

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Clean Energy)
Future-Lordstown, LLC for a Capacity Increase in its)
Certificate to Install and Operate a Natural Gas Fired) **17-1485-EL-BGA**
Electric Generation Facility in Lordstown, Ohio.)

Members of the Board:

Chairman, Public Utilities Commission	Ohio House of Representatives
Director, Development Services Agency	Ohio Senate
Director, Department of Health	
Director, Department of Agriculture	
Director, Environmental Protection Agency	
Director, Department of Natural Resources	
Public Member	

To the Honorable Power Siting Board:

Please review the attached Staff Report of Investigation, which has been filed in accordance with Ohio Power Siting Board rules. The application in this case is subject to an approval process as required by Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4906.03.

Sincerely,



Patrick Donlon
Director, Rates and Analysis
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-6692

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 17-1485-EL-BGA (associated with prior Case Nos. 14-2322-EL-BGN, 16-0131-EL-BGA, and 16-0494-EL-BGA)

Project Name: Lordstown Energy Center

Project Location: Trumbull County

Applicant: Clean Energy Future-Lordstown, LLC

Application Filing Date: June 29, 2017

Inspection Date: N/A

Report Date: September 13, 2017

Applicant's Waiver Requests: none

Staff Assigned: J.Whitis, J.Cross

Application Description

On September 17, 2015, in Case No. 14-2322-EL-BGN, the Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) certificated Clean Energy Future-Lordstown, LLC's (Applicant) construction, operation, and maintenance of an 800 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired combined-cycle generating facility, associated 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, and 5-breaker ring bus located in Lordstown, Ohio (the Lordstown Energy Center).

On March 24, 2016, in Case No.16-0131-EL-BGA, the Board approved the Applicant's proposed changes associated with a 5-breaker ring bus and the electrical interconnection that will connect the facility to the regional power grid.

On June 30, 2016, in Case No. 16-0494-EL-BGA, the Board approved the Applicant's proposal to add two parcels to the project area.

On June 29, 2017, the Applicant filed the present application, which proposes an increase in the facility's electric generating output from 800 MW to 940 MW. No change in any equipment of the facility is proposed.

Application Review

Through this filing, the Applicant is requesting to increase its approved electric generating output from 800 MW to 940 MW, an additional 140 MW. As stated in the Staff report on the original application, the facility was designed to have a maximum achievable output of 947 MW, but the Applicant intended to limit actual operation to a maximum of 800 MW in order to comply with

interconnection authority approval limitations.^{1,2} Staff further stated that any proposed increase above the approved 800 MW would need to be submitted to the Board in a separate application at a later date.³ The current filing is the anticipated application.

The additional output would be provided within the parameters of the existing Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Air Permit issued for the facility, and would not require any physical change to the facility. As a result, the proposed change would not increase any ecological, cultural, or socioeconomic impacts. Therefore, Staff determined the review conducted by Staff in Case No. 14-2322-EL-BGN regarding the requirements listed in R.C. 4906.10 was sufficient and should continue to apply to the present application.

Electric Grid Interconnection

The proposed facility would interconnect to the electric grid with American Transmission Systems, Incorporated's (ATSI) existing Highland-Sammis and Highland-Mansfield 345 kV lines.

The Applicant submitted its generation interconnection request for the Lordstown Energy Center project to PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM) on February 21, 2016.⁴ The request would increase the energy output of interconnection queue Z2-028 by 140 MW.⁵ PJM gave the application a queue position of AB1-017. The System Impact Study was released by PJM in September 2016. The total capacity of the combined interconnection queues Z2-028 and AB1-017 would be 940 MW.

PJM studied the interconnection as an injection into ATSI's Highland-Sammis and Highland-Mansfield 345 kV transmission lines. The Applicant requested an increase of 140 MW to the previously approved 800 MW in PJM interconnection queue Z2-028. This increase brings the total combined interconnection request to 940 MW, of which 864 MW could be available in the PJM capacity market. The capacity market ensures the adequate availability of necessary generation resources can be called upon to meet current and future demand. This means electricity would be available to the system during times of high demand.

PJM used a 2019 summer peak power flow model to evaluate the regional reliability impacts. The PJM System Impact Study results did not indicate reliability issues with the requested 140 MW increase. The Applicant's Interconnection Service Agreement for PJM Queue Nos. Z2-028 and

1. *In the Matter of the Application by Clean Energy Future-Lordstown, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Lordstown Energy Center*, Case No. 14-2322-EL-BGN, "Staff Report of Investigation," *Ohio Power Siting Board*, (July 13, 2015), p. 6 (*Staff Report*).

2. Maximum achievable output of 947 MW is based on the combined output of two combustion turbine generators at 312 MW each and a single steam turbine generator at 323 MW.

3. *Staff Report* at p. 26.

4. PJM Interconnection, LLC is the regional transmission organization charged with planning for upgrades and administering the generation queue for the regional transmission system in Ohio. Generators wanting to interconnect to the bulk electric transmission system located in the PJM control area are required to submit an interconnection application for review of system impacts. The interconnection process provides for the construction of expansions and upgrades of the PJM transmission system, as needed to maintain compliance with reliability criteria with the addition of generation in its footprint.

5. "Interconnection Service Agreement, Queue Number AB1-017," *PJM Interconnection, LLC*, accessed August 7, 2017, <http://pjm.com/planning/generation-interconnection/generation-queue-active.aspx>.

AB1-017 has been fully executed with PJM and filed at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.⁶

Recommended Findings

Staff's review of the present application included consideration of the requirements listed in R.C. 4906.10. Based on Staff's review, the application meets the necessary criteria for granting the requested capacity increase. Staff recommends that the Board approve the proposed upgrade in capacity, provided that the following conditions are satisfied.

Recommended Conditions:

- (1) The Applicant shall continue to adhere to all conditions of the Opinion, Order, and Certificate for the Lordstown Energy Center in Case No. 14-2322-EL-BGN.

6. "Interconnection Service Agreement, Queue Number AB1-017," *PJM Interconnection, LLC*, accessed August 25, 2017, <http://pjm.com/planning/generation-interconnection/generation-queue-active.aspx>.

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Case No(s). 17-1485-EL-BGA

Summary: Staff Report of Investigation electronically filed by Mr. Matt Butler on behalf of Staff of OPSB