

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

SECRETARY

August 11, 2021

Kimberley Campbell North Carolina Department of Commerce Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325

Re: SCH File # 21-E-4600-0931 Application of Timbermill Wind, LLC for Certificate to construct approximately 6.0 miles of Transmission Line in Chowan County. Docket #EMP-118 Sub 1. View document at

http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx, Type EMP-118 Sub 1 in the Docket Number search line.

Dear Ms. Campbell:

The above referenced environmental information has been reviewed through the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

Attached to this letter are <u>additional comments</u> made in the review of this document. The Department of Cultural Resources has requested additional information prior to their concurrence with the above referenced document.

Therefore, pursuant to 1 NCAC 25 .0506(c), this office requests that a supplemental document providing the additional information requested by the Department of Cultural Resources be submitted to the Clearinghouse for further review and comment.

Sincerely,

Crystal Best

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State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments

Website: www.ncadmin.nc.gov



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
August 10, 2021

Secretary D. Reid Wilson

Restor Ramona M. Bautos

MEMORANDUM

TO: Crystal Best crystal.best@doa.nc.gov

North Carolina State Clearinghouse Department of Administration

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Application of Timbermill Wind, LLC and Merchant Plant Wind Energy Facility for a

Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct Approximately 6.0 Miles of Transmission Line, SCH # 22-E-4600-0016 and

21-E-4600-0931, Chowan County, ER 16-1658 and ER 21-1778

We have received an application for Timbermill Wind, LLC to construct a new 6-mile transmission line corridor (Gen Tie line) in Chowan County to connect the proposed Timbermill Wind, LLC wind-powered electrical-generation facility to the main power distribution line owned by Dominion Energy.

In April 2018, we received an archaeological survey plan from Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. for the survey of the proposed Timbermill Wind facility. The survey plan involved the use of a predictive model to identify high probability areas for archaeological sites, based on soil characteristics, wetland locations, and previous soil disturbance. Eleven proposed turbine sites and 9.2 miles of linear construction, including portions of the Gen Tie line were determined to be in high probability areas. The areas were to be surveyed in accordance with methodology published in the Office of State Archaeology Standards and Guidelines. For turbine sites and linear construction features, within low probability areas, 5% random sampling was proposed. Two turbine sites and 1.3 miles of linear construction, including portions of the Gen Tie line, were chosen to be surveyed. After minor revisions, we accepted this plan in a letter dated April 27, 2018.

To date, we have not received the archaeological survey report for review. We have contacted Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc., which reportedly performed the survey. They indicated that the survey and report have been completed, but their client has not allowed them to release it. Without the report, we cannot begin the process of reviewing the report or commenting on the project.

We recommend, as a condition for, and prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, that the archaeological survey report be submitted to us for review. We will respond within 30 days of receipt and comment as to whether the survey and reporting were adequate, based on the accepted archaeological survey plan meeting the *Office of State Archaeology Standards*.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Enclosure – Letter 4-27-2018

cc: Timbermill Wind, LLC

Dawn Reid, ACC, Inc. Alison Neely, DNCR Legal Office Jimmy.merrick@apexcleanenergy.com Kate.heins@apexcleanenergy.com katherineross@parkerpoe.com dawnreid@archcon.org alison.neely@ncdcr.gov