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1E Wind Energy Program: Technical Information and Outreach Support

FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999-2000 National Wind Coordinating Committee

NATIONAL WIND COORDINATING COMMITTEE
RESOLVE, Inc.

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Executive Summary

A U.S. consensus-based collaborative formed in 1994, the National Wind Coordinating Committee (NWCC) identifies issues that affect the use of wind power, establishes dialogue among key stakeholders, and catalyzes appropriate activities to support the development of environmentally, economically, and politically sustainable commercial markets for wind power. NWCC members include representatives from electric utilities and support organizations, state legislatures, state utility commissions, consumer advocacy offices, wind equipment suppliers and developers, green power marketers, environmental organizations, agriculture and economic development organizations, and state and federal agencies.

RESOLVE, a non-profit environmental dispute resolution organization, provides a full range of facilitation services to the NWCC. RESOLVE creates opportunities for NWCC members and other wind stakeholders to raise and address issues. www.resolve.org.

Project Activities, 6/14/99 – 6/13/00

Activity areas for this contract included:

- 1) Avian/Wind Interactions
- 2) Permitting of Wind Energy Facilities
- 3) Transmission for Wind Energy
- 4) Wind Stakeholder Outreach Activities and Materials

1) Avian/Wind Energy Interactions

The NWCC finalized and published the methods and metrics document entitled *Studying Wind Energy/Bird Interactions: A Guidance Document*. Proceedings from NWCC National Avian-Wind Power Planning Meeting III were prepared and published. The document *Avian Collisions with Wind Turbines: A Summary of Existing Studies and Comparisons to Other Sources of Avian Collision Mortality in the United States* was developed and distributed. All these publications are online at <http://www.nationalwind.org/publications/avian.htm>. Work began and neared finalization on a fact sheet about wind turbine interactions with birds.

2) Permitting of Wind Energy Facilities

A second run of the NWCC Permitting Handbook, 1998 ed was run and planning began for a revision of this document. The handbook revision was ultimately completed under a separate DOE grant in 2001. NWCC staff and members also coordinated with local stakeholders in Nebraska and other locations on local workshops.

3) Transmission for Wind Energy

NWCC developed transmission case studies on Policy and Pricing Under the Texas ERCOT (#1), Virtual Wheeling (#2), and Stakeholder Perspectives in Transmission Upgrades in the Midwest (#3) and presented them at a March 1-2, 2000 NWCC Transmission Workshop in Lakewood, CO. The case studies are available online at

<http://www.nationalwind.org/publications/transmission/casestudies.htm>. This work was conducted with the consultant assistance of Ron Lehr from AWEA.

4) Wind Stakeholder Outreach Activities and Materials

NWCC publications were distributed at various meetings throughout the year and also made available to the public on the NWCC website, www.nationalwind.org. NWCC bookmarks directing people to the website, a folder/shell for information packets, and a publications catalog were created.

NWCC events during this period included:

- November 18, 1999 NWCC joint meeting with First District Association of Local Governments in Watertown, South Dakota: "Wind Development in the Great Plains."
- June 24, 1999 NWCC Business Meeting 19 in Burlington, Vermont
- National Avian-Wind Power Planning Meeting IV, May 16-17, 2000, Carmel, CA