



# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Eric Callisto, Chairperson  
Mark Meyer, Commissioner  
Lauren Azar, Commissioner

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## PSC Approves Construction of Bent Tree Wind Project

MADISON – In an oral decision today, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) approved Wisconsin Power & Light's (WP&L) request to construct a new \$497 million, 200 megawatt (MW) wind electric generation facility in southern Minnesota.

In 2008, WP&L filed an application with the PSC for permission to build the Bent Tree Wind Project in Freeborn County, Minnesota to help meet its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirements. Wisconsin law requires the state to produce 10% of its electric energy from renewable sources by 2015. WP&L will develop the project in phases with the first 200 MW in operation by 2010. Although today's oral decision approves a 200 MW facility, WP&L's long-term conceptual plan calls for the approval of an additional 200 MW at the location.

"I'm pleased to approve this needed energy project," said Chairperson Eric Callisto. "The fact that this energy will come from renewable sources and not fossil fuels is a good thing for the people of Wisconsin, WP&L and its customers. It is another step forward in keeping the state on track to reaching its RPS goals."

"Wisconsin has a renewable portfolio standard of 10 percent by 2015 and with the addition of these 200 megawatts today that brings us to approximately 2600 megawatts of wind energy," said Commissioner Mark Meyer. "That puts WP&L and Wisconsin on the right path towards reaching those standards."

"Current policies require the Commission to review projects not just to keep the lights on, but also to fulfill a shift to obtain our energy from specific types of generation," said Commissioner Lauren Azar. "This project is consistent with this shift, and will provide for more renewable and low-carbon energy for Wisconsin customers."

The PSC solicited comments from the public in January 2009 and held hearings on the project in April. The testimony provided at the hearings and comments submitted by the public were part of the record the Commission reviewed as it considered all the aspects of the application. The project is still subject to approval from the State of Minnesota.

Documents associated with WP&L's applications can be viewed on our Electronic Regulatory Filing System at <http://psc.wi.gov/>. Enter case number 6680-CE-173 in the boxes provided on the PSC homepage, or click on the Electronic Regulatory Filing System button.

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