

Environmental Protection Measures

Rail Tie Wind Project
ConnectGen Albany County LLC

June 30, 2020

1.0 Environmental Protection Measures

ConnectGen will plan, coordinate, and conduct each of the Project phases in a manner that protects the quality of the environment. ConnectGen will comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, permits, and ordinances related to environmental protection.

1.1 Project Plans

ConnectGen will develop and implement the following environmental-related plans to avoid or minimize adverse effects to environmental resources from construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning:

Plan	Anticipated Timeline	Agency Coordination or Review
Transportation and Traffic Management Plan	Developed in support of Albany County and ISC permit applications.	Coordination with WYDOT and Albany County Road & Bridge Department.
Blasting Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
Weed Management Plan	Developed in support of ISC permit application.	Coordination with Albany County Weed & Pest District.
Decommissioning and Reclamation Plans	Developed in support of Albany County and ISC permit applications.	Compliance with Wyoming ISA and WYDEQ regulations and Albany County Zoning Resolution.
Lighting Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with FAA lighting requirements.
Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Rule (40 CFR part 112)
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	Prior to construction.	Approval by WYDEQ.
Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (BCS)	Prior to construction.	Coordination with USFWS and WGFD.
Eagle Conservation Plan	Prior to operation.	Coordination with USFWS.

Health, Safety, Security, and Environment (HSSE) Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with OSHA regulations.
Fugitive Dust Plan	Prior to construction.	Developed pursuant to Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations.
Erosion Control Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with measures outlined in WYPDES construction stormwater permit.
Unanticipated Discoveries Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with Programmatic Agreement.
Historic Properties Treatment Plan	Prior to construction.	Compliance with Programmatic Agreement.
Emergency Response Plan	Developed in support of Albany County and ISC permit applications.	Coordination with Albany County Fire Warden, Emergency Management Coordinator, and County Sheriff.
Waste Management Plan	Developed in support of Albany County and ISC permit applications.	Compliance with ISC regulations Albany County Zoning Resolution.
Landowner Monitoring Plan	Developed in support of ISC permit application.	Coordination with WGFD and participating landowners.

1.2 Environmental Protection Measures

ConnectGen will develop and implement Environmental Protection Measures (EPMs) to avoid or minimize adverse effects to environmental resources from construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Project. ConnectGen will designate certain areas as “environmentally sensitive” and take actions to avoid or minimize effects on these areas. Environmentally sensitive areas may include, for example, wetlands, certain water bodies, cultural resources, or wildlife habitat.

ConnectGen will implement the EPMs listed below during the Project phases (construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning) as noted in the table. EPMs are an integral part of the Project. Project activities described in this Project Description document would incorporate and be subject to the EPMs and requirements imposed as part of Federal, State, or local permits and authorizations.

TABLE 5-1: Environmental Protection Measures

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
General					
GEN-1	The Project will be designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with Albany County Zoning Regulations (as amended) and Albany County Wind Energy Siting Regulations. Construction and operations activities will comply with all Federal, State, and county environmental regulations, as applicable.	X	X	X	X
GEN-2	The Project will delineate environmentally sensitive areas (e.g. wetlands, waters, habitats) located within or adjacent to the Project Area and seek to avoid or minimize impacts to these areas during design and final siting . Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified in construction planning documents. Construction and operations personnel will be informed of the appropriate practices that may be applicable to avoid or minimize impacts when working in the vicinity of these areas.	X	X	X	X
GEN-3	Construction travel will be restricted to existing roads and permanent or temporary access roads identified in the final Project Site Plan.		X		

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
GEN-4	The Project will implement speed limits on construction and permanent access roads to minimize potential for fugitive dust, impacts to wildlife, and for safety purposes. Speed limit signs will be posted as appropriate.		X	X	X
GEN-5	Construction and operations equipment will be inspected periodically per the manufacturer's specifications and maintained in good working condition.		X	X	X
GEN-6	Fences, gates and other access controls (e.g. cattle guards) will be maintained in good working order during construction and operation activities. Damaged access controls will be repaired or replaced as soon as possible. Security guards or access attendants may be employed during the construction phase if needed.		X	X	X
GEN-7	Routine operation and maintenance activities will be scheduled and performed during daylight hours.			X	
GEN-8	Temporary sanitary facilities will be located in convenient locations throughout the site. Facilities will be located greater than 100 feet from any waterbody or wetland and will be regularly serviced and maintained.		X		X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
Air Quality					
AQ-1	A Fugitive Dust Control Plan will be prepared pursuant to Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations Chapter 3, Section 2(f).	X	X		X
AQ-2	All unpaved roads and disturbed areas where construction activities are occurring, including temporary laydown areas, will be treated with water or other surfactants as frequently as necessary to control fugitive dust. Wind erosion control techniques such as windbreaks, water, WY DEQ-approved chemical dust suppressants, and/or vegetation will be applied to soil disturbance areas that could potentially result in wind-blown soils.		X		X
AQ-3	All construction equipment vehicle tires will be cleaned via track pad entrances as necessary to limit tracking of soil onto public roadways prior to leaving the construction site.		X		
AQ-4	All vehicles that are used to transport solid bulk material on public roadways and have the potential to cause visible dust emissions on public roadways either will be covered or the materials sufficiently wetted in a manner to minimize fugitive dust emissions.		X		X
AQ-5	Idling equipment will be turned off when not in use.		X	X	X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
AQ-6	Any stationary sources associated with construction or operations activities requiring WDEQ–AQD permits or waivers will be controlled in accordance with relevant regulations and permit conditions.		X	X	X
Cultural Resources					
CR-1	An Unanticipated Discoveries Plan will be developed that describes procedures for responding to the discovery of archaeological or other cultural resources, including unmarked graves, during construction.	X	X		
CR-2	Conduct appropriate worker education concerning the recognition and protection of cultural resources for all on-site personnel.	X	X	X	X
CR-3	Conduct a new Class I records search for the Project and Class III cultural resources inventory for all work areas where ground disturbance may occur to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA. The Class III inventory should be performed subsequent to the Draft EIS and after the Project design is finalized. The survey results will be shared with the Wyoming SHPO to identify and avoid resources eligible for the National Historic Register.	X			

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
CR-4	To the extent practicable, construction activities will avoid impacts to cultural resource sites that may be identified within the Project Area. Cultural resource sites and appropriate buffers will be delineated on construction drawings as restricted areas and will be flagged in the field with signage and/or temporary fencing to prevent unauthorized entry.		X		X
CR-5	Conduct a systematic architectural inventory of the Project Area and use setbacks to reduce impacts to historic architectural resources to the extent practicable.	X			
Hazardous Materials					
HAZ-1	Prior to commencing construction, a Hazard Communication Program will be developed to comply with OSHA requirements under the Hazard Communication Standard. Elements of the Hazard Communication Program include a hazard determination process, approval process, materials inventory system, and training for site personnel. At a minimum, hazardous materials will be properly labeled and stored and material safety data sheets will be available at the site.	X	X	X	X
HAZ-2	Care will be taken when selecting the location of hazardous materials storage areas within the site to avoid potentially sensitive areas.		X	X	X

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		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
HAZ-3	In compliance with the EPA's Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Regulation, secondary containment for hazardous materials that are stored onsite will be provided to minimize potential effects to the surrounding environment. Examples of secondary containment are concrete bermed areas and manufactured containment pallets.		X	X	X
HAZ-4	Concrete washout would only be disposed of in properly designed concrete washout facilities.		X		
HAZ-5	A Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC Plan) will be prepared per local, State and Federal regulations and will be on site during construction, operation, and maintenance that defines procedures for storage, clean up and disposal of petroleum-based products. The SPCC will identify the types of equipment and materials that will be maintained on-site to facilitate a cleanup in the event of a spill. Construction and operations personnel will be trained to recognize and respond to accidental releases or spills in compliance with the SPCC. Regularly scheduled training modules will be provided to ensure prevention and preparedness throughout the life of the Project.		X	X	X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
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HAZ-6	All refuse, wastes, or hazardous materials will be handled, processed, treated, stored, and properly disposed of in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations.		X	X	X
HAZ-7	Should previously unknown hazardous materials such as contaminated soils be encountered within the site during construction, operations and maintenance, or decommissioning, the materials will be characterized and the appropriate agency will be informed.		X	X	X
Public Health and Safety					
PHS-1	All site personnel, regardless of job responsibilities, will receive Project orientation including environmental and health and safety Project procedures, requirements and site rules.		X	X	X
PHS-2	Rail Tie will coordinate with local emergency services, including the Tie Siding Volunteer Fire Department personnel and Laramie Fire Department in development of response or evacuation plans and procedures. Rail Tie personnel will continue routine coordination with local emergency services throughout the life of the Project.	X	X	X	X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
PHS-3	Fueling of vehicles will be conducted in accordance with procedures that will minimize the risk of fires and spills.		X	X	X
PHS-4	Selected Rail Tie personnel and construction crew leads will be trained in first aid, automated external defibrillator operation, and CPR. Adequate materials and resources for onsite treatment, first aid, and stabilization will be available onsite at all times.		X	X	X
PHS-5	A Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) Plan will be prepared for worker protection, as required by OSHA, with emphasis on safety and health regulations for construction and operations and maintenance. All employees would be required to conform to safety procedures and to receive appropriate training for their job responsibilities. The HSSE Plan will include requirements for first aid and other emergency medical material to be stored on site and in maintenance vehicles.		X	X	
PHS-6	Construction equipment will be outfitted with OSHA-required safety devices. Hard hats, safety boots, ear and eye protective equipment, and other safety equipment will be used on the construction site.		X		
PHS-7	Wind turbines will be operated in conformance with the manufacturer's operational parameters.			X	

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
PHS-8	Staff will perform routine inspections of the Project facilities, including wind turbines, roads, fencing, and other infrastructure, and will identify any incidences of waste disposal, theft, or vandalism.			X	
PHS-9	Chain-link security fencing will be installed at the substation and switchyard, and at the outdoor storage area adjacent to the operations and maintenance building to prevent unauthorized entry.		X	X	
PHS-10	During construction, temporary plastic mesh fencing will be installed to protect public and worker safety near excavated wind turbine foundations, electrical collection system trenches, material laydown areas, or any other areas deemed hazardous. Open holes and trenches without fencing will be covered or fenced to deter wildlife and livestock from becoming trapped or injured.		X		
PHS-11	The general public will not be permitted access to the Project facilities. Most private property within the Project area is fenced off. If trespassers are identified on privately-owned land, they will be escorted off of the property. Some of the property that the Project will be constructed on is State-owned land that is open to the public. The Project will coordinate with the state land office to identify appropriate temporal or spatial access restrictions during construction and operation periods.		X	X	X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
PHS-12	The Project will post any roads it constructs as being private roads only for use by authorized personnel in connection with Project operations.		X	X	X
PHS-13	An Emergency Response Plan will be prepared in coordination with Albany County emergency services to ensure that policies and procedures are consistent with those already established for the county.	X			
PHS-14	Wildfire Mitigation Measures will be developed in coordination with the Laramie Fire Department and Tie Siding Volunteer Fire Department and will be incorporated in the Project's Emergency Response Plan.	X			
PHS-15	Onsite personnel will routinely inspect the wind Project facilities for fire hazards.			X	
PHS-16	Wind turbines will be outfitted with lightning protection systems that will reduce the chance of fires igniting from lightning strikes.		X	X	

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
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PHS-17	The base of each turbine will be surrounded by a non-flammable, aggregate-based turbine pad. The turbine pad will be regularly inspected, maintained, and treated to prevent vegetative growth that could result in a fire hazard.			X	
PHS-18	All construction and maintenance vehicles will be equipped with fire extinguishers in the event of an equipment fire. Should an onsite fire occur, Project personnel will call 911 to alert the Laramie Fire Department and Tie Siding Volunteer Fire Department.		X	X	X
PHS-19	Fire suppression equipment, including a trailer-mounted tank of 500 gallons or more capacity with a gasoline powered pump, shall be maintained in the Project Area at all times during construction and operations.		X	X	X
Noise					
NOISE-1	Construction vehicles and equipment will be maintained in proper operating condition and will be equipped with manufacturers' standard noise control devices or better (e.g., mufflers, engine enclosures).		X		X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
NOISE-2	Construction and hauling equipment will be maintained adequately and equipped with appropriate mufflers.		X		X
NOISE-3	Blasting or hydraulic hammering will be limited to daylight hours.		X		X
Geology and Soils					
GEO-1	Temporary ground disturbance activities will be limited to the minimum amount necessary in order to safely construct project facilities.		X		
GEO-2	Ground disturbance activities in areas of highly erodible soils and steep slopes will be avoided to the extent practicable.		X		
GEO-3	Roads will be designed to follow existing contours and to avoid steep slopes that would require extensive cut-and-fill construction.	X			
GEO-4	Soils excavated from the turbine pads will be segregated into separate stockpiles for topsoil and subsoil. Subsoil will be used primarily as backfill while topsoil will be spread as the topmost layer of soil to support revegetation. Any unused soils or excavated rock will be removed from the site or disposed of in coordination with the landowner.		X		

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
GEO-5	An Erosion Control Plan (ECP) will be developed to identify areas of potentially higher erodibility due to excavation, grading, or ground disturbance. The ECP will define appropriate erosion control measures that may be implemented during and after construction.		X		
GEO-6	Erosion control measures will be periodically inspected, and as required after precipitation events. Erosion control measures will be repaired or replaced as necessary.		X	X	X
GEO-7	As soon as practicable following completion of ground disturbance activities, areas of temporary ground disturbance will be regraded and recontoured to blend with the natural terrain while maintaining existing drainage patterns.		X	X	X
GEO-8	All private landowner's existing drainage and erosion control structures such as diversions, irrigation ditches and tile lines shall be avoided by the Project, or in the alternative, appropriate measures are to be taken to maintain the design and effectiveness of the existing structures. Any structures disturbed during construction shall be repaired to as close to original condition as possible, as soon as possible.		X		

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
<i>Paleontological Resources</i>					
PALEO-1	Prior to construction, a pedestrian survey will be conducted by a qualified professional paleontologist in areas of high potential for fossil occurrence where ground disturbance activities are proposed to occur.	X			
PALEO-2	A Paleontological Unanticipated Discoveries and Mitigation Plan will be prepared that outlines appropriate actions in the event of an unanticipated discovery of fossils, including sampling investigation and reporting, and if needed, museum storage coordination for any specimen or data recovered.	X	X		
PALEO-3	Construction personnel involved with earth-moving activities will be informed of the possibility of encountering fossils, how to recognize fossils, and proper notification procedures. This worker training will be prepared by a qualified paleontologist and will be presented to all construction personnel during orientation.	X	X		
PALEO-4	If fossils are discovered in an active construction area, work would be stopped at that location and the construction project manager would be immediately notified.		X		

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		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
Recreation					
REC-1	City officials in Laramie and Fort Collins and private campgrounds or mobile home park owners will be coordinated with to identify facilities that are available to construction workers in order to avoid displacement of public recreational use at private campgrounds.	X	X		
REC-2	Recreational activities, such as hunting, may be restricted temporarily during construction for the safety of workers and recreationists; however, following construction recreational activities may continue in conformance with the property lease agreements and/or land use regulations.		X	X	X
REC-3	To the extent practicable, construction and maintenance traffic will be limited to minimize disruption of normal land use and recreation activities.		X	X	X
Transportation					

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
TRANS-1	Rail Tie will coordinate with WYDOT and Albany County to implement a Transportation and Traffic Management Plan that minimizes risks and inconvenience to the public, while ensuring safe and efficient construction of the Project. The plan will focus on turbine component deliveries, traffic and circulation primarily within and in the vicinity of the Project area. It will be designed to minimize potential hazards from increased truck traffic and worker traffic and to minimize impacts to traffic flow in the vicinity of the Project.	X	X		
TRANS-2	To minimize conflicts between Project traffic and background traffic, deliveries of project components will be scheduled around local volume peaks to the extent feasible.		X		
TRANS-3	Road clearances may include temporarily blocking road intersections via construction cones and/or staffing blocked intersections with a traffic-control flagger to allow haul trucks sole access to the road while delivering Project components. If required, public road closures are not expected to exceed 15 minutes during each/any road closure event.		X		X
TRANS-4	The Project will coordinate with WY DOT to determine whether temporary speed limit reductions during construction are applicable where Project access points intersect with State Highway 287.	X	X		

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
TRANS-5	Construction deliveries would be coordinated to avoid major traffic-generating events in Laramie including on the University of Wyoming campus, to the extent practicable.		X		
TRANS-6	The Project would coordinate with local law enforcement, to manage traffic flows and monitor traffic speed during deliveries.		X		X
TRANS-7	All staging activities and parking of equipment and vehicles would occur within the Project Area and would not occur on maintained Albany County roads.		X		
TRANS-8	Equipment and material deliveries to the site would be performed by professional transportation companies familiar with the type of equipment, loads involved, and U.S. DOT, WYDOT, and Albany County regulations.		X		X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
TRANS-9	Road signs would be erected to notify travelers and local residents that construction is occurring in the area and provide information regarding the timing and route for oversized vehicle movements and deliveries. The erection/placement of road signs and the Project construction activities would be performed in accordance with the Albany County Zoning Resolution (Albany County 2011) and coordinated with the Albany County Road and Bridge Department and WYDOT.		X		
Vegetation					
VEG-1	A Reclamation Plan will be prepared prior to the onset of construction that will guide the revegetation of disturbed areas during and following the construction process.	X	X		
VEG-2	Revegetation will be implemented for all areas temporarily disturbed by construction or decommissioning of the facility in conformance with landowner agreements and in compliance with State and/or Federal permitting requirements. Temporarily disturbed areas will be revegetated as soon as practicable, either through natural revegetation practices or through the use of reseeding. If reseeding is required, plant species native to the affected ecosystems will be utilized .		X		X

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		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
VEG-3	The Reclamation Plan will identify locally-approved, weed free, seed mixtures that prioritize plant species native to the ecosystems affected by site construction.	X	X		
VEG-4	The Project will develop and implement an Integrated Weed Management Plan that identifies appropriate controls to avoid, minimize, or treat the spread of noxious weeds directly resulting from construction, operations, and decommissioning.	X	X	X	X
VEG-5	The Project will perform a preconstruction survey of the project footprint to identify existing locations of noxious weeds. Any locations delineated will be identified in the Weed Management Plan, and appropriate controls will be applied to Project activities in these areas.	X			
VEG-6	Upon completion of construction, a post-construction weed inventory survey will be performed to validate the effectiveness of the weed management program and ensure that invasive weed levels have not exceeded preconstruction levels.		X	X	
VEG-7	The Project will coordinate with the weed management contractor and host landowners regarding specific treatment methods on their respective properties.	X			

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VEG-8	Any herbicide use as part of vegetation management activities will follow label instructions and relevant Federal, State, and local laws.		X	X	X
Visual Resources					
VIS-1	Collection lines will be buried and co-located with access roads to the extent practicable.	X	X		
VIS-2	The operations and maintenance building will be designed with rural and agricultural architectural elements to minimize contrast with existing structures. The building will be painted with earth-tone colors identified in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Standard Environmental Colors palette or as required by Albany County to reduce visual contrasts from color.	X	X	X	
VIS-3	Outdoor facility lighting will be designed with light caps and/or directed downward to minimize offsite glare.	X	X	X	
VIS-4	Turbine components will be painted with a light, non-reflective white color in accordance with the Albany County Wind Siting Regulations (Albany County 2011).	X	X	X	

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
VIS-5	The Project will follow Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Obstruction Marking and Lighting requirements as defined by Advisory Circular No 70/7460-1L and will coordinate with the FAA on the feasibility of Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) to reduce the potential impact of nighttime lighting.	X	X	X	
Water Quality					
WQ-1	The Project will identify, avoid, and/or minimize adverse effects to wetlands and waterbodies.	X	X	X	X
WQ-2	Woody vegetation in potentially disturbed wetlands will be cut at ground level to leave the root systems intact and encourage sprouting of the existing species following construction.		X		
WQ-3	Equipment operation in or directly adjacent to wetlands or waterbodies will be kept to the minimum necessary to safely perform the work. Prefabricated equipment matting will be used to avoid rutting, soil compaction, and other ground disturbance where temporary work areas occur in wetlands or waterbodies.		X		X
WQ-4	Wetland and aquatic resource boundaries will be clearly identified on all construction plans and will be posted with signs and flagging in the field.		X		X

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
WQ-5	Appropriate permits will be secured should any fill or dredge activities in wetlands or other waters of the United States (WOTUS) be required.	X	X	X	X
WQ-5	No parking or servicing of construction-related vehicles will occur within any wetland boundary.		X	X	X
WQ-6	Erosion control barriers and other measures, such as silt fencing, fiber logs, and/or hay bales will be placed immediately upgradient of wetlands and waterbodies to minimize sediment transport and deposition.		X		X
WQ-7	Access roads will be designed and constructed to minimize disruption of natural drainage patterns including perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams.	X	X		
WQ-8	A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) outlining specific erosion control measures will be prepared, and its requirements will be implemented onsite for the proposed Project. The SWPPP will comply with USEPA and WYDEQ requirements.	X	X		

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		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
WQ-9	Construction activities shall be performed using methods that prevent entrance or accidental spillage of solid matter, contaminant debris, and other objectionable pollutants and wastes into flowing streams or dry watercourses, lakes, and underground water sources.		X		
WQ-10	Borrow pits, if required, shall be excavated so that the water will not collect and stand therein. Upon completion of construction, the sides of borrow pits will be brought to stable slopes, with slope intersections shaped to carry the natural contour of adjacent, undisturbed terrain into the pit or borrow area, giving a natural appearance.		X		
WQ-11	Waterbody crossings would incorporate WGFD design specifications and professional engineering standards, as applicable. Open-bottom culverts will be used where appropriate to avoid changing stream morphology or removing suitable fish habitat. In addition, such waterbody crossings and culverts would be constructed in a manner that prevents sediment erosion, deposition of sediment, and minimizes impacts to any environmentally sensitive areas.	X	X	X	

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
WQ-12	Excavated material or other construction materials will not be stockpiled or deposited on or near stream banks, pond shorelines, or other watercourse perimeters where they can be washed away by storm runoff or can, in any way, encroach upon the actual water body itself.		X		
WQ-13	Water quality BMPs would be implemented at waterbody crossings to minimize any unforeseen impacts to the Platte River System's watershed and associated vegetation communities.		X		X
WQ-14	If new groundwater wells are required for construction or operation, the Project will coordinate with the WY State Engineer's Office to ensure withdrawal volumes will not adversely affect supplies for other uses.	X	X	X	
Wildlife					
WL-1	Initial vegetation clearing would be performed during the non-breeding season for birds (September 1 through April 15) if feasible. If vegetation clearing cannot occur during the non-breeding season, surveys will be performed in breeding bird habitat to identify avian nesting activity within the Project Area. Nest sites would be avoided until determined to be inactive.	X	X		

Resource Category	Measure	Implementation			
		Preconstruction	Construction	Operations	Decommissioning
WL-2	The Project will develop and implement a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy to avoid and reduce potential impacts to non-listed bird and bat species that may result from the operations of the Project.	X	X	X	
WL-3	The Project will develop and implement eagle conservation practices and seek to avoid the unintentional take of eagles at wind energy facilities.	X	X	X	
WL-4	In consideration of the USFWS' Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines (2012), the Project will perform post-construction mortality surveys to calculate the fatality rate of birds and bats.			X	
WL-5	All trash and refuse will be disposed of in designated, covered waste receptacles and regularly removed from the site in order to avoid attracting scavengers.		X	X	X
WL-6	The overhead power to ground wire (OPGW) wires associated with the Project 345-kV gen-tie line will be marked with bird flight diverters consistent with methods suggested in the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee's Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines (2012).		X		

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WL-7	If overhead collection lines are included in the Project's final design, the electric lines will be designed to incorporate appropriate spacing of energized parts to avoid or reduce the potential for electrocution risk to large birds, specifically raptors. The Project's design would consider the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee's Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines: The State of the Art in 2006 and Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: The State of the Art in 2012.	X			
WL-8	The Project will notify the USFWS within 24 hours of federally listed species or eagle mortality documented on the Project site.		X	X	
WL-9	The Project established a 1-mile spatial buffer around known, occupied eagle nests identified during the 2019 and 2020 raptor nest surveys. The area within the 1-mile buffers was excluded from the Project Siting Corridor, therefore wind turbine generators would be setback a minimum 1-mile from the identified eagle nests. If future nest surveys identify additional occupied eagle nests, the Project will coordinate with the USFWS to identify appropriate nest-specific avoidance or minimization measures.	X			

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WL-10	To the extent practicable, herptile habitats for Species of Greatest Conservation Need, such as fallen trees, prairie dog colonies, and potential basking rocks, will be left intact.		X	X	X
WL-11	Construction activities will be avoided between Nov 15 – April 30 in areas of Mule Deer Crucial Winter Range ¹ .		X		X

¹ WGFD. 2020. Wyoming Game and Fish Open Data. Available online at: <https://wyoming-wgfd.opendata.arcgis.com/>. Accessed December 2019 and February 2021.