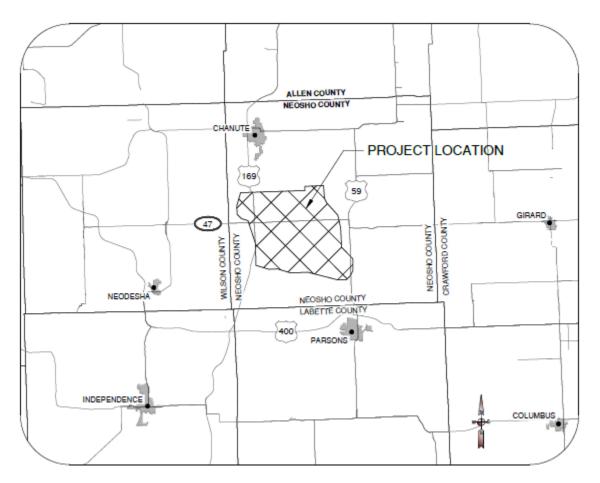
# Neosho Ridge Wind Project

#### Neosho County, Kansas



Project Progress Report No. 7

February 2020

\*HC\* Indicates Highly Confidential \*HC\*

\*\* Indicates Confidential \*\*



Liberty Utilities – Empire District 602 S. Joplin Ave. Joplin, MO 64802

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#### **1.0 Summary**

From a development perspective, the majority of the activities have been completed and all that remains are minor construction related permits which are on-going. Engineering continued to progress during the report period with many disciplines moving to late stage design or Issued for Construction (IFC).

Construction continues on-site and has progressed with the following activities to date:

- Public road surface improvements have been completed with the exception of improvements to culverts and intersections.
- Public road maintenance and repairs continued.
- Turbine access road construction has been completed however installation of access road radii continues and is nearly complete.
- Turbine foundation excavation, construction, and backfilling continued.
- Trenching and boring work as it relates to the collection system continued.
- Clearing as it relates to the transmission line was initiated.
- Substation construction also continued.

### 2.0 Safety

There were 6 safety incidents to report for this period:

- First Aid An employee experienced a contusion when his foot was caught between a lowboy trailer and the ground.
- First Aid An employee exited a skid steer and slipped causing him to sprain his back.
- First Aid An employee experienced groin pain when attempting to team lift a portable generator.
- Property When digging for fill material an unidentified underground line was contacted severing it.
- Property A water line was damaged when excavating. The water line marking flags were 60' away from the excavated area.
- Near Miss During a crane escort, local traffic bypassed the blocking vehicles causing the crane to move to the side and getting stuck on the side of the shoulder.

	Lost Time	Recordable	First Aid	Property Damage	Near Miss	Vehicle Incidents	Totals
This Period	0	0	3	2	1	0	6
Cumulative	0	0	3	4	1	7	15

IEA has investigated each safety incident for the project to date.

#### 3.0 Commercial Activities

#### 3.1 Purchase and Sale Agreement

The Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) between The Empire District Electric Company and Neosho Ridge Wind JV, LLC was executed on November 16, 2018 and includes ten amendments. The parties to the agreement are actively working to restate and amend the agreement to consolidate the amendments and the execution of such is expected to be during the next reporting period.

Contractual milestones achieved during the report period are as follows:

- Seller:
  - o Nothing to report
- Purchaser:
  - o Nothing to report

Contractual milestones to be achieved in the next report period as follows:

- Seller:
  - $\circ \quad \text{Nothing to report} \\$
- Purchaser:
  - o Execute O&M Agreement

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#### 4.0 Development Activities

Development activities for the period were focused primarily on the project site plan and permitting at the State, and Neosho County level.

IEA, the EPC contractor, has identified locations within the proposed construction areas where existing underground infrastructure from local utilities exist and are working with the utilities to relocate the infrastructure or slightly modify the site plan to avoid the infrastructure. This work is on-going.

IEA continues to work towards obtaining all permits necessary to facilitate construction and are nearly complete. IEA has submitted for a water crossing permit at turbine aT23 to the KSDA-DWR and are awaiting a response. Approval for two railroad crossings as it relates to the collection system is being pursued with South Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad and is under review by legal. Line drops are being scheduled with the local utilities to facilitate crane crossings as necessary. All other construction related permits are on track with no issues.

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### 5.0 Construction Activities

Construction activities during the report period largely consisted of engineering and site work.

All engineering designs with the exception of substation relay settings and SCADA have been issued for construction (IFC). The 90% design package for the substation relay settings is expected to be received on 03.10.20 and the IFC design package for the substation SCADA is expected to be received on 05.11.20.

IEA continues construction on-site. The following provides an update on construction activities during this report period as well as the progress status of major activities:

- Public road surface improvements have been completed with the exception of improvements to culverts and intersections.
- Public road maintenance and repairs continued.
- Turbine access road construction has been completed however installation of access road radii continues and is nearly complete.
- Turbine foundation excavation, construction, and backfilling continued.
- Trenching and boring work as it relates to the collection system continued.
- Clearing as it relates to the transmission line was initiated.
- Substation construction also continued.

•	WTG Access Roads			
	0	Stripping:	193,360' of 195,360' = 100%	
	0	Cement Stabilized:	193,360' of 195,360' = 100%	
	0	Stoned:	193,360' of 195,360' = 100%	
٠	Turbine Foundations			
	0	Sites Stripped:	139 of 139 = 100%	
	0	Excavated:	121 of 139 = 87.1%	
	0	Mud Mats:	121 of 139 = 87.1%	
	0	Rebar Installation	119 of 139 = 85.6%	
	0	Poured:	111 of 139 = 79.9%	

	0	Backfilled:	34 of 139 = 24.5%
	0	Crane Pads Installed	0 of 139 = 0%
	0	Spreading Topsoil	0 of 139 = 0%
•	Offloa	d/Erection	
	0	Full Turbines Received:	0 of 139 = 0%
	0	Full Turbines Erected:	0 of 139 = 0%
	0	Tower's Wired	0 of 139 = 0%
	0	MCC	0 of 139 = 0%
•	Collect	ion	
	0	Box Pad	0%
	0	PMT's Delivered	0%
	0	Cable Installed	7%
	0	PMT Install (Complete)	0%
	0	Testing	0%
•	Substa	tion	
	0	Foundation	15%
	0	Underground Electrical	0%
	0	Steel And Equipment	0%
	0	Switches	0%
•	Transn	nission Line	
	0	Clearing	10,560' of 44,880' = 23.5%
	0	Stage Poles and Materials	0%
	0	Assemble Poles	0%
	0	Set Poles	0%
	0	795 Conductor	0%
	0	OPGW	0%
•	0&M		
	0	Grading	0%
	0	Foundations/Slab	0%
	0	Below Grade Utilities	0%
	0	Above Grade Utilities	0%
	0	Building Exterior	0%
	0	Building Interior	0%

Evergy continues construction work on the Interconnection Facilities at the Point of Interconnection for the Project. Foundation excavation, installation and backfilling for the substation area has been initiated and is on-going. Overhead work is expected to be initiated during the next reporting period.

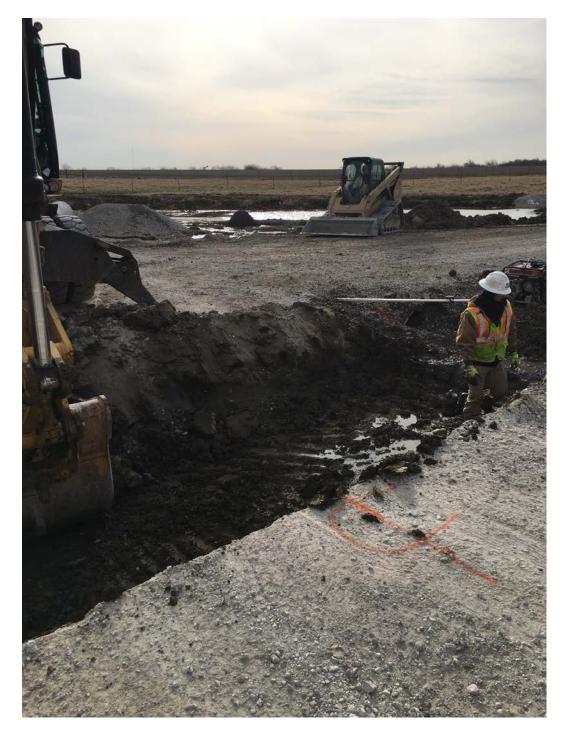
### 6.0 Project Cost Report

Project expenditures to date are \*\*\_\_\_\_\_\*\*, plus \*\*\_\_\_\_\_\*\* of recorded commitments, plus \*\*\_\_\_\_\_\_\*\* of construction loan disbursements of the total budgeted expenditure of \*\*\_\_\_\_\_\_\*\*. Empire has recorded commitments under US GAAP on the basis of milestones achieved by the Neosho JV payable at closing as specified in the Purchase and Sale Agreement. See the next page for a report detailing expenses by budget category. \*\*\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Neosho Ridge \*HC\*<u>Highly Confidential in its Entirety</u>\*HC\*

## 7.0 Progress Photos



Substation foundation preparation



Foundation excavation



Prepping foundation for mud mat



Forming of containment wall of Main Power Transformer



Containment wall of Main Power Transformer



Drilling pier foundation for control room