

Petition to Intervene in the Application for Certificates of Site Compatibility for Oliver Wind IV Energy Center and Associated Transmission Line (ND PSC Dockets No. PU-23-317, 23-318/OAH File Nos. 20230357, 20230357)

January 11, 2024

Hon. Timothy Dawson
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
2911 North 14th Street - Suite 303
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503

Dear Judge Dawson:

Pursuant to North Dakota Administrative Code 69-02-02-05, the Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota ("LIUNA") herewith submits its Petition to Intervene in the above referenced docket. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 612.224.6464 or kpranis@liunagroc.com.

Sincerely,



Kevin Pranis
Marketing Manager
LIUNA Minnesota & North Dakota
(612) 224-6464
kpranis@liunagroc.com

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Petition to Intervene

Laborers District Council Minnesota and North Dakota (LIUNA)
Kevin Pranis, Marketing Manager

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Petition to Intervene

Laborers District Council Minnesota and North Dakota (LIUNA)
Kevin Pranis, Marketing Manager

In the Matter of the Application by SCS
Carbon Transport LLC for the Midwest
Carbon Express CO2 Pipeline Project
Siting Application

ND PSC Docket No. PU-22-391

OAH File No. 20230002

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kevin Pranis, hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing Intervention Petition in the Application for a Certificates of Site Compatibility for the Oliver Wind IV Project and Associated Transmission Lines on the attached list of persons by personal service to the addresses listed below

Dated this 11th day of January, 2024



Kevin Pranis

Timothy Dawson,
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
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Steve Kahl, Executive Secretary
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NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

<p>In the Matter of the Application for a Certificates of Site Compatibility for the Oliver Wind IV Energy Center and Associated Transmission Line in Oliver County, North Dakota</p> <p>ND PSC Dockets No. PU-23-317, 23-318 OAH File Nos. 20230357, 20230357</p>	<p>Petition for Intervention Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota</p>
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The Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota (“LIUNA”) hereby petitions for intervention as a party in the above-captioned docket in *support* of the application for a Certificates of Site Compatibility for a proposed up to 200 megawatt wind energy facility and associated transmission line in Oliver County (the “Project”) that has been submitted by Oliver Wind IV, LLC (“Applicant”), pursuant to the requirements set forth in North Dakota Administrative Code 69-02-02-05.

LIUNA is a democratic labor organization that, together with its five affiliated local unions, represents more than 13,000 construction workers and public employees in Minnesota and North Dakota. Petitioner is also affiliated with the Laborers International Union of North America, which in turn represents roughly half a million construction workers and public employees across the United States and Canada. Petitioner’s principal place of business is located at 81 East Little Canada Road in Little Canada, Minnesota.

LIUNA and its affiliated Local Unions represent our members in many capacities, including, but not limited to, referring members for construction employment; bargaining with union employers over wages, benefits and working conditions; representing members in disputes with employers; encouraging construction owners and contractors to use union labor; advocating for public policies that protect the rights and livelihood of workers; providing health, retirement, training, and vacation savings benefits through joint labor-management funds; and educating our members about issues that affect their jobs and lives.

LIUNA’s legal rights, duties, or privileges may be affected by the outcome of this contested case for the following reasons:

First, the union members represented by LIUNA, together with their families and communities, have an interest in the construction jobs and career opportunities that will be created if the

Commission approves Applicant's petition. LIUNA has unique insights into the potential benefits that Project could provide – both for the existing construction workforce and for local workers who are interested in pursuing construction careers – based on our members' experience and research that LIUNA has conducted into the employment and economic impacts of wind energy construction projects. LIUNA seeks to ensure through our participation that the potential employment and economic benefits of the Project are fully realized.

Second, the union members represented by LIUNA, together with their families and communities, have an interest in conventional power plant construction and maintenance jobs that may be affected by the Commission's decision to approve or deny Applicant's petition. LIUNA members who have historically participated in power plant construction and maintenance have seen their livelihoods threatened by declining demand for coal-fired power. New wind energy projects have the potential to exacerbate this threat by undercutting the economics of area coal plants, but they can also complement and support conventional power plants while providing the opportunity for members to pursue new lines of work. LIUNA seeks to ensure through our participation that the net impact of the project on power generation and associated employment opportunities is beneficial rather than harmful.

Third, the union members represented by LIUNA, together with their families and communities, have an interest in the reliability and affordability of regional power supplies, which could be affected by the Commission's decision to approve or deny Applicant's petition. Wind energy has the potential to lower the cost of electricity for LIUNA member households as well as businesses that employ and provide work for members, provided that new generation does not jeopardize system reliability or the availability of transmission. LIUNA seeks to ensure through our participation that the Project is developed in a manner that supports reliability and affordability for residential and commercial customers.

Fourth, the union members represented by LIUNA, together with their families and communities, have an interest in proper siting, construction, maintenance, and operations practices which help to maintain public confidence in, and support for, energy infrastructure projects. Wind energy construction represents an important source of employment opportunities for our members going forward, especially as opportunities diminish in coal-fired power plants. Projects that are well executed tend to increase public confidence and ease permitting for future projects, while projects that are poorly executed do just the opposite, raising permitting hurdles and jeopardizing future job opportunities. LIUNA seeks to ensure through our participation that the Project is sited, built, maintained, and operated in a manner that increases public confidence in wind energy development.

Fifth, union members represented by LIUNA have an interest in the safety of energy infrastructure construction workers, and in efforts to protect workers from construction hazards that can arise on large energy construction projects. LIUNA has played an active role in promoting public and worker safety in energy infrastructure construction on both union and nonunion construction projects, including highlighting risks and potential solutions through the regulatory process. We seek to ensure through our participation in this case that the Project is executed in a manner that protects public and worker safety.

LIUNA seeks to intervene in *support* of in the above-mentioned case in order to protect the rights and welfare of our members, families and communities, and to ensure that the project can proceed in a manner that benefits both skilled construction workers, the general public, and North Dakota's energy industry. LIUNA specifically seeks party status in order to share our perspective and our expertise with the North Dakota Public Service Commission and the other parties to this case in order to:

- Provide testimony on best practices in planning and construction of wind energy facilities that can help to safeguard the integrity of the state's energy infrastructure, ensure efficient use of resources, maximize local benefits, and minimize disturbance to the environment and landowners.
- Ensure transparency with respect to the net economic and energy benefits the Project can be expected to provide to local communities and workers, including employment and career benefits for local workers.
- Identify and help to propose mitigation for any adverse impacts that the project might have on local economies, workers, and the reliability and affordability of North Dakota's energy system.

No other party to the proceedings can adequately represent the interests of our union and our members, or provide our unique insights on the proposed project as set forth above.

LIUNA has extensive experience participating as a party in siting cases before the North Dakota Public Service Commission, including wind dockets where we have provided relevant information that would not otherwise have been available to the Commission. We have reviewed the requirements of NDAC 69-02-02 and are prepared to participate in the process as required by the Administrative Law Judge.

Dated: January 11, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

LIUNA Minnesota & North Dakota



By: Kevin Pranis, Marketing Manager
81 East Little Canada Road
St. Paul, MN 55117