

March 8, 2022

Via U.S. Mail & E-mail

Patrick Fahn
Director of Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480
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ndpsc@nd.gov

In re: Response to Request for Information

**West Branch Wind Project, LLC
Case No. PU-16-671**

**Antelope Hills Wind Project, LLC
Case Nos. PU-14-678 & PU-14-679**

Our File No. 035218-000035

Dear Mr. Fahn:

I am writing on behalf of my client West Branch Wind Project, LLC (“West Branch”), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, in regard to your February 22, 2022 request for information addressed to Antelope Hills Wind Project, LLC (“Antelope Hills”), and filed in Case No. PU-14-678 as Docket No. 53 and Case No. PU-14-679 as Docket No. 70. The request seeks information regarding the status of the Antelope Hills Wind Project and the Antelope Hills 345 kV Transmission Line, both of which are proposed to be located in Mercer County, North Dakota.

As background, in 2014 Antelope Hills was issued Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 41 for the Antelope Hills Wind Project and in 2015 was issued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 161 and Route Permit No. 173 for the Antelope Hills 345 kV transmission line. *See* Case Nos. PU-14-679 and PU-14-678, respectfully. Subsequently, in 2017, the certificates and permit were transferred from Antelope Hills to West Branch by way of Commission Order dated May 31, 2017, in Case No. PU-16-671. *See* Case No. PU-16-671, Docket No. 24 (Order granting West Branch First Reissued Certificate of Site Compatibility No. 41, First Reissued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility No. 161, and First Reissued Route Permit 173). West Branch, as the current permittee, submits the below information in response to your February 22 request.

To date, no construction has occurred on the Antelope Hills Wind Project or the 345 kV Transmission Line. West Branch reserves its right to continue to evaluate options regarding development of the projects. In accordance with North Dakota Century Code Section 49-22-17, a utility that has obtained a certificate or

permit "may proceed to construct or improve such site or route for the intended purposes at any time" provided it submits the required information and certification to the Commission for construction commencing more than four years after the certificate and permit were issued. West Branch will comply with the provisions of Section 49-22-17 for any future construction and provide the necessary information as applicable.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

CROWLEY FLECK PLLP



Casey A. Furey

cc: Tracy Davis (via email)