Blazing Star 1 Wind

The Blazing Star 1 wind farm is a 200 megawatt wind project located in southwest Minnesota’s Lincoln County that will provide enough renewable energy to power more than 100,000 homes. Located in the wind-rich Buffalo Ridge area, the project will connect to the CapX2020 Brookings County-Hampton 345 kilovolt line that will deliver the electricity to customers throughout the region.

Blazing Star Wind overview
• Located in Lincoln County, Minnesota
• Built and operated by Xcel Energy
  – General Contractor: Mortenson Construction
• 200 megawatts
• Each turbine blade will be approximately 80 meters tall from ground to the nacelle (center of the blades that houses the generator)
• 35,000 acres
  – Less than 50 acres total taken out of agricultural production
• Landowner payments: $45 million over next 25 years
• Local government payments: $25 million over 25 years
• Substation construction started summer 2018
• Foundation and turbine construction: 2019-2020

Construction schedule
• Access road construction: Beginning May 2019
• Underground collection cable installation: Beginning June 2019
• Turbine foundation construction: Beginning July 2019
• Delivery of wind towers and components: Beginning July 2019
• Wind turbine installation: Beginning August 2019
• Wind farm estimated in-service date: December 2019

Xcel Energy is a national leader in renewable energy, with a bold vision to serve our customers with zero-carbon electricity by 2050. Key to this vision is the addition of new wind farms throughout the region that will provide carbon-free, low-cost wind energy to nearly one million customers.

For more information, visit xcelenergy.com/BlazingStar.