



BLAZING STAR 1 WIND COMPLETE

APRIL 2020

The Blazing Star 1 wind farm is fully operational in Lincoln County. We want to extend our sincere appreciation to all property owners, businesses, local government leaders and others whose hospitality and cooperation helped in the completion of the 200-megawatt wind facility. Blazing Star 1 will generate enough electricity to power more than 100,000 homes with clean and carbon free energy. We understand the construction of such a large project impacts the local community and we are sincerely grateful for everyone's partnership and patience.

Xcel Energy invested nearly \$340 million in building the Blazing Star 1 Wind Project. More than 175 workers were involved in its construction, and 20 permanent operations and maintenance positions will be created with the expected completion of the Blazing Star 2 wind project later this year. The wind farm will generate more than \$25 million in additional revenue for state/local governments and school districts over 25 years and more than \$45 million in payments to landowners.

RESTORATION & PAYMENTS

Restoration crews will return this spring for clean-up, reseeding, drain tile repair and other restoration work. If you have any specific questions or requests regarding restoration, please contact Chad Peterson at 612.330.7825 or chad.t.peterson@xcelenergy.com.

The April 3, 2020 Commercial Operations Date is the start of the extended term of the Land Lease and Wind Easement Agreement. This date prompts the second annual rent payment for the wind lease, which is due within 60 days of commercial operations. Blazing Star 1 Landowners can expect to receive payment by early June. In future years, wind lease payments will be made around this same time. Please contact Adam Steadland at 612.337.2204 or adam.d.steadland@xcelenergy.com for payment-related questions.

In a first for an Xcel Energy Minnesota wind project, an Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) will be deployed. The technology will allow for the flashing red lights on the turbines to only be turned on when radar detects a plane within three nautical miles of the nearest turbine. We anticipate the radar network will be operational by the end of 2020.

The project will

- Provide Xcel Energy customers with low-cost made in Minnesota electricity
- Help Xcel Energy reduce carbon emissions by 80 percent by 2030 in the Upper Midwest
- Deliver clean, renewable energy that requires no fuel or water

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chad Peterson,
Land Rights Agent
612.330.7825
chad.t.peterson@xcelenergy.com

Tim Sanderson,
Blazing Star Wind Operations Manager
612.215.4539
timothy.k.sanderson@xcelenergy.com



414 Nicollet Mall, 414-6
Minneapolis, MN 55412

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