

TCI gets rolling in Minnesota

TCI Renewables is laying the groundwork for a 98.9MW wind project in northwestern Minnesota.

The developer expects to apply in May to the state's

public utilities commission for a certificate of need and a site permit for the Ellerth scheme in Marshall County.

"We're looking to start

construction in late spring or early summer 2012," said TCI's Rory Cantwell. "We're hoping to be complete for the end of 2012." The developer, a

subsidiary of UK-based TCI Renewables, has secured the required land base with 22,000 acres of private farmland under lease option.

Cantwell said the company is mulling several turbine models from 1.5MW to 2.5MW and will likely choose a supplier within six months.

Ellerth will feed into an existing 115kV transmission line that passes through the site.

TCI has kicked off talks with contractors and suppliers for construction works but has yet to award any contracts.