otherwise indicated in your output letter.

Note: Once you obtain your official species list, you are not required to continue in IPaC with d-keys, although in most cases these tools should expedite your review. If you choose to make an effects determination on your own, you may do so. If the project is a Federal Action, you may want to review our section 7 step-by-step instructions before making your determinations.

Using the IPaC Official Species List to Make No Effect and May Affect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If IPaC returns a result of “There are no listed species found within the vicinity of the project,” then project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on any federally listed species under Service jurisdiction. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **no effect** determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.
2. If IPaC returns one or more federally listed, proposed, or candidate species as potentially present in the action area of the proposed project – other than bats (see below) – then project proponents must determine if proposed activities will have **no effect** on or **may affect** those species. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain [Life History Information for Listed and Candidate Species](#) on our office website. If no impacts will occur to a species on the IPaC species list (e.g., there is no habitat present in the project area), the appropriate determination is **no effect**. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

3. Should you determine that project activities **may affect** any federally listed, please contact our office for further coordination. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

Northern Long-Eared Bats

Northern long-eared bats occur throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin and the information below may help in determining if your project may affect these species.

This species hibernates in caves or mines only during the winter. In Minnesota and Wisconsin, the hibernation season is considered to be November 1 to March 31. During the active season (April 1 to October 31) they roost in forest and woodland habitats. Suitable summer habitat for northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh for northern long-eared bat that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat and evaluated for use by bats. If your project will impact caves or mines or will involve clearing forest or woodland habitat containing suitable roosting habitat, northern long-eared bats could be affected.

Examples of unsuitable habitat include:

- Individual trees that are greater than 1,000 feet from forested or wooded areas,
- Trees found in highly developed urban areas (e.g., street trees, downtown areas),
- A pure stand of less than 3-inch dbh trees that are not mixed with larger trees, and
- A monoculture stand of shrubby vegetation with no potential roost trees.

If IPaC returns a result that northern long-eared bats are potentially present in the action area of the proposed project, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities **may affect** this species **IF** one or more of the following activities are proposed:

- Clearing or disturbing suitable roosting habitat, as defined above, at any time of year,
- Any activity in or near the entrance to a cave or mine,
- Mining, deep excavation, or underground work within 0.25 miles of a cave or mine,
- Construction of one or more wind turbines, or
- Demolition or reconstruction of human-made structures that are known to be used by bats based on observations of roosting bats, bats emerging at dusk, or guano deposits or stains.

If none of the above activities are proposed, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on the northern long-eared bat. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **No**

Effect determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

If any of the above activities are proposed, and the northern long-eared bat appears on the user's species list, the federal project user will be directed to either the range-wide northern long-eared bat D-key or the Federal Highways Administration, Federal Railways Administration, and Federal Transit Administration Indiana bat/Northern long-eared bat D-key, depending on the type of project and federal agency involvement. Similar to the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key, these d-keys help to determine if prohibited take might occur and, if not, will generate an automated verification letter.

Please note: On November 30, 2022, the Service published a proposal final rule to reclassify the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. On January 26, 2023, the Service published a 60-day extension for the final reclassification rule in the Federal Register, moving the effective listing date from January 30, 2023, to March 31, 2023. This extension will provide stakeholders and the public time to preview interim guidance and consultation tools before the rule becomes effective. When available, the tools will be available on the Service's northern long-eared bat website (<https://www.fws.gov/species/northern-long-eared-bat-myotis-septentrionalis>). Once the final rule goes into effect on March 31, 2023, the 4(d) D-key will no longer be available (4(d) rules are not available for federally endangered species) and will be replaced with a new Range-wide NLEB D-key (range-wide d-key). For projects not completed by March 31, 2023, that were previously reviewed under the 4(d) d-key, there may be a need for reinitiation of consultation. For these ongoing projects previously reviewed under the 4(d) d-key that may result in incidental take of the northern long-eared bat, we recommend you review your project using the new range-wide d-key once available. If your project does not comply with the range-wide d-key, it may be eligible for use of the Interim (formal) Consultation framework (framework). The framework is intended to facilitate the transition from the 4(d) rule to typical Section 7 consultation procedures for federally endangered species and will be available only until spring 2024. Again, when available, these tools (new range-wide d-key and framework) will be available on the Service's [northern long-eared bat website](#).

Whooping Crane

Whooping crane is designated as a non-essential experimental population in Wisconsin and consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act is only required if project activities will occur within a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park. If project activities are proposed on lands outside of a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park, then you are not required to consult. For additional information on this designation and consultation requirements, please review "[Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Whooping Cranes in the Eastern United States](#)."

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles - Although the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, this species and the golden eagle are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Should bald or golden eagles occur within or near the project area please contact our office for further coordination. For communication and wind energy projects, please refer to additional guidelines below.

Migratory Birds - The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Service. The Service has the responsibility under the MBTA to proactively prevent the

mortality of migratory birds whenever possible and we encourage implementation of [recommendations that minimize potential impacts to migratory birds](#). Such measures include clearing forested habitat outside the nesting season (generally March 1 to August 31) or conducting nest surveys prior to clearing to avoid injury to eggs or nestlings.

Communication Towers - Construction of new communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. However, the Service has developed [voluntary guidelines for minimizing impacts](#).

Transmission Lines - Migratory birds, especially large species with long wingspans, heavy bodies, and poor maneuverability can also collide with power lines. In addition, mortality can occur when birds, particularly hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, and owls, attempt to perch on uninsulated or unguarded power poles. To minimize these risks, please refer to [guidelines](#) developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and the Service. Implementation of these measures is especially important along sections of lines adjacent to wetlands or other areas that support large numbers of raptors and migratory birds.

Wind Energy - To minimize impacts to migratory birds and bats, wind energy projects should follow the Service's [Wind Energy Guidelines](#). In addition, please refer to the Service's [Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance](#), which provides guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities.

State Department of Natural Resources Coordination

While it is not required for your Federal section 7 consultation, please note that additional state endangered or threatened species may also have the potential to be impacted. Please contact the Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for information on state listed species that may be present in your proposed project area.

Minnesota

[Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: Review.NHIS@state.mn.us

Wisconsin

[Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: DNRERReview@wi.gov

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office

3815 American Blvd East

Bloomington, MN 55425-1659

(952) 858-0793

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0064759

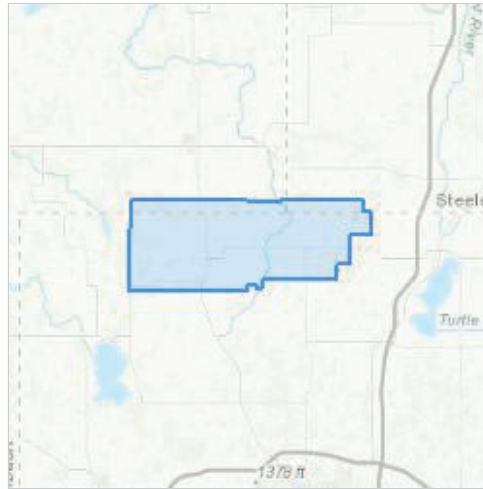
Project Name: Bent Tree North

Project Type: Power Gen - Wind - Onshore

Project Description: Proposed wind power generation.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@43.82601425,-93.44897890512433,14z>



Counties: Freeborn , Steele , and Waseca counties, Minnesota

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 4 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

**USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS
AND FISH HATCHERIES**

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are likely bald eagles present in your project area. For additional information on bald eagles, refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

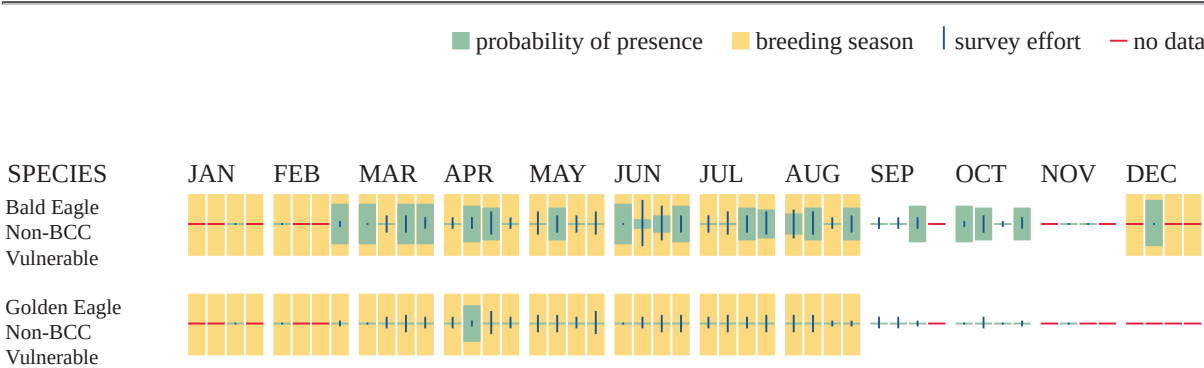
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider

implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Golden-plover <i>Pluvialis dominica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10561	Breeds elsewhere
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Bobolink <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9454	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Franklin's Gull <i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10567	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<p>Golden-winged Warbler <i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745</p>	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
<p>Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p>Marbled Godwit <i>Limosa fedoa</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481</p>	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
<p>Pectoral Sandpiper <i>Calidris melanotos</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p>Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398</p>	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
<p>Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres morinella</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10633</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p>Short-billed Dowitcher <i>Limnodromus griseus</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p>Western Grebe <i>aechmophorus occidentalis</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743</p>	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
<p>Willet <i>Tringa semipalmata</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669</p>	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental](#)

[Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

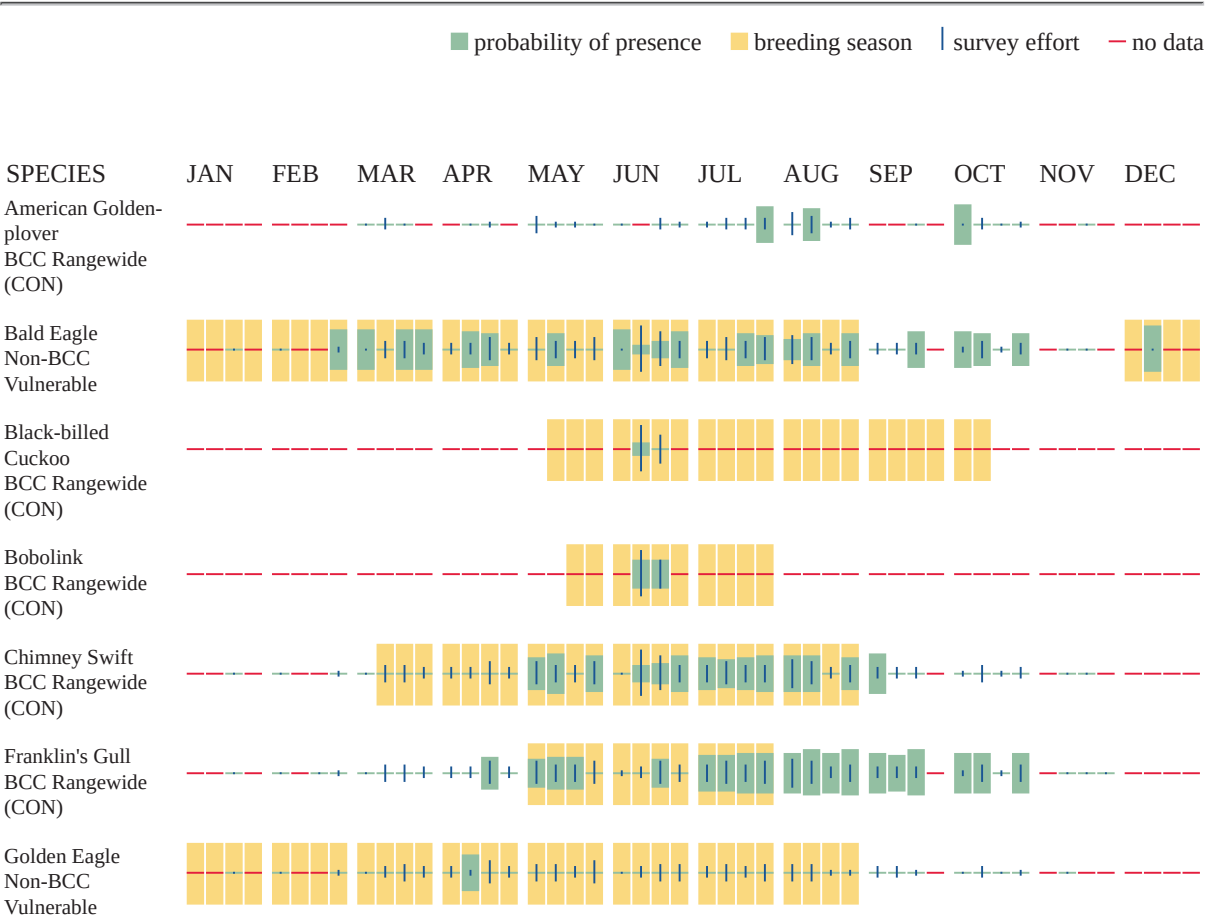
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.





Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- PSS1B
- PFO1A
- PFO1B
- PSS1A
- PFO1C

RIVERINE

- R4SBC
- R2UBH
- R5UBFx
- R2UBGx
- R5UBH
- R2UBG
- R4SBCx

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- PEM1B
- PEM1A
- PEM1C
- PEM1Cd
- PEM1Cx
- PEM1Af
- PEM1Fx
- PEM1Ax

FRESHWATER POND

- PABFx
- PUBKx
- PUBF
- PUBFx

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Westwood Professional Services
 Name: Shaun McCoshum
 Address: 2901 Dallas Parkway
 Address Line 2: Suite 400
 City: Plano
 State: TX
 Zip: 75093
 Email: shaun.mccoshum@flatrockenergy.net
 Phone: 2105876083

From: [Carl Anfang](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Cc: [Jack Achhammer](#); [Annie Anderson](#)
Subject: FW: SHPO No 2024-1055 Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:11:11 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2024-1055.pdf](#)

Good Morning,

I know Shannon is out this week, so I want to make sure this ends up in the right place. State Historic preservation office responded directly to me with a comment letter on Bent Tree this morning.

Thanks All!

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind
carl.anfang@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: GraggJohnson, Kelly (ADM) <kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:00 AM
To: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Subject: SHPO No 2024-1055 Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Carl - Please see the attached SHPO comment letter for this proposed project. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Kelly



Kelly Gragg-Johnson (she/her) | **Environmental Review Program Specialist**

50 Sherburne Avenue, Suite 203
Saint Paul, MN 55155
(651) 201-3285 | kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us

For information about how to submit projects for review, please visit the [Environmental Review Program Website](#).

From: Carl Anfang <Carl.Anfang@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:19 AM
To: Beimers, Sarah (ADM) <sarah.beimers@state.mn.us>; MN_MNIT_MNSHPO <MNSHPO@state.mn.us>
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: RE: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

Some people who received this message don't often get email from carl.anfang@westwoodps.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Sarah,

I apologize, I accidentally hit send before I finished my email. I meant to include the linked attachments. One is a formal letter requesting comment, and the other is a site map characterizing the project area we are requesting comments for.

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind
carl.anfang@westwoodps.com
main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: Carl Anfang
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:14 AM
To: Sarah.Beimers@state.mn.us; MNSHPO@state.mn.us
Cc: Shannon Hansen <Shannon.Hansen@westwoodps.com>
Subject: Request for Comment on Bent Tree II Wind Farm

“Good Afternoon Sarah,

Alliant Energy is writing to request your comments on the proposed Bent Tree II Wind Farm. The Project is a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a

nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments by March 11th.”

Regards,

Carl Anfang

Senior Project Assistant, Wind

carl.anfang@westwoodps.com

main (952) 937-5150

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com

(888) 937-5150



April 2, 2024

Ben Tanko
Senior Renewable Development Specialist
Alliant Energy
4902 North Biltmore Lane, Suite 1000
Madison, WI 53718-2148

RE: Bent Tree II Wind Farm
Freeborn, Waseca, and Steele Counties
SHPO Number: 2024-1055

Dear Ben Tanko:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project. The submitted documentation has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Office by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act (Minn. Stat. 138.665-666).

According to your submission, Alliant Energy is proposing to develop a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) in Freeborn, Waseca, and Steel Counties in Minnesota. The proposed project will include the installation of wind turbines, access roads, crane paths, electrical connections, and a possible transmission line that will connect the LWECS to an existing transmission substation.

Due to the nature and location of the proposed project, we recommend that a Phase IA literature review and assessment be completed to assess the potential for archaeological resources being located within the proposed project area. If, as a result of this assessment, a Phase I archaeological survey is recommended, this survey should be completed. The survey must meet the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation and should include an evaluation of National Register eligibility for any properties that are identified. For a list of consultants who have expressed an interest in undertaking this type of research and archaeological surveys, please visit the website preservationdirectory.mnhs.org, and select "Archaeologists" in the "Specialties" box.

The Phase Ia literature review and assessment should also consider the effects of the project on designated historic properties. This includes not only direct impacts, but potential indirect impacts of the project as well. This would include the introduction of visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that may affect historic structures that are listed in the National or State Register of Historic Places or are part of the Historic Sites Network.

The resulting cultural resources report should include a map with clearly marked project areas including the wind turbines, laydown yards, crane paths, collector lines, access roads, and any other above-ground equipment structures (i.e. substation, O&M building, ADLS towers, etc.) in relation to any identified cultural resources (architectural properties and archaeological sites). The report should discuss ways in which the project will avoid impacting, both directly and indirectly, any cultural resources that are identified.

MINNESOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

50 Sherburne Avenue ■ Administration Building 203 ■ Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155 ■ 651-201-3287

mn.gov/admin/shpo ■ mnshpo@state.mn.us

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SERVICE PROVIDER

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR § 800. If this project is considered for federal financial assistance, or requires a federal permit or license, then review and consultation with our office will need to be initiated by the lead federal agency. Be advised that comments and recommendations provided by our office for this state-level review may differ from findings and determinations made by the federal agency as part of review and consultation under Section 106.

If you have any questions regarding our review of this project, please contact me at 651-201-3285 or kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Kelly Gragg-Johnson

Kelly Gragg-Johnson
Environmental Review Specialist



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

April 10, 2024

Correspondence # MCE 2023-00951

Shaun McCoshum
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

RE: Natural Heritage Review of the proposed Bent Tree 2,

County	Township (N)	Range (W)	Sections
Freeborn	104	21	3-9, 16-18
Steele	105	21	31-34
Freeborn	104	22	1-18
Waseca	105	22	31-36
Freeborn	104	23	1, 12, 13, 24
Waseca	105	23	36

Dear Shaun McCoshum,

As requested, the [Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System](#) has been reviewed to determine if the proposed project has the potential to impact any rare species or other significant natural features. Based on the project details provided with the request, the following rare features may be impacted by the proposed project:

Ecologically Significant Areas

- The Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) has identified four Sites of *Moderate* Biodiversity Significance within the proposed project area, Hartland 21, Hartland ROW – N, Freeborn 3, and Hartland 24 West. Sites of Biodiversity Significance have varying levels of native biodiversity and are ranked based on the relative significance of this biodiversity at a statewide level. Sites ranked as *Moderate* contain occurrences of rare species and/or moderately disturbed native plant communities, and/or landscapes that have a strong potential for recovery. Hartland 21 and Hartland ROW – N have mapped examples of native prairie, Mesic Prairie (Southern) (UPs23a), which has a state conservation rank of Imperiled (S2). Freeborn 3 and Hartland 24 West have

mapped examples of Sugar Maple – Basswood – (Bitternut Hickory) Forest (MHs39a) and Southern Mesic Oak-Basswood Forest (MHs38). These have state conservation ranks of Imperiled (S2) and Vulnerable to Extirpation (S3), respectively. We encourage you to consider project alternatives that would avoid or minimize disturbance to these ecologically significant areas. Actions to minimize disturbance may include, but are not limited to, the following recommendations:

- Minimize vehicular disturbance in MBS Sites (allow only vehicles/equipment necessary for construction activities).
- Do not park equipment or stockpile supplies in MBS Sites.
- Do not place spoil in MBS Sites or other sensitive areas.
- Retain a buffer between proposed activities and the MBS Site.
- If possible, conduct the work under frozen ground conditions.
- Use effective erosion prevention and sediment control measures.
- Inspect and clean all equipment prior to bringing it near the Sites to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.
- As much as possible, operate within already-disturbed areas.
- Revegetate disturbed soil with [native species suitable to the local habitat](#) as soon after construction as possible.
- Use only weed-free mulches, topsoils, and seed mixes. Of particular concern are birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and crown vetch (*Coronilla varia*), two invasive species that are sold commercially and are problematic in prairies and disturbed open areas.

MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance and DNR Native Plant Communities can be viewed using the Explore page in [Minnesota Conservation Explorer](#) or their GIS shapefiles can be downloaded from the [MN Geospatial Commons](#). Please contact the [NH Review Team](#) if you need assistance accessing the data. Reference the [MBS Site Biodiversity Significance](#) and [Native Plant Community](#) websites for information on interpreting the data. To receive a list of MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance and DNR Native Plant Communities in the vicinity of your project, create a [Conservation Planning Report](#) using the Explore Tab in [Minnesota Conservation Explorer](#).

State-listed Species

- Tuberous Indian plantain (*Arnoglossum plantagineum*), Sullivant's milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*), edible valerian (*Valeriana edulis* var. *ciliata*), all state-listed as threatened, and small white lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*) and rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), state-listed as species of special concern, have been documented in the proposed project area near the railroad line between New Richland and Hartland. Minnesota's Endangered Species Statute (Minnesota Statutes, section 84.0895) and associated Rules (Minnesota Rules, part 6212.1800 to 6212.2300 and 6134) prohibit the take of endangered or threatened plants or animals, including their parts or seeds, without a permit. **To avoid potential take of state-**

protected plants, the project impact area needs to avoid impacting railroad right-of-way or mapped native prairie (viewable in [MCE](#)). Alternatively, to demonstrate avoidance if these areas will be impacted, a qualified surveyor will need to conduct a botanical survey prior to any project activities.

Surveys must be conducted by a qualified surveyor and follow the standards contained in the [Rare Species Survey Process](#) and [Rare Plant Guidance](#). Visit the [Natural Heritage Review](#) page for a list of certified surveyors and more information on this process. Project planning should take into account that any botanical survey needs to be conducted during the appropriate time of the year, which may be limited. Please consult with the NH Review Team at Review.NHIS@state.mn.us if you have any questions regarding this process.

Please contact Review.NHIS@state.mn.us to confirm that the above avoidance measures will be implemented or to inform us that they are not feasible. If the measures are not feasible, a project-specific avoidance plan will likely be needed.

- Trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*), a state-listed species of special concern, have been documented nesting within the proposed project area. During the breeding season, trumpeter swans select small ponds and lakes with extensive beds of cattails, bulrush, sedges, and/or horsetail. Ideal habitat includes about 100 m of open water for take-off, stable levels of unpolluted water, emergent vegetation, low levels of human disturbance, and the presence of muskrat houses and American beaver lodges for use as nesting platforms. Construction activities that occur during the nesting season, late April through early June, could disrupt nesting swans, if present.

Please note, the NHIS does not track migrating birds. As such, additional state-listed species may be impacted by this project. Wind farms can affect birds due to collision fatality, displacement due to disturbance, habitat fragmentation, and habitat loss. Even if collision fatality rates are low, the additional fatalities may be significant for rare species. The DNR looks forward to receiving the results of any avian surveys and may have additional comments regarding state-listed birds at that time.

Actions to minimize impacts to state-listed birds include, but are not limited to, the following,

- place turbines away from wetland or grassland areas,
- feather turbine blades below cut-in speeds,
- increase cut-in speeds.
- The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS) tracks bat roost trees and hibernacula plus some acoustic data, but this information is not exhaustive. All of Minnesota's bats, including the federally endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), and little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*),

all of which are state-listed species of special concern, occur throughout Minnesota. During the active season (approximately April-November) bats roost underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live and dead trees. Tree removal can negatively impact bats by destroying roosting habitat, especially during the pup rearing season when females are forming maternity roosting colonies and the pups cannot yet fly. To minimize these impacts, **the DNR recommends that tree removal be avoided from June 1 through August 15.**

Wind farms are known to cause bat fatalities due to collisions with turbines. Actions to minimize bat fatalities include, but are not limited to, the following recommendations:

- place turbines away from forested areas,
- feather turbine blades below cut-in speeds,
- increase cut-in speeds.

The DNR looks forward to receiving the results of the bat surveys and may have additional comments regarding state-listed bats at that time.

- Please visit the [DNR Rare Species Guide](#) for more information on the habitat use of these species and recommended measures to avoid or minimize impacts.

Federally Protected Species

- To ensure compliance with federal law, conduct a federal regulatory review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) online [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#).

Environmental Review and Permitting

- To further protect rare features, please incorporate the relevant guidance, including setbacks, within the [DNR's Guidance for Commercial Wind Energy Projects](#) when determining infrastructure location and throughout the operation of this proposed project.
- Please include a copy of this letter and the MCE-generated Final Project Report in any state or local license or permit application. Please note that measures to avoid or minimize disturbance to the above rare features may be included as restrictions or conditions in any required permits or licenses.

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and thus does not represent all of the occurrences of rare features within the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area. If

additional information becomes available regarding rare features in the vicinity of the project, further review may be necessary.

For environmental review purposes, the results of this Natural Heritage Review are valid for one year; the results are only valid for the project location and project description provided with the request. If project details change or the project has not occurred within one year, please resubmit the project for review within one year of initiating project activities.

The Natural Heritage Review does not constitute project approval by the Department of Natural Resources. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential impacts to these rare features. Visit the [Natural Heritage Review website](#) for additional information regarding this process, survey guidance, and other related information. For information on the environmental review process or other natural resource concerns, you may contact your [DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist](#).

Thank you for consulting us on this matter and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Drake".

James Drake
Natural Heritage Review Specialist
James.F.Drake@state.mn.us

Cc: Haley Byron, Cynthia Warzecha



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

April 12, 2024

Correspondence # MCE 2023-00951

Shaun McCoshum
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

RE: Natural Heritage Review of the proposed Bent Tree 2,

County	Township (N)	Range (W)	Sections
Freeborn	104	21	3-9, 16-18
Steele	105	21	31-34
Freeborn	104	22	1-18
Waseca	105	22	31-36
Freeborn	104	23	1, 12, 13, 24
Waseca	105	23	36

Dear Shaun McCoshum,

As requested, the [Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System](#) has been reviewed to determine if the proposed project has the potential to impact any rare species or other significant natural features. Based on the project details provided with the request, the following rare features may be impacted by the proposed project:

Ecologically Significant Areas

- The Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) has identified three Sites of *Moderate* Biodiversity Significance within the proposed project area, Hartland 21, Hartland ROW – N, and New Richland 33. Sites of Biodiversity Significance have varying levels of native biodiversity and are ranked based on the relative significance of this biodiversity at a statewide level. Sites ranked as *Moderate* contain occurrences of rare species and/or moderately disturbed native plant communities, and/or landscapes that have a strong potential for recovery. Hartland 21 and Hartland ROW – N have mapped examples of native prairie, Mesic Prairie (Southern) (UPs23a), which has a state conservation rank of Imperiled (S2). We encourage you to consider project

alternatives that would avoid or minimize disturbance to these ecologically significant areas. Actions to minimize disturbance may include, but are not limited to, the following recommendations:

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- Use effective erosion prevention and sediment control measures.
- Inspect and clean equipment prior to operating within the MBS Site and follow recommendations to [prevent the spread of invasive species](#).
- As much as possible, operate within already-disturbed areas.
- Revegetate disturbed soil with [native species suitable to the local habitat](#) as soon after construction as possible.
- Use only weed-free mulches, topsoils, and seed mixes. Of particular concern are birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and crown vetch (*Coronilla varia*), two invasive species that are sold commercially and are problematic in prairies and disturbed open areas.

MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance and DNR Native Plant Communities can be viewed using the Explore page in [Minnesota Conservation Explorer](#) or their GIS shapefiles can be downloaded from the [MN Geospatial Commons](#). Please contact the [NH Review Team](#) if you need assistance accessing the data. Reference the [MBS Site Biodiversity Significance](#) and [Native Plant Community](#) websites for information on interpreting the data. To receive a list of MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance and DNR Native Plant Communities in the vicinity of your project, create a [Conservation Planning Report](#) using the Explore Tab in [Minnesota Conservation Explorer](#).

State-listed Species

- Tuberous Indian plantain (*Arnoglossum plantagineum*), Sullivan's milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*), edible valerian (*Valeriana edulis* var. *ciliata*), all state-listed as threatened, and small white lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*) and rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), state-listed as species of special concern, have been documented in the proposed project area near the railroad line between New Richland and Hartland. Minnesota's Endangered Species Statute (Minnesota Statutes, section 84.0895) and associated Rules (Minnesota Rules, part 6212.1800 to 6212.2300 and 6134) prohibit the take of endangered or threatened plants or animals, including their parts or seeds, without a permit. **To avoid potential take of state-protected plants, the project impact area needs to avoid impacting railroad right-of-way or mapped native prairie (viewable in [MCE](#)).** Alternatively, to demonstrate avoidance if these

areas will be impacted, a qualified surveyor will need to conduct a botanical survey prior to any project activities.

Surveys must be conducted by a qualified surveyor and follow the standards contained in the [Rare Species Survey Process](#) and [Rare Plant Guidance](#). Visit the [Natural Heritage Review](#) page for a list of certified surveyors and more information on this process. Project planning should take into account that any botanical survey needs to be conducted during the appropriate time of the year, which may be limited. Please consult with the NH Review Team at Review.NHIS@state.mn.us if you have any questions regarding this process.

Please contact Review.NHIS@state.mn.us to confirm that the above avoidance measures will be implemented or to inform us that they are not feasible. If the measures are not feasible, a project-specific avoidance plan will likely be needed.

- Trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*), a state-listed species of special concern, have been documented nesting within the proposed project area. During the breeding season, trumpeter swans select small ponds and lakes with extensive beds of cattails, bulrush, sedges, and/or horsetail. Ideal habitat includes about 100 m of open water for take-off, stable levels of unpolluted water, emergent vegetation, low levels of human disturbance, and the presence of muskrat houses and American beaver lodges for use as nesting platforms. Construction activities that occur during the nesting season, late April through early June, could disrupt nesting swans, if present.

Please note, the NHIS does not track migrating birds. As such, additional state-listed species may be impacted by this project. Wind farms can affect birds due to collision fatality, displacement due to disturbance, habitat fragmentation, and habitat loss. Even if collision fatality rates are low, the additional fatalities may be significant for rare species. The DNR looks forward to receiving the results of any avian surveys and may have additional comments regarding state-listed birds at that time.

Actions to minimize impacts to state-listed birds include, but are not limited to, the following,

- place turbines away from wetland or grassland areas,
 - feather turbine blades below cut-in speeds,
 - increase cut-in speeds.
- The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS) tracks bat roost trees and hibernacula plus some acoustic data, but this information is not exhaustive. All of Minnesota's bats, including the federally endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), and little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), all of which are state-listed species of special concern, occur throughout Minnesota. During the active season (approximately April-November) bats roost underneath bark, in cavities, or in

crevices of both live and dead trees. Tree removal can negatively impact bats by destroying roosting habitat, especially during the pup rearing season when females are forming maternity roosting colonies and the pups cannot yet fly. To minimize these impacts, **the DNR recommends that tree removal be avoided from June 1 through August 15.**

Wind farms are known to cause bat fatalities due to collisions with turbines. Actions to minimize bat fatalities include, but are not limited to, the following recommendations:

- place turbines away from forested areas,
- feather turbine blades below cut-in speeds,
- increase cut-in speeds.

The DNR looks forward to receiving the results of the bat surveys and may have additional comments regarding state-listed bats at that time.

- Please visit the [DNR Rare Species Guide](#) for more information on the habitat use of these species and recommended measures to avoid or minimize impacts.

Federally Protected Species

- To ensure compliance with federal law, conduct a federal regulatory review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) online [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#).

Environmental Review and Permitting

- To further protect rare features, please incorporate the relevant guidance, including setbacks, within the [DNR's Guidance for Commercial Wind Energy Projects](#) when determining infrastructure location and throughout the operation of this proposed project.
- Please include a copy of this letter and the MCE-generated Final Project Report in any state or local license or permit application. Please note that measures to avoid or minimize disturbance to the above rare features may be included as restrictions or conditions in any required permits or licenses.

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and thus does not represent all of the occurrences of rare features within the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area. If additional information becomes available regarding rare features in the vicinity of the project, further review may be necessary.

For environmental review purposes, the results of this Natural Heritage Review are valid for one year; the results are only valid for the project location and project description provided with the request. If project details change or the project has not occurred within one year, please resubmit the project for review within one year of initiating project activities.

The Natural Heritage Review does not constitute project approval by the Department of Natural Resources. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential impacts to these rare features. Visit the [Natural Heritage Review website](#) for additional information regarding this process, survey guidance, and other related information. For information on the environmental review process or other natural resource concerns, you may contact your [DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist](#).

Thank you for consulting us on this matter and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Drake".

James Drake
Natural Heritage Review Specialist
James.F.Drake@state.mn.us

Cc: Haley Byron, Cynthia Warzecha

From: [Tanko, Benjamin](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#); [Jack Achhamer](#); [David Weetman](#); [Woeste, Robyn](#); [Cyrillus, Christofer](#); [Arnold, Alan](#)
Subject: FW: Bent Tree Bath Twp
Date: Monday, May 20, 2024 3:12:52 PM

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Ben Tanko, PE | Sr. Renewable Development Specialist

ALLIANT ENERGY

4902 N. Biltmore Ln | Madison, WI 53718
Phone: (608) 290-5442
alliantenergy.com | bentanko@alliantenergy.com

From: Jason Jacobusse <jacobusse@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 9:20 AM
To: Tanko, Benjamin <BenjaminTanko@alliantenergy.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bent Tree Bath Twp

Dear Mr. Tanko:

On behalf of the Bath Township Board, I'd like to thank you for your time on the phone the other afternoon. We appreciate your efforts to gather input from us regarding the proposed Bent Tree II wind farm.

Having had the opportunity to see previous wind developments in our area, we do have concerns about the specifics of this proposed project. You mentioned that the plan includes the placement of 3-6 turbines of 4.5MW capacity, each reaching approximately 450 feet high, here within Bath township. While we recognize that there is a push to install these types of generators and there is a financial incentive to some (including our government agency) in doing so, we must balance this with protecting the rights of all living here.

You mentioned that, in general, the state minimum setback for a non-participating landowner is 3 times the rotor diameter, which is roughly equivalent to ¼ mile. You also referred to the 5 times setback in the cardinal wind directions. We believe this to be inadequate to protect the wellbeing of our residents. Studies have shown that even setbacks of ½ - 1 mile can pose significant risks, including compromising human health and significantly diminishing property values. We understand that both of these setback requirements are state minimums. We trust that the intent was not that these be used as absolute guidance for turbine placement in counties and townships where the current land use and population density demands more

caution. This project is in the planning stages and there is still ample time to incorporate responsible setbacks. Please provide more details regarding the proposed turbine placements and the associated setbacks keeping in mind our desires.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,

Jason Jacobusse, Supervisor
Bath Township
507-402-7508

From: [Tanko, Benjamin](#)
To: [Shannon Hansen](#)
Subject: FW: Re: Bent Tree Bath Twp
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 8:31:41 AM

From: Tanko, Benjamin
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 1:31 PM
To: Jason Jacobusse <jacobusse@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Bent Tree Bath Twp

Hi Jason-

Thanks for getting back to me. Unfortunately, at this time the turbine layout isn't public, we are still incorporating various studies and findings into the layout such that it has not reached the version we submit for public comment and review via the state siting application. I would expect us to have a version that can be shared in late summer. I can look into generating a map that has project area, participating properties, and non-participating properties displayed. If I can distribute that I will route the document through the town clerk to the boards' attention. I'm happy to discuss any other topics as well that don't require proposed turbine locations.

I can appreciate that residents may be coming to the board with questions, that always seems to be one of the first places folks inquire and rightfully so. Feel free to pass along my contact info to anybody with questions and I'll do the best I can to answer them.

Thanks,
Ben

Ben Tanko, PE | Sr. Renewable Development Specialist

ALLIANT ENERGY

4902 N. Biltmore Ln | Madison, WI 53718

Phone: (608) 290-5442

alliantenergy.com | bentanko@alliantenergy.com

From: Jason Jacobusse <jacobusse@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 11:10 PM

To: Tanko, Benjamin <BenjaminTanko@alliantenergy.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Bent Tree Bath Twp

Hello Ben:

Thank you for the response. I appreciate the clarification on the height and quantity of the turbines. I understand there are numerous state minimums that you are working to satisfy. Rather than delving into those much more at present, I'd request you provide us with a preliminary site map showing the proposed turbine locations and non-participating parcels. With that, I think we'll be in a better position to discuss further. We have our next board meeting next Tuesday, so if it possible to get that to me prior, I can share that with the others. I'm not sure what kind of deadlines you're working with, but I'll do my best to keep things moving on our end. I've also had some residents asking about the project and would certainly like to be able to give more comprehensive answers than I can at present.

Regards,

Jason Jacobusse

Bath Township Supervisor

On Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 8:02 AM, Tanko, Benjamin <BenjaminTanko@alliantenergy.com> wrote:

Hi Jason-

Thanks for following up with me. Just a couple quick clarifications. We do not know for certain at this time how many turbines will be sited in Bath Township, but I'd say current estimates would be 5 to 8. As for the height, planned hub height would be about 365 feet and the tip heights would be about 591 feet. Lastly, to be clear the 3x5 rotor diameter setback rule is from center of turbine to the property line of non-participants, not the distance from turbine to home. As for the setbacks, I'd be interested to take a look at the studies you referenced, I assume you are referring to turbine to home distances in your message?

I'm happy to share the setback guidelines we are using. Each turbine is unique in that its location may be being dictated by shadow flicker limitations, noise limitations, minimum 3x5 setback to non-participating property lines, distance from public road,

distance from a participating or non-participating home, etc. In many cases we are exceeding the minimums for one or more of the state criteria, however there are too many criteria to simplify to a universal footage setback that is used. Please let me know how the Bath Board would like to proceed to keep the collaboration going.

Thanks,

Ben

Ben Tanko, PE | Sr. Renewable Development Specialist

ALLIANT ENERGY

4902 N. Biltmore Ln | Madison, WI 53718

Phone: (608) 290-5442

alliantenergy.com | bentanko@alliantenergy.com

From: Jason Jacobusse <jacobusse@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 9:20 AM

To: Tanko, Benjamin <BenjaminTanko@alliantenergy.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bent Tree Bath Twp

Dear Mr. Tanko:

On behalf of the Bath Township Board, I'd like to thank you for your time on the phone the other afternoon. We appreciate your efforts to gather input from us regarding the proposed Bent Tree II wind farm.

Having had the opportunity to see previous wind developments in our area, we do have concerns about the specifics of this proposed project. You mentioned that the plan includes the placement of 3-6 turbines of 4.5MW capacity, each reaching approximately 450 feet high, here within Bath township. While we

recognize that there is a push to install these types of generators and there is a financial incentive to some (including our government agency) in doing so, we must balance this with protecting the rights of all living here.

You mentioned that, in general, the state minimum setback for a non-participating landowner is 3 times the rotor diameter, which is roughly equivalent to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. You also referred to the 5 times setback in the cardinal wind directions. We believe this to be inadequate to protect the wellbeing of our residents. Studies have shown that even setbacks of $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 mile can pose significant risks, including compromising human health and significantly diminishing property values. We understand that both of these setback requirements are state minimums. We trust that the intent was not that these be used as absolute guidance for turbine placement in counties and townships where the current land use and population density demands more caution. This project is in the planning stages and there is still ample time to incorporate responsible setbacks. Please provide more details regarding the proposed turbine placements and the associated setbacks keeping in mind our desires.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,

Jason Jacobusse, Supervisor

Bath Township

507-402-7508

From: [David Weetman](#)
To: [Walker, Felicia](#)
Cc: [Jack Achhamer](#)
Subject: NTIA Submittal - Bent Tree North Wind Project, Freeborn County, Minnesota
Date: Friday, June 7, 2024 2:56:00 PM
Attachments: [2024-06-06 BTN WTG Table.xlsx](#)
[2024-06-07 NTIA Bent Tree North.pdf](#)
[2024-06-06 BTN Array.kmz](#)

Good afternoon, Felicia,

Please find attached our application for NTIA review of the Bent Tree North Wind Farm Project located in Freeborn County, Minnesota. Please let me know if anything is missing and I can get that to you just as soon as possible.

Thanks!

David

David Weetman
Environmental Permitting Manager
david.weetman@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 906-7419
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 849-5320

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

From: [Walker, Felicia](#)
To: [David Weetman](#)
Cc: [Jack Achhamer](#)
Subject: NTIA Submittal - Bent Tree North Wind Project, Freeborn County, Minnesota
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 12:11:15 PM
Attachments: [2024-06-06 BTN WTG Table.xlsx](#)
[2024-06-07 NTIA Bent Tree North.pdf](#)
[2024-06-06 BTN Array.kmz](#)
[Wind Turbine Template update 2024 .pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello David,

Please resubmit your Bent Tree North Wind Farm Project in the format attached, see the wind turbine template.

Felicia Walker
NTIA/WIND FARMS & WSR-88D
1401 Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20230
202-482-4589
fwalker@ntia.gov

From: David Weetman <David.Weetman@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 3:57 PM
To: Walker, Felicia <FWalker@ntia.gov>
Cc: Jack Achhamer <Jack.Achhamer@westwoodps.com>
Subject: NTIA Submittal - Bent Tree North Wind Project, Freeborn County, Minnesota

Good afternoon, Felicia,

Please find attached our application for NTIA review of the Bent Tree North Wind Farm Project located in Freeborn County, Minnesota. Please let me know if anything is missing and I can get that to you just as soon as possible.

Thanks!
David

David Weetman
Environmental Permitting Manager
david.weetman@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 906-7419
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 849-5320

Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com
(888) 937-5150

6/21/24, 1:51 PM

Project Submission Success
Project Name: WISCO-000867839-24



Federal Aviation
Administration

The FAA is currently experiencing delays in processing off-airport aeronautical studies. These delays are currently resulting in an approximate 15 additional days in processing time. The FAA will continue to work aeronautical studies on a first come, first served basis. Please take this possible delay into consideration when determining when to submit your case. If your submitted aeronautical study requires priority and 60 days has elapsed since submission, please contact the OEG Specialist for your state with the rationale for your request and it will be reviewed for escalation. The issue causing these delays is actively being mitigated and is expected to be resolved around August.

<< OE/AAA

Project Submission Success

Project Name: WISCO-000867839-24

Project WISCO-000867839-24 has been submitted successfully to the FAA.

Your filing is assigned Aeronautical Study Number (ASN):

2024-WTE-5176-OE
2024-WTE-5177-OE
2024-WTE-5178-OE
2024-WTE-5179-OE
2024-WTE-5180-OE
2024-WTE-5181-OE
2024-WTE-5182-OE
2024-WTE-5183-OE
2024-WTE-5184-OE
2024-WTE-5185-OE
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2024-WTE-5206-OE
2024-WTE-5207-OE
2024-WTE-5208-OE
2024-WTE-5209-OE
2024-WTE-5210-OE
2024-WTE-5211-OE
2024-WTE-5212-OE
2024-WTE-5213-OE

Please refer to the assigned ASN on all future inquiries regarding this filing.

Please return to the system at a later date for status updates.

It is the responsibility of each e-filer to exercise due diligence to determine if coordination of the proposed construction or alteration is necessary with their state aviation department. Please use the link below to contact your state aviation department to determine their requirements:

[State Aviation Contacts](#)

To ensure e-mail notifications are delivered to your inbox please add noreply@faa.gov to your address book. Notifications sent from this address are system generated FAA e-mails and replies to this address will NOT be read or forwarded for review. Each system generated e-mail will contain specific FAA contact information in the text of the message.

6/21/24, 1:51 PM

Project Submission Success
Project Name: WISCO-000867839-24