



News from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission

Todd Hiett
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Dana Murphy
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Wind Savings

Corporation Commission approves agreement for more wind power, cost savings

Oklahoma will continue to be a leader in commercial wind power while keeping its position as one of the lowest-cost states for electricity under a settlement agreement approved today by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

The settlement will allow Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) to recover costs to add 675 megawatts of wind power in Oklahoma with no rate increase for customers, as cost savings resulting from the project will be passed on to customers. If the entire four-state project receives approval in all states, total savings for customers of PSO and its affiliate Southwestern Electric Power Company are projected to total \$1.42 billion over the 31-year life of the project.

Commission Chairman Todd Hiett said the settlement provides the customer with low cost, reliable power.

“Oklahoma has once again shown the rest of the U.S. what can happen when parties work together in the best interest of the state. This agreement will further strengthen Oklahoma’s diverse and reliable energy portfolio that is essential for Oklahoma to continue to grow and prosper in the future.”

Commissioner Dana Murphy called the agreement a “classic win-win.”

“Today’s order will allow PSO to make a \$908 million investment to further develop Oklahoma’s low-cost and environmentally responsible wind resources at no cost to the customer,” Murphy said. “In fact, the tax credits and other savings that will be passed through to PSO customers are projected to slightly decrease the average residential monthly bills, while giving the state even more to offer prospective companies looking for a state that can meet their energy needs.”

Commission vice-chair Bob Anthony said the agreement addresses key concerns.

“Responding to customer needs for reliable, affordable and clean electric power generation, PSO will now make a new major infrastructure investment in Oklahoma,” Anthony said. “Today’s arrangement includes ratepayer protections such as a cost cap guarantee and off-system sales benefiting electric customers.”

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The project will result in three new commercial wind generation facilities that will be located in Custer, Blaine, Garfield, Kingfisher, Major, Woods and Alfalfa counties.

Parties supporting the agreement included the OCC's Public Utility Division, the Oklahoma Attorney General, PSO, the Oklahoma Sustainability Network, Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers and WalMart.

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