Comments from Operating Engineers Local 49 and North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters

Nov 6, 2023

Mr. Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

In the Matter of the Application of Lake Wilson Solar Energy LLC for a Certificate of Need for the up to 150 MW Lake Wilson Solar and Associated Battery Storage Project in Murray County, Minnesota (21-791/21-792)

Dear Mr. Seuffert,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this matter. We respectfully submit this letter expressing our continued support for the Lake Wilson solar and battery storage project. At this point in time, we do not believe there are any contested issues of fact regarding the representations made in the application. It is our belief that the application complies with the requirements of Minnesota's Certificate of Need statute of and rules.

The Lake Wilson solar and battery storage project is one of the few proposed projects in Minnesota with a MISO generator interconnection agreement. As such, it is an important project for achieving the new state 100% clean energy standard passed into law last year. The project proposer has indicated their preference for local, union construction craft labor on the project and a goal of maximizing local economic benefits for workers. We look forward to continuing discussions with the proposer on their workforce plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Nathan Runke, Regulatory and Political Affairs Coordinator, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49

Adam Duininck, Director of Government Affairs, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters