## THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHWEST OHIO WIND ENERGY, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE TO SITE A WIND-POWERED ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITY IN PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO.

**CASE NO. 13-197-EL-BGN** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TRISHE WIND OHIO, LLC FOR A MODIFICATION TO ITS CERTIFICATE TO INSTALL AND OPERATE A WIND-POWERED ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITY IN PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO.

**CASE NO. 16-1687-EL-BGA** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TRISHE WIND OHIO, LLC FOR A MODIFICATION TO ITS CERTIFICATE ISSUED IN CASE NO. 13-197-EL-BGN.

CASE NO. 17-1099-EL-BGA

## **ENTRY**

Entered in the Journal on February 17, 2022

# I. SUMMARY

**{¶ 1}** The Ohio Power Siting Board grants the joint application to transfer a portion of the Northwest Ohio Wind, LLC project area to Grover Hill Wind, LLC.

## II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} Northwest Ohio Wind, LLC (NWOW) and Grover Hill Wind, LLC (Grover Hill) are persons as defined in R.C. 4906.01.
- {¶ 3} On December 16, 2013, in Case No. 13-197-EL-BGN, the Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) issued a certificate to NWOW for the construction of a 100-megawatt (MW) wind-powered electric generation facility in Blue Creek and Latty townships, Paulding County, Ohio. The certificate was amended pursuant to the Board's orders issued in Case Nos. 16-1687-EL-BGA and 17-1099-EL-BGA on March 2, 2017, and July 6, 2017, respectively, subject to the conditions therein.

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{¶ 4} On May 3, 2021 and supplemented on June 7, 2021, Grover Hill filed an application with the Board in Case No. 20-417-EL-BGN to construct the Grover Hill Project, a proposed 150-MW wind-powered electric generation facility in Latty Township, Paulding County, Ohio.

- {¶ 5} Pursuant to the joint application filed on January 7, 2022, NWOW and Grover Hill (Joint Applicants) seek approval to transfer 19 specified parcels that were certified by the Board as part of the NWOW Project area from NWOW to Grover Hill. In support of their joint application NWOW and Grover Hill state that the NWOW Project is a fully constructed and operating wind-powered electric generation facility and that NWOW has since determined that the 19 parcels listed in the application are not necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the NWOW Project. Additionally, Joint Applicants represent that these parcels are not necessary in order for NWOW to comply with the certificate conditions and commitments approved by the Board in the above captioned cases.
- {¶ 6} Joint Applicants described that the Grover Hill Project is located adjacent to the NWOW Project and that in anticipation of the requested transfer, Grover Hill included the 19 identified parcels within its project area boundary as part of its application for a certificate in Case No. 20-417-EL-BGN (20-417). According to Joint Applicants, subsequent to the approval of the joint application, the related transfer documents will be finalized, and a notice will be filed in the above captioned cases and Case No. 20-417 confirming that the agreement transferring these parcels has been fully executed. Joint Applicants explain that upon approval, the 19 parcels will no longer be part of the NWOW Project area and Grover Hill will be responsible for addressing any post-construction activities, either through the restoration of the land to its original condition or by reaching a mutual agreement with the

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landowner for any improvements to remain.<sup>1</sup> Joint Applicants represent that notice of the proposed transfer was provided to all public officials and parties in the above captioned cases.

- {¶ 7} R.C. 4906.04 provides that a certificate may be transferred, subject to the approval of the Board, to a person that agrees to comply with the terms, conditions, and modifications contained in the certificate.
- {¶ 8} Upon consideration of the request to transfer the 19 parcels from the NWOW Project to the Grover Hill Project, the Board finds that the request is reasonable and should be granted in accordance with R.C. 4906.04. This transfer authority is granted subject to Grover Hill complying with the final decommissioning requirements for the excavated turbine locations and access roads as discussed in the Report of Investigation filed in Case No. 20-417.

## III. ORDER

 $\{\P 9\}$  It is, therefore,

**{¶ 10}** ORDERED, That the request to transfer the 19 parcels from the NWOW Project to the Grover Hill Project be granted in accordance with Paragraph 8. It is, further,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On January 24, 2022, in the Grover Hill certificate matter, Case No. 20-417, the Board Staff filed a Report of Investigation further explaining the extent to which NWOW and/or Grover Hill constructed access roads and excavated turbine locations that will not be used and that must now be decommissioned. *In re Grover Hill*, Case No. 20-417-EL-BGN, Staff Report of Investigation (Jan. 24, 2022) at pages 15-16 and 23.

**{¶ 11}** ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

# **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Jack Christopher, Designee for Lydia Mihalik, Director Ohio Department of Development

Brittney Colvin, Designee for Mary Mertz, Director Ohio Department of Natural Resources

W. Gene Phillips, Designee for Bruce T. Vanderhoff, M.D., Director Ohio Department of Health

Drew Bergman, Designee for Laurie Stevenson, Director Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Sarah Huffman, Designee for Dorothy Pelanda, Director Ohio Department of Agriculture

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2/17/2022 2:15:29 PM

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Case No(s). 13-0197-EL-BGN, 16-1687-EL-BGA, 17-1099-EL-BGA

Summary: Entry granting the joint application to transfer a portion of the Northwest Ohio Wind, LLC project area to Grover Hill Wind, LLC. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Ohio Power Siting Board