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September 19, 2011

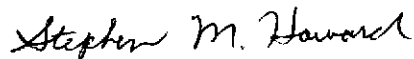
Ms. Betty McCauley, Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St., 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Re: OPSB Case No. 10-2865-EL-BGN
Black Fork Wind Energy, LLC
Proof of Publication

Dear Ms. McCauley:

Please find enclosed an affidavit and a copy of the newspaper tear sheet indicating that notice of the hearing was published in the Crestline Advocate on September 7, 2011. The notice appeared on page 11.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen M. Howard
Attorneys for Black Fork Wind Energy, LLC

SMH/jw
Enclosures

cc: All parties of record (w/encls.)

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

The State of Ohio }
Crawford County, } ss.

Publication Charges \$ 301.50

Notary Fee \$ 0.00

\$ 301.50 pr.

I, Joe Polito, do solemnly swear that a notice, a copy of which is hereto attached, was published on 1 consecutive week, from 9-7-11 inclusive, in The Crestline Advocate, a newspaper, published and in general circulation in said county.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of 9-11.

Joe Polito
Joe Polito
312 North Seltzer Street; Crestline, OH 44827; (419) 683-3355.

Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PROPOSED MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY (Wind Farm)

Black Fork Wind Energy, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Element Power US, LLC, has filed an application before the Ohio Power Siting Board in Case No. 10-2865-EL-BGN proposing to construct and operate the Black Fork Wind Energy project, a wind-powered electric generation facility to be located in Richland and Crawford Counties, Ohio. The Generation Facility will consist of up to 91 wind turbines and will have a maximum nameplate capacity of up to 200 megawatts (MW). The term "Generation Facility" refers to a "wind-energy facility" as including "all the turbines, collection lines, and other associated equipment." In addition to the turbines, the Generation Facility will also include access roads, electrical collection lines, a construction staging area, a concrete batch plant, three meteorological towers, a switchyard, a substation, and an operation and maintenance (O&M) facility. The substation will collect the wind energy generated by the Generation Facility and deliver the energy through a new transmission line cable, which will be hung on the open position of the existing transmission structures that run through the Project area, distributing energy to the PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM) transmission grid. The "Project area" encompasses the Generation Facility and any setbacks or temporary construction areas included in the Generation Facility design. The "Project boundary" reflects the outer border of the Project area.

The general purpose of the Generation Facility is to provide up to 200 MW of renewable energy to the transmission grid operated by PJM. The Project will generate electricity using virtually no fuels or water and with effectively zero air emissions and waste generation. This Project is intended to fill the need for a new diverse national energy portfolio that will include a higher percentage of energy generated through the use of renewable resources. This Project is also intended to fill the need for utilities and competitive retail electric service providers to meet the Ohio Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard enacted in 2008 by the Ohio General Assembly with passage of Senate Bill 221. Under S.B. 221 a certain percentage of all electricity used in Ohio must be from renewable sources such as wind power. The percentage of supply of electricity used that must be from renewable sources increases each year until 2025 when at least 25% of the electricity sold in Ohio must be supplied by alternative energy resources. Further, at least half of the alternative energy must be generated from renewable energy resources, such as wind energy, and at least half of the renewable energy must be generated from facilities sited

**Words of advice
from the CPD**

OHIO

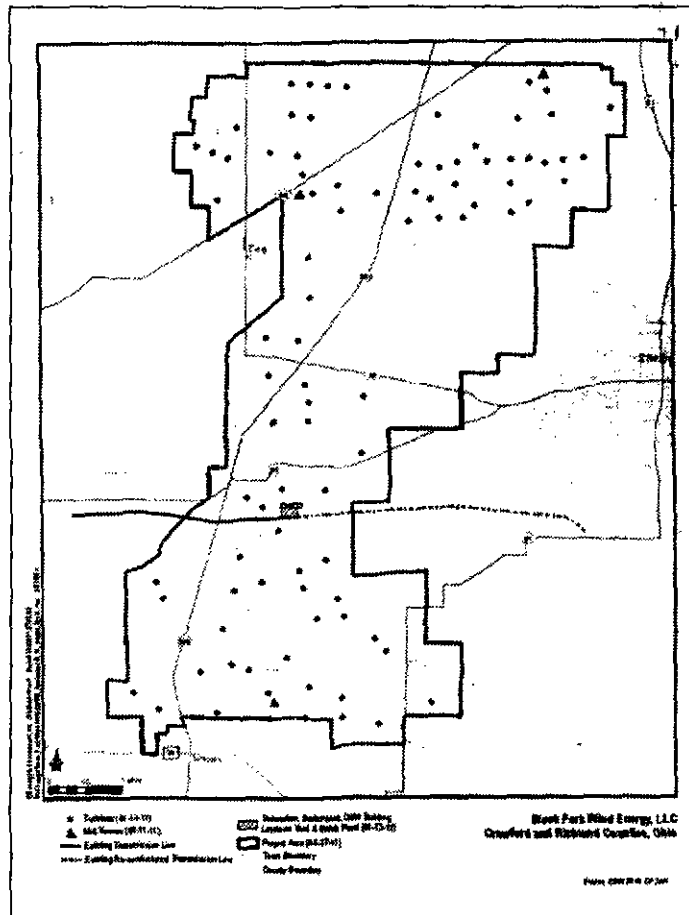


in Ohio.

The Project area includes portions of Auburn, Jackson, Jefferson, Sandusky and Vernon Townships in Crawford County and Plymouth, Sandusky and Sharon Townships in Richland County. In total, over 14,800 acres of land have been leased in the Project area. As proposed, the Generation Facility will utilize up to 91 wind energy turbines producing a maximum generating capacity of approximately 200 MW of energy. The Applicant has considered a variety of wind turbine generator (WTG) models, ranging in generation capacity from 1.6 MW to 3.0 MW. The final turbine technology decision will be made prior to the start of construction and the Ohio Power Siting Board will be notified.

Also included as part of the Generation Facility are primarily underground electrical collection lines between turbines, access roads, and crane paths to provide construction equipment access to the site during construction. The access roads to the turbines will be maintained after construction to allow for maintenance access once the Generation Facility is operational. Also included are the laydown area and the concrete batch plant that will be used during the construction period, and an O&M building that will be present for the lifetime of the Generation Facility.

In addition, a substation and switch yard will be located in Vernon Township in Crawford County. The substation and switch yard will collect the wind energy generated by the Generation Facility and deliver the energy through the new transmission line cable, which will be hung on the open position of existing transmission structures that run through the



Project area, which then terminates at the AEP Howard Substation for distribution to the PJM transmission grid.

Black Fork Wind Energy, LLC has filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) an application for a certificate to construct, operate, and maintain a wind-powered electric generation facility in Case No. 10-2865-EL-BGN, which is now pending before the Board. The first public notice appeared in the June 30, 2011 editions of the Mansfield News Journal and the Bucyrus Telegraph Forum.

The public hearing shall consist of two parts:

(a) a local public hearing, pursuant to Section 4906.08(C), Revised Code, where the public will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed facility and the Board shall accept written or oral testimony from any person on Thursday,

September 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Shelby Senior High School, 109 West Smiley Avenue, Shelby, Ohio 44875, and

(b) An adjudicatory hearing commencing on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor, Hearing Room D, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

The Board 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 Board may adopt rules to exclude repetitive, immaterial, or irrelevant testimony.

The attached map shows the proposed layout of the Generation Facility.