

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

In the Matter of the Application by Wind
Quarry Operations, LLC, for a Wind Energy
Facility Permit for the Willow Creek Wind
Energy Facility and Associated Facilities

EL15-020

**MOTION FOR APPROVAL
OF TRANSFER OF PERMIT AND
ACCEPTANCE OF TURBINE AND
LAYOUT CHANGES**

Willow Creek Wind Power LLC, successor in interest to Applicant named above and hereafter referred to as “Willow Creek”, by and through its attorney, Miles F. Schumacher, of Lynn, Jackson, Shultz & Lebrun, P.C., hereby files the above referenced Motion for Approval of Transfer of Permit and Acceptance of Turbine and Layout Changes with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”). Willow Creek requests that the Commission approve the permit transfer and accept the changes to the project.

In Support of this Motion, Willow Creek submits as follows:

1. Motion for Approval of Transfer of Permit.

This Motion is made pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-29.

The Commission granted the permit for the Willow Creek Wind Energy Facility to original Applicant, Wind Quarry Operations, LLC, on November 16, 2015, pursuant to the Stipulation entered into by Wind Quarry, LLC (parent company of Applicant), and Commission staff. On April 17, 2017, Wind Quarry, LLC changed the name of applicant from Wind Quarry Operations, LLC to Willow Creek Wind Power LLC. Pattern

Renewables 2 LP acquired 100% of the membership interest in Willow Creek Wind Power LLC from Wind Quarry, LLC on May 22, 2017. Accordingly, Willow Creek believes it is appropriate for the docket to show applicant/permit holder as Willow Creek Wind Power LLC with the following contacts:

Mr. James Madson
Manager, Project Development
Pattern Energy Group LP
Pier 1, Bay 3
San Francisco, CA 94111
James.Madson@patternenergy.com

Mr. Allen Wynn
Senior Manager, Environmental and Natural Resources
Pattern Energy Group LP
1201 Louisiana Street, Suite 3200
Houston, TX 77002
Allen.Wynn@patternenergy.com

Willow Creek represents and warrants that it will comply with the terms, conditions and modifications contained in the permit.

2. Motion for Acceptance of Turbine and Layout Changes.

Since the time the permit was granted in November of 2015, there have been advances in turbine technology that afford Willow Creek the opportunity to increase efficiency and reduce potential impacts to landowners and the environment in and around the project. Western Area Power Administration (“WAPA”) conducted the initial Environmental Assessment and issued its Finding of No Significant Impacts as noted in its letter of November 16, 2016, which is filed in the docket. Willow Creek, by and through its consultant, Burns & McDonnell, submitted to WAPA on June 26, 2018, a detailed description and analysis of the proposed turbine and layout changes in order for WAPA

to determine if a supplemental environmental analysis was required. WAPA determined that a supplemental environmental analysis was not required. A copy of the analysis of the proposed turbine and layout changes is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Attached also as Exhibit B is WAPA's decision document, after analyzing the proposed turbine and layout changes to the project.

Also attached as Exhibit C hereto is the letter dated June 20, 2018 by consultant Capitol Space Group verifying issuance of the Determinations of No Hazard to Air Navigation from the Federal Aviation Administration (copies of the 45 individual determinations will be provided upon request).

Also attached as Exhibit D hereto is the letter dated August 20, 2018 from the South Dakota Aeronautics Commission verifying that Willow Creek has provided the Determinations of No Hazard to Air Navigation from the Federal Aviation Administration in lieu of the application and permit required by South Dakota Codified Law 50-9-1.

Willow Creek has provided notice to impacted landowners of the proposed turbine and layout changes, both in person at its community events on May 22, 2018 and May 23, 2018 and by letter to landowners, dated July 23, 2018, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit E.

Also attached as Exhibit F is information describing Pattern Renewables 2 LP.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the undersigned Willow Creek requests the Commission grant the Motion for Approval of Transfer of Permit and Acceptance of Turbine and Layout Changes.

DATED this 17 day of October, 2018.



Miles F. Schumacher

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