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CHRISTINE M.T. PIRIK
CPirik@dickinsonwright.com

January 16, 2020

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary Ohio Power Siting Board Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3797

Re: Case No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, In the Matter of the Application of Firelands Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Wind-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Huron and Erie Counties, Ohio.

Proof of Publication and Service of Accepted, Complete Application

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Attached please find a copy of the proof of publication attesting that, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 4906.06(C), the first notice of the accepted, complete application was published in the *Sandusky Register* and the *Norwalk Reflector*, newspapers of general circulation in Huron and Erie counties on January 7, 2020. In addition, in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Rule 4906-3-09(A)(1), the initial written notice was also served on January 6, 2020.

We are available, at your convenience, to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik_

Christine M.T. Pirik (0029759)

(Counsel of Record)

Terrence O'Donnell (0074213)

William V. Vorys (0093479)

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(Counsel agrees to receive service by email.)

Attorneys for Firelands Wind, LLC

Enclosure COLUMBUS 59714-18 129867v2

ARIZONA CALIFORNIA FLORIDA KENTUCKY MICHIGAN
NEVADA OHIO TENNESSEE TEXAS TORONTO WASHINGTON DC

Remit to: Sandusky Register 314 W. Market St. Sandusky, Ohio 44870

DICKINSON-WRIGHT LLC 150 E. GAY ST. SUITE 2400 COLUMBUS, OH. 43215

Customer # T80413

Cost of Advertisement: \$1402.88

Ad # SRS0004524

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Greg Weigle who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is Advertising Director of the Sandusky Register and the Norwalk Reflector, that said papers are daily newspapers printed and has general circulation in Erie and Huron Counties, State of Ohio, and that the annexed advertisement was published in said papers on:

January 7, 2020

Greg Weigle

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to on January 7, 2020

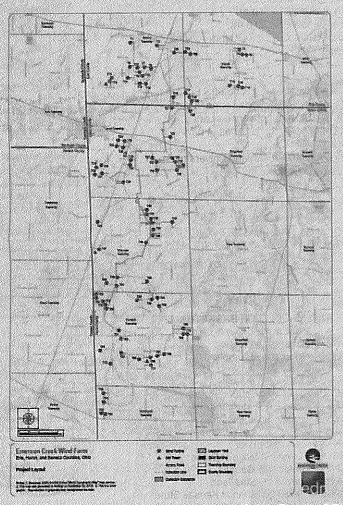
Notary Public, State of Ohio

Kathryn A Nageotte Notary Public - Ohio Commission Expires Aug 1, 2024

Notice of Proposed Major Utility Facility

Firelands Wind, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC, is proposing to construct a wind-powered electric generation facility located in Groton and Oxford Townships, in Erie County, Ohio, and Lyme, Ridgefield, Sherman, Norwich, and Richmond Townships, in Huron County, Ohio. The facility will have a total generating capacity of approximately 297.66 megawatts of electricity.

The following map shows the proposed layout of the Firelands facility.



Firelands filed an application with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) for a certificate to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facility in OPSB Case No. 18-1607-EL-BGN. The following officials have received electronic copies of the accepted complete application filed with the OPSB: Erie and Huron County Commissioners; Erie and Huron County Engineers; Huron County Development Council; Erie County Regional Planning Commission; Boards of Trustees and fiscal officers for the townships of Groton, Oxford, Lyme, Ridgefield, Sherman, Norwich, and Richmond; and the Mayors and Village Council of Attica, Bellevue, Monroeville, Willard, Norwalk, and Clyde. In addition, the following libraries were sent an electronic copy of the application, as well as notices to post regarding the application: Bellevue Public Library, 224 E. Main St., Bellevue, OH 44811-1409; Huron County Library, Willard Memorial Library, 6 W. Emerald St., Willard, OH 44890-1498; Seneca East Public Library, 14 N. Main St., Attica, OH 44807; Monroeville Public Library, 34 Monroe St., Monroeville, OH 44847-9722; Norwalk Public Library, 46 W. Main St., Norwalk, OH 44857-1440; Sandusky Library, 114 W. Adams St., Sandusky, OH 44870. A copy of the application is also available for inspection at the OPSB offices, 180 E. Broad St., 11th floor, Columbus, OH 43215, 1-866-270-6772, and is available on the OPSB website at http:// dis.puc.state.oh.us/CaseRecord.aspx?Caseno=18- 1607&link=DIVA and Firelands' website at https://www.emersoncreekwind.com/

as the facility proposed by Firelands, the OPSB considers the following 8 criteria set forth in Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4906.10(A): (1) The basis of the need for the facility if the facility is an electric transmission line or gas pipeline; (2) The nature of the probable environmental impact; (3) That the facility represents the minimum adverse environmental impact, considering the state of available technology and the nature and economics of the various alternatives, and other pertinent considerations; (4) In the case of an electric transmission line or generating facility, that the facility is consistent with regional plans for expansion of the electric power grid of the electric systems serving this state and interconnected utility systems and that the facility will serve the interests of electric system economy and reliability; (5) That the facility will comply with R.C. 3704, 3734, and 6111 and all rules and standards adopted under those chapters and under R.C. 4561.32. In determining whether the facility will comply with all rules and standards adopted under R.C. 4561.32, the OPSB shall consult with the office of aviation of the division of multi-modal planning and programs of the department of transportation under R.C. 4561.341; (6) That the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity; (7) In addition to the provisions contained in R.C. 4906.10(A)(1) to (6) and rules adopted under those divisions, what its impact will be on the viability as agricultural land of any land in an existing agricultural district established under R.C. 929 that is located within the site and alternative site of the proposed major utility facility. Rules adopted to evaluate impact under R.C. 4906.10(A)(7) shall not require the compilation, creation, submission, or production of any information, document, or other data pertaining to land not located within the site and alternative site; and (8) That the facility incorporates maximum feasible water conservation practices as determined by the OPSB, considering available technology and the nature and economics of the various alternatives.

R.C. 4906.07(A) provides that upon the receipt of an application complying with R.C. 4906.06, the OPSB shall promptly fix a date for a public hearing thereon, not less than 60 nor more than 90 days after such receipt, and shall conclude the proceeding as expeditiously as practicable. The public hearing in Firelands' OPSB case shall consist of two parts:

- A local public hearing, pursuant to R.C. 4906.08(C), where the OPSB shall accept written or oral testimony from any person, commencing at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at the Bellevue Veterans of Foreign Wars, 6104 US-20, Bellevue, Ohio 44811.
- An adjudicatory hearing to commence on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., 11th floor, Hearing Room 11- A, at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215.

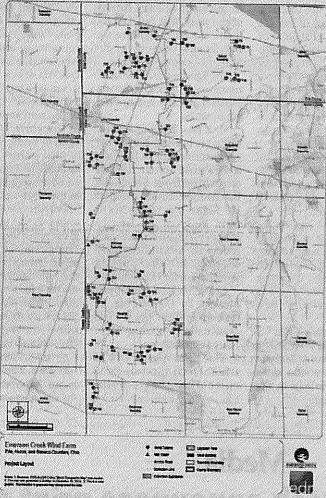
R.C. 4906.07(C) provides that the chairperson of the OPSB shall cause each application filed with the OPSB to be investigated and shall, not less than 15 days prior to the date any application is set for hearing submit a written report to the OPSB and to the applicant. A copy of such report shall be made available to any person upon request. Such report shall set forth the nature of the investigation, and shall contain recommended findings with regard to R.C. 4906.10(A) and shall become part of the record and served upon all parties to the proceeding.

In accordance with R.C. 4906.08(C), the OPSB shall accept written or oral testimony from any person at the public hearing, but the right to call and examine witnesses shall be reserved for parties. However, the OPSB may adopt rules to exclude repetitive, immaterial, or irrelevant testimony. Petitions to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing will be accepted by the OPSB up to 30 days following publication of the notice required by Ohio Adm.Code 4906-3-09, or by February 6, 2020, whichever is later. However, the OPSB strongly encourages interested persons who wish to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing to file their petitions as soon as possible. Petitions should be addressed to Docketing Division, the Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3793 and cite Case No. 18-1607-EL-BGN.

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In reviewing an application to construct, operate, and maintain a facility, such as the facility proposed by Firelands, the OPSB considers the following 8 criteria set forth in Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4906.10(A): (1) The basis of the need for the facility if the facility is an electric transmission line or gas pipeline; (2) The nature of the probable environmental impact; (3) That the facility represents the minimum adverse environmental impact, considering the state of available technology and the nature and economics of the various alternatives, and other pertinent considerations; (4) In the case of an electric transmission line or generating facility, that the facility is consistent with regional plans for expansion of the electric power grid of the electric systems serving this state and interconnected utility systems and that the facility will serve the interests of electric system economy and reliability; (5) That the facility will comply with R.C. 3704, 3734, and 6111 and all rules and standards adopted under those chapters and under R.C. 4561.32. In determining whether the facility will comply with all rules and standards adopted under R.C. 4561,32, the OPSB shall consult with the office of aviation of the division of multi-modal planning and programs of the department of transportation under R.C. 4561.341; (6) That the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity; (7) In addition to the provisions contained in R.C. 4906.10(A)(1) to (6) and rules adopted under those divisions, what its impact will be on the viability as agricultural land of any land in an existing agricultural district established under R.C. 929 that is located within the site and alternative site of the proposed major utility facility. Rules adopted to evaluate impact under R.C. 4906.10(A)(7) shall not require the compilation, creation, submission, or production of any information, document, or other data pertaining to land not located within the site and alternative site; and (8) That the facility incorporates maximum feasible water conservation practices as determined by the OPSB, considering available technology and the nature and economics of the various alternatives.

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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/16/2020 2:02:32 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-1607-EL-BGN

Summary: Proof of Pub and Service of Accepted, Complete Application electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Firelands Wind, LLC