

## **Appendix G**

### **Tribal Outreach and Correspondence**

## **Appendix G-1**

### **Representative Project Introduction Letter – Tribal Representatives**

## Request for Comment on Midwater BESS, LLC Battery Energy Storage

Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

Fri 4/19/2024 12:27 PM

To: Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

Cc: Emily McMillan <Emily.McMillan@westwoodps.com>

 2 attachments (2 MB)

Midwater\_BESS\_Ex01\_ProjectLocation\_20240322.pdf; Midwater BESS\_Pre Application Comment Letter.pdf;

Good afternoon,

Midwater BESS, LLC is writing to request your comments on the proposed battery energy storage project. The Project is an energy storage facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments within 30 days of receiving this email. All responses may be made publicly available upon submission of the Site Permit Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Please email Emily McMillan at [Emily.McMillan@Westwoodps.com](mailto:Emily.McMillan@Westwoodps.com) about any questions and concerns.

Thanks,

**Sophia Fisher** (she/her)

**Project Assistant, Wind**

[sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com](mailto:sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com)

**main** (952) 937-5150

**Westwood**

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

[westwoodps.com](http://westwoodps.com)

(888) 937-5150

April 18, 2024

**Re: Request for Comment and Notice of Proposed Midwater Battery Energy Storage System Project in Freeborn County, Minnesota**

To Whom It May Concern:

Midwater BESS, LLC (“Midwater”) is proposing to construct and operate an up to 150-megawatt (“MW”) battery energy storage system (“BESS”), referred to as the Midwater Energy Storage Project (the “BESS Project”) and a 161 kilovolt (“kV”) gen-tie line that will be between 2,500 and 4,000 feet in length (the “Transmission Project”) in Freeborn County, Minnesota (the “Project”). On behalf of Midwater, Westwood Professional Services is gathering information and requesting agency comments on the proposed BESS and Transmission Projects.

The Project area is located in Sections 7, 8, and 17, Township 101 North, Range 20 West, Shell Rock Township, southeast of the city of Glenville. The current land cover consists of agricultural and rural vacant land. A Project location map is attached.

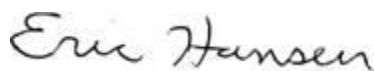
The associated facilities include battery storage containers, a Project substation, an above-ground gen-tie line from the Project Substation to an existing substation, access roads, fencing, and underground electrical connections within the storage system. The facility locations and engineering design have not been finalized at this time.

Midwater must obtain a Site Permit for the BESS Project and a Route Permit for the Transmission Project from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to construct the proposed Project. There are multiple opportunities for stakeholder and public input in these proceedings. Midwater is currently gathering information in preparation for filing its applications and expects to file applications with the Commission later in 2024.

We welcome any comments your agency may have at this time and throughout the application process. If you have questions or would like to meet regarding the proposed BESS Project, please contact me at [eric.hansen@westwoodps.com](mailto:eric.hansen@westwoodps.com). Please provide comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Written comments will be incorporated into the applications and the Commission’s review.

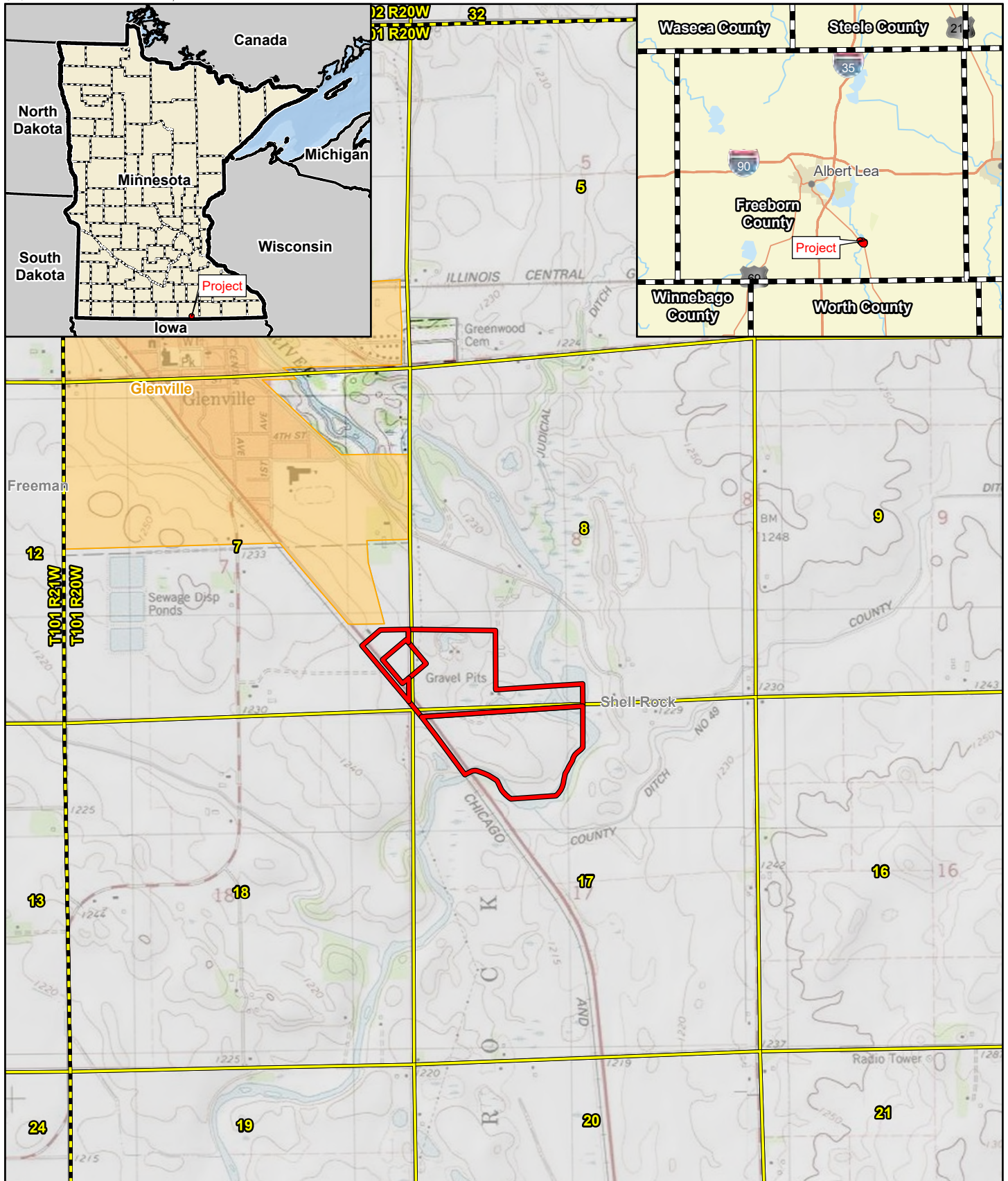
Sincerely,

WESTWOOD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC.

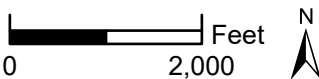


Eric Hansen, PE, PG  
Environmental Lead

Enc. Project Area Map



Data Source(s): Westwood (2024); ESRI WMS USA  
Topo & World Streets Basemaps (Accessed 2024);  
PLSS (2022).



**Westwood**

Toll Free (888) 937-5150 westwoodps.com  
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

## Legend

- Project Area
- Section Boundary
- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Municipal Township

## Midwater BESS Project

Freeborn County, Minnesota

## Project Location

March 2024

EXHIBIT 1

## **Appendix G-2**

### **Tribal Responses**

## Re: Request for Comment on Midwater BESS, LLC Battery Energy Storage

Emily McMillan <Emily.McMillan@westwoodps.com>

Mon 4/22/2024 4:50 PM

To: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>; Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your response. We are currently working with Midwater BESS, LLC to prepare the design and application package, which they anticipate submitting in late July. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,

**Emily McMillan, JD** (she/her)

**Permitting Specialist**

[emily.mcmillan@westwoodps.com](mailto:emily.mcmillan@westwoodps.com)

**direct** (952) 697-5747

**main** (952) 937-5150

**cell** (612) 759-5728

### Westwood

12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300

Minnetonka, MN 55343

[westwoodps.com](http://westwoodps.com)

(888) 937-5150

Find us at **CLEANPOWER 2024** | May 7-9 | **Booth 2820**

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**From:** Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2024 12:48 PM

**To:** Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>

**Cc:** Emily McMillan <Emily.McMillan@westwoodps.com>

**Subject:** RE: Request for Comment on Midwater BESS, LLC Battery Energy Storage

**CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.**

Please keep me informed of the progress of this proposed project.



**LEONARD WABASHA**

Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

d: 952.496.6120

[shakopeedakota.org](http://shakopeedakota.org)

[Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org](mailto:Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Indian tribe located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a focus on being a good neighbor, good steward of the earth, and good employer, the



SMSC is committed to charitable donations, community partnerships, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.

**From:** Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2024 12:27 PM  
**To:** Sophia Fisher <Sophia.Fisher@westwoodps.com>  
**Cc:** Emily McMillan <Emily.McMillan@westwoodps.com>  
**Subject:** Request for Comment on Midwater BESS, LLC Battery Energy Storage

You don't often get email from [sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com](mailto:sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

This message came from **outside the organization**. Do Not click on links, open attachments or respond unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

Midwater BESS, LLC is writing to request your comments on the proposed battery energy storage project. The Project is an energy storage facility to be located in Freeborn County, Minnesota with a nameplate capacity of up to 150-megawatts (MW). We appreciate and welcome any comments your agency may have regarding the Project and resources under your jurisdiction, and respectfully ask for receipt of your comments within 30 days of receiving this email. All responses may be made publicly available upon submission of the Site Permit Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Please email Emily McMillian at [Emily.McMillian@Westwoodps.com](mailto:Emily.McMillian@Westwoodps.com) about any questions and concerns.

Thanks,

**Sophia Fisher** (she/her)  
**Project Assistant, Wind**  
[sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com](mailto:sophia.fisher@westwoodps.com)  
**main** (952) 937-5150

**Westwood**  
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300  
Minnetonka, MN 55343

[westwoodps.com](http://westwoodps.com)  
(888) 937-5150

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## RE: Snowshoe and Midwater Battery Energy Storage System Projects in Olmsted and Freeborn Counties Mn

Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>

Fri 4/26/2024 3:28 PM

To:Eric Hansen <Eric.Hansen@westwoodps.com>

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Thank you Eric, It does help, as long as there are no archaeological sites in the direct Project APE or within 500 feet I have no concerns...



### LEONARD WABASHA

Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

d: 952.496.6120

[shakopeedakota.org]shakopeedakota.org

Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org

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**From:** Eric Hansen <eric.hansen@westwoodps.com>

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2024 3:25 PM

**To:** Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>

**Subject:** RE: Snowshoe and Midwater Battery Energy Storage System Projects in Olmsted and Freeborn Counties Mn

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Good afternoon Leonard,

We've conducted a literature search on these projects but have not yet compiled a desktop report as the projects are still early stage.

My cultural team indicates the following:

#### Snowshoe:

No known archaeological sites in the Project area or one mile buffer.

No historic/architectural resources in project.

Three historic/architectural resources in one mile buffer. All unevaluated or not eligible for the NRHP.

#### Midwater:

No known archaeological sites in the Project area. One site in the one mile buffer: Site 21FE0126 is a sparse lithic scatter consisting of four pieces of lithic debitage.

One historic/architectural resource in project. XX-ROD-00178 - TH 65 is in far western edge. It is unevaluated for NRHP.

One historic/architectural resource is right on boundary and may or may not be in Project Area. FE-SHE-000 – Bridge 24004 is just in or adjacent far SW corner. It is not eligible for NRHP.  
Eight additional historic/architectural resources in one mile buffer. All unevaluated or not eligible for the NRHP.

I hope this helps in your early assessment of the site.

Eric Hansen  
612-360-0502

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**From:** Leonard Wabasha (TO) <[leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org](mailto:leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2024 3:05 PM  
**To:** Eric Hansen <[eric.hansen@westwoodps.com](mailto:eric.hansen@westwoodps.com)>  
**Subject:** Snowshoe and Midwater Battery Energy Storage System Projects in Olmsted and Freeborn Counties Mn

**CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.**

Dear Eric Hansen  
Can you provide a desktop or literature study for these projects? Im trying to see if there are any recorded significant archaeological sites at either location, Thanks and have a Great Day!



**LEONARD WABASHA**  
Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
d: 952.496.6120  
[shakopeedakota.org](http://shakopeedakota.org)  
[Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org](mailto:Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)

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