

November 9, 2020

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Mr. William Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

**Re: In the Matter of the Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 308-MW Big Bend Wind Project in Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties  
MPUC Docket No. IP-7013/CN-19-408**

**In the Matter of the Application of Red Rock Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 60-MW Red Rock Solar Project in Cottonwood County  
MPUC Docket No. IP-7014/CN-19-486**

**In the Matter of the Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the up to 308-MW Big Bend Wind Project in Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties  
MPUC Docket No. IP-7013/WS-19-619**

**In the Matter of the Application of Red Rock Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 60-MW Red Rock Solar Project in Cottonwood County  
MPUC Docket No. IP-7014/GS-19-620**

**In the Matter of the Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Route Permit for a 161-kV High Voltage Transmission Line in Cottonwood, Watonwan and Martin Counties  
MPUC Docket No. IP-7013/TL-19-621**

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Big Bend Wind, LLC (“Big Bend”) and Red Rock Solar, LLC (“Red Rock”) (collectively, “the Applicants”), are indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC and are proposing to construct up to 335 megawatts (“MW”) of new renewable energy generation. As proposed, the renewable generation could consist of up to 308 MWs of wind (the “Wind Farm”), or a combination of wind and up to 60 MW of solar (the “Solar Project”). In addition, Big Bend is proposing to construct a 161 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line and associated facilities to support the Wind Farm and Solar Project.

Enclosed for filing in each of the respective dockets identified herein, please find:

1. Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 308-MW Big Bend Wind Project in Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties (MPUC Docket No. IP 7013/CN 19 408), including:
  - a. Summary of Filing;
  - b. Figures; and,
  - c. Appendix A. In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 7829.0500, and Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, the Applicant has designated as **NONPUBLIC** certain commercially sensitive trade secret information related to the cost of the Project included in the **NONPUBLIC** version of Appendix A, which, if released, would have a detrimental effect on the Applicant by providing potential competitors, commercial parties and others with valuable information not otherwise readily ascertainable and from which these persons would obtain economic value.
2. Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the up to 308-MW Big Bend Wind Project in Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties (MPUC Docket No. IP 7013/WS 19 619), including:
  - a. Figures; and,
  - b. Appendices A-J. In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 7829.0500, and Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, the Applicant has designated as trade secret certain commercially sensitive information, i.e., certain wind turbine sound power levels, which are considered confidential and proprietary information, included with the **NONPUBLIC** Appendix B of the Site Permit Application. Release of this data would have a detrimental effect on the Applicant and its potential turbine suppliers by providing potential competitors and others with valuable information not otherwise readily ascertainable and from which these persons would obtain economic value. Given the need to include nonpublic information, the Applicant has prepared and is e-filing both **NON-PUBLIC AND TRADE SECRET** and public versions of Appendix B of the Site Permit Application. The Applicant has also designated as **NONPUBLIC** Appendix F of the Site Permit Application because it contains sensitive cultural and environmental information. Because Appendix F is nonpublic in its entirety, the Applicant is filing only a cover page as the public version of Appendix F.

3. Application of Big Bend Wind, LLC for a Route Permit for a 161-kV High Voltage Transmission Line in Cottonwood, Watonwan and Martin Counties (MPUC Docket No. IP 7013/TL 19 621), including:
  - a. Figures; and,
  - b. Appendices A-H.
4. Application of Red Rock Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 60-MW Red Rock Solar Project in Cottonwood County (MPUC Docket No. IP 7014/CN 19 486), including:
  - a. Summary of Filing;
  - b. Figures; and,
  - c. Appendix A. In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 7829.0500, and Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, the Applicant has designated as **NONPUBLIC** certain commercially sensitive trade secret information related to the cost of the Project included in the **NONPUBLIC** version of Appendix A, which, if released, would have a detrimental effect on the Applicant by providing potential competitors, commercial parties and others with valuable information not otherwise readily ascertainable and from which these persons would obtain economic value.
5. Application of Red Rock Solar, LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 60-MW Red Rock Solar Project in Cottonwood County (MPUC Docket No. IP 7014/GS 19 620), including:
  - a. Figures; and,
  - b. Appendices A-F. In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 7829.0500, and Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, the Applicant has designated as **NONPUBLIC** Appendix E of the Site Permit Application because it contains sensitive cultural and environmental information. Because Appendix E is nonpublic in its entirety, the Applicant is filing only a cover page as the public version of Appendix E.
6. Certificate of Service.

The documents referenced above have also been e-filed today through [www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us). Application filing fees were previously sent under separate cover.

Mr. William Seuffert  
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A copy of this filing is also being served upon the persons on the Official Service Lists of record and the general service lists, as applicable. Please add the following individuals to the Official Service Lists of record for electronic service only:

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Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Christina K. Brusven*

Christina K. Brusven  
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71314235

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Alicia P. Jones, hereby certify that I have this day served true and correct copies of the following documents to all persons on the attached service list by electronic filing or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota:

1. Cover Letter;
2. Big Bend Wind, LLC's Route Permit Application, Figures, Appendices A-H including public Appendix F, NONPUBLIC Appendix F; and
3. Certificate of Service.

MPUC Docket No. IP-7013/TL-19-621

Dated this 9th day of November 2020

    /s/ Alicia P. Jones

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