



Kingman County Commission

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Kingman County, BP agree on wind farm road repairs

The Kingman County Commission has reached a financial settlement with British Petroleum, Inc. to repair roads damaged during construction of the Flat Ridge 2 commercial wind farm.

The county negotiated a road use agreement with BP prior to construction of the wind farm, which was built in 2012. That agreement outlined the use of county and township roads by BP, noting that such use would be most intensive during construction when trucks moved heavy equipment and materials. It further states that BP will pay the costs of repairing those roads back to pre-construction condition. An independent engineer created a pre-construction record of the roads used.

Commissioners met with BP representatives on Sept. 17 to discuss the repairs and how they would be made. After extensive discussion, the two parties agreed that BP would pay the county a cash settlement of \$250,000 for road repairs. Of that amount, \$2,000 per mile will go to repair township roads on designated haul routes in Chikaskia, Valley and Rochester townships.

The remaining funds will be used to repair portions of two county blacktop roads – SW 90th Avenue and SW 50th Avenue. Kingman County decided to take a cash settlement rather than having BP make the repairs. That will allow the county and the townships to choose how the repairs are made and who makes them.

Commissioners are in the process of collecting additional information from the townships about their roads so payments to them can be made based on the number of construction route miles maintained by each township. Once payments are determined and made, each township then can decide how to repair its roads.

BP also will provide a certificate of completion to the county and the three townships for the designated wind farm construction haul routes.

The Flat Ridge 2 wind farm began full commercial operation in December 2012. It is owned jointly by BP Wind Energy and Sempra U.S. Gas & Power. It is located on a 66,000-acre site in Barber, Harper, Kingman and Sumner counties and is the largest single build wind farm in U.S. history. It is the largest wind farm in the state of Kansas.

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