

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. Application filing fees were previously sent under separate cover.

Mr. William Seuffert
November 9, 2020
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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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Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000
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Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christina K. Brusven

Christina K. Brusven
Attorney at Law
Direct Dial: 612.492.7412
Email: cbrusven@fredlaw.com

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 Site Permit Application, Figures, Appendices A-J including public Appendices B and F, NONPUBLIC Appendices B and F; and
3. Certificate of Service.

MPUC Docket No. IP-7013/WS-19-619

Dated this 9th day of November 2020

 /s/ Alicia P. Jones

| First Name | Last Name | Email | Company Name | Address | Delivery Method | View Trade Secret | Service List Name |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------|---|
| Christina | Brusven | cbrusven@fredlaw.com | Fredrikson Byron | 200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 554021425 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Linda | Chavez | linda.chavez@state.mn.us | Department of Commerce | 85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Generic Notice | Commerce Attorneys | commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us | Office of the Attorney General-DOC | 445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Sharon | Ferguson | sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us | Department of Commerce | 85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Generic Notice | Residential Utilities Division | residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us | Office of the Attorney General-RUD | 1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Will | Seuffert | Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us | Public Utilities Commission | 121 7th Pl E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |
| Haley | Waller Pitts | hwallerpitts@fredlaw.com | Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. | 200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402 | Electronic Service | No | GEN_SL_19-619_Big Bend Site Permit Initial Service List |