



December 24, 2020

ELECTRONIC FILING

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Commission
127 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: **Reply Comments on Application Acceptance**
Big Bend Wind Project and Big Bend HVTL
Docket Nos. IP7013/CN-19-408, WS-19-619, and TL-19-621

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Attached are the reply comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff on application acceptance in the following matter:

In the Matter of Big Bend Wind, LLC's Certificate of Need (LWECS & HVTL), LWECS Site Permit, and HVTL Route Permit applications for the Big Bend Wind Project and associated facilities in Cottonwood, Martin, and Watonwan counties in Minnesota

The applications were filed by:

c/o Apex Clean Energy, Inc.
Brenna Gunderson, Director of Development
8665 Hudson Blvd. North, Suite 110
Lake Elmo, MN 55042
Phone: 612-260-6614
Fax: 434-220-3712
Email: Brenna.gunderson@apexcleanenergy.com

EERA staff has reviewed the comments submitted to the Big Bend Wind Project and Big Bend HVTL eDockets, and at this time we have not identified any specific comments that would change our comments and recommendations on application completeness submitted to the Commission on December 15, 2020. The comments submitted to date identify items that can appropriately and adequately be addressed throughout the permitting process and will be reviewed and considered for inclusion in the Environmental Assessment, Preliminary Draft Site Permit, and Draft Route Permit to be prepared by EERA.

EERA staff recommends the Commission accept the applications for the proposed Big Bend Wind Project and Big Bend HVTL Project as complete.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Davis
Environmental Review Manager

Enclosure

cc: Louise Miltich, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
Mary Otto, Department of Commerce
Charley Bruce, Public Utilities Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Marcella Emeott, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – Reply Comments

Docket Nos. IP7013/CN-19-408, WS-19-619, and TL-19-621

Dated this **24th** day of **December 2020**.

/s/Marcella Emeott

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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Lucas	Franco	lfranco@liunagroc.com	LIUNA	81 Little Canada Rd E Little Canada, MN 55117	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Brenna	Gunderson	Brenna.gunderson@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Kate M	Heins	kate.heins@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	310 4th St NE Ste 200 Charlottesville, VA 22902	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Chris	Kunkle	chris.kunkle@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd North, Suite 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Kevin	Majjala	Kevin.Majjala@mnhs.org	Minnesota Historical Society	N/A	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Haley	Waller Pitts	hwallerpitts@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-621_19-621

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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Brenna	Gunderson	Brenna.gunderson@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Kate M	Heins	kate.heins@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	310 4th St NE Ste 200 Charlottesville, VA 22902	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Dylan	Ikkala	dylan.ikkala@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619
Haley	Waller Pitts	hwallerpitts@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_WS-19-619

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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Lucas	Franco	lfranco@liunagroc.com	LIUNA	81 Little Canada Rd E Little Canada, MN 55117	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Brenna	Gunderson	Brenna.gunderson@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Kate M	Heins	kate.heins@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	310 4th St NE Ste 200 Charlottesville, VA 22902	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Dylan	Ikkala	dylan.ikkala@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Kevin	Majjala	Kevin.Majjala@mnhs.org	Minnesota Historical Society	N/A	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Haley	Waller Pitts	hwallerpitts@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-619_19-619

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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Kate	Fairman	kate.frantz@state.mn.us	Department of Natural Resources	Box 32 500 Lafayette Rd St. Paul, MN 551554032	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Annie	Felix Gerth	annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us		Board of Water & Soil Resources 520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Lucas	Franco	lfranco@liunagro.com	LIUNA	81 Little Canada Rd E Little Canada, MN 55117	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Brenna	Gunderson	Brenna.gunderson@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Eenergy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Kate M	Heins	kate.heins@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	310 4th St NE Ste 200 Charlottesville, VA 22902	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Kari	Howe	kari.howe@state.mn.us	DEED	332 Minnesota St, #E200 1ST National Bank Bldg St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Dylan	Ikkala	dylan.ikkala@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd N Ste 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Ray	Kirsch	Raymond.Kirsch@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 500 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Karen	Kromar	karen.kromar@state.mn.us	MN Pollution Control Agency	520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Chris	Kunkle	chris.kunkle@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy	8665 Hudson Blvd North, Suite 110 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Kevin	Majjala	Kevin.Majjala@mnhs.org	Minnesota Historical Society	N/A	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Susan	Medhaug	Susan.medhaug@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Suite 280, 85 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
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	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Stephan	Roos	stephan.roos@state.mn.us	MN Department of Agriculture	625 Robert St N Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Pl E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Haley	Waller Pitts	hwallerpitts@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408
Cynthia	Warzecha	cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Road Box 25 St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4040	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-408_19-408

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Berdon	Baerg	bbaerg@msn.com		B&A Baerg Farms, LLC 4758 Watermark LN Sarasota, FL 34238	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_19-408_Project Contact List