

Appendix A

PSS Notice

Galloo Island Wind, LLC

Jefferson County, New York

NOTICE OF FILING OF PRELIMINARY SCOPING STATEMENT

Galloo Island Wind, LLC (the Applicant), a subsidiary of Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC (Apex), is proposing to submit an Application to construct the Galloo Island Wind Energy Facility (“Facility”), a wind powered major electric generating facility, under Article 10 of the Public Service Law (PSL). This notice announces that on or about June 6th, Galloo Island Wind will file a Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS), pursuant to 16 NYCRR 1000.5, which is designed to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the scope and methodology of studies to be conducted in support of the Application which will be filed at a later date. The filing of the PSS will start a 21-day public comment period on the scope and methodology of the studies proposed.

The proposed Facility is an up to 110.4 megawatt (MW) wind powered electric generating facility, to be located on Galloo Island, in the Town of Hounsfield, Jefferson County, New York. The Project will also include an approximately 30 mile 145 kV alternating current (“AC”) underwater electric transmission cable and a point of interconnection substation near the Mitchell Street Substation in Oswego, NY to deliver electricity generated by the Facility to the New York State electric grid. Since the design of the AC underwater cable is proposed to be greater than 100 kilovolts (kV) and the length exceeds 10 miles, this component of the Facility is anticipated to be considered a “Major Utility Transmission Facility” and subject to Article VII of the Public Service Law and reviewed in a separate, albeit related, proceeding at the Public Service Commission. The Facility on the island will include wind turbines, access roads, electrical collection lines, collection substation, wind measurement towers, temporary construction staging and storage areas, permanent housing for operational staff, and an operations and maintenance facility. The design and layout of the Facility is currently being determined and will be based on factors such as the results of studies to be conducted pursuant to the PSS, wind and other data. A preliminary design and layout of the Project is included in the PSS.

The purpose of the proposed Facility and the goal of Galloo Island Wind, LLC, is to create a wind-powered electric generating facility that will provide a significant source of renewable energy to the New York State power grid. The need for the Facility is supported in both State and Federal policy directives for wind powered electric generating facilities. These State policy goals are set forth in New York’s historic Renewable Portfolio and Clean Energy Standard goals, and forward-looking Reforming Energy Vision and 2015 State Energy Plans. The Facility is also designed to assist in addressing the effects of climate change. The Facility would also provide significant benefit to the local community through, temporary and permanent employment, increased tax revenues, and payments to other local businesses. Additionally, economic benefits are expected to accrue to host tax jurisdictions and a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) will be sought with the Town of Hounsfield, the local school district and Jefferson County.

The PSS precedes the formal public scoping process and therefore, among other things, will describe and identify: the environmental setting in the Facility area, potential environmental and health impacts from construction and operation of the Facility, proposed benefits of the Facility, proposed studies (including preconstruction studies and post-construction monitoring for potential impacts to avian and bat species), proposed measures to minimize environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, other required permits/authorizations, and other relevant information to be assessed. The PSS will also provide a preliminary scope of an environmental impact analysis containing a discussion of potentially significant adverse environmental and health impacts to be assessed relating to the construction and operation of the Facility, including potential impacts to, land use in the Facility area; public health and safety; terrestrial ecology, including avian and bat species, and wetlands; water resources and aquatic ecology; communications, transportation and utilities; cultural, historical and recreational resources; visual, including potential for shadow flicker; sound; electric magnetic fields; and impacts on the statewide electrical system. A previous wind project, sponsored by an unrelated project sponsor, was formerly proposed on Galloo Island, and although it was not constructed, the potential environmental impacts were fully reviewed under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”). The PSS builds on the previous SEQRA record and the studies conducted therein and intends to set forth the additional study work necessary under Article 10.

Within 21 days after filing of the PSS, any person, agency or municipality may submit comments on the PSS by serving such comments on the Applicant and filing a copy with the Secretary of the Department of Public Service at the addresses provided below. The Applicant will prepare a summary of the material comments and its reply thereto within 21 days after the closing of the comment period. The scoping process is overseen and mediated by a Hearing Examiner designed by the DPS and will commence after required notices have been sent and intervenor funding has been disbursed. Notice will be provided when the Hearing Examiner schedules the scoping meeting.

No less than 90 days after the filing of the PSS, the Applicant will submit an Article 10 Application. Building on the Scoping process and any stipulations agreed to by the parties, the Application will include the studies developed as part of the Scoping process in support of the Facility. The Application will include a description of the Facility, an evaluation of environmental and health impacts, a summary of public involvement activities, an evaluation of reasonable and available alternative locations, a statement of why any local substantive standards should not be applied, an electric interconnection study including general design study and SRIS, security and emergency plans, statement demonstrating compliance with the most recent State Energy Plan, and other information. The Application will also contain the information set forth in 16 NYCRR 1001, Exhibits 1-41 unless otherwise waived by the Siting Board.

Once an Application is filed and determined by the Siting Board to be complete, the Siting Board will schedule a public hearing on the Application. The Siting Board will also issue a notice of availability of application intervenor funds that are available to be used by parties to participate in formal review of the Application. A pre-hearing conference will be scheduled by the Hearing Examiner to identify intervenors, award intervenor funds, identify issues for the hearing, and establish a case schedule. Additional hearings regarding the application and project impact assessments will be scheduled by the Hearing Examiner as needed. After hearings, the stakeholders may brief their positions and the Hearing Examiner will issue a recommended decision upon which the Siting Board will base its decision. Article 10 requires that all proceedings on the Application, including a final decision by the Siting Board must be completed within 12 months of when the Application is determined to be complete.

Upon filing of the PSS, Apex will provide funding in the amount of \$38,640 (as calculated pursuant to PSL 163(4)(a)) to be disbursed by the Siting Board to municipalities and other local parties to help pay expenses, including attorneys and consultants, associated with participating in the Article 10 process during the pre-application review phase. Fifty percent (50%) of these intervenor funds are reserved for municipalities. Additional intervenor funds will be available for the Application/Hearing Phases. Following the filing of a PSS, the Hearing Examiner or the Secretary shall issue a notice of availability of pre-application intervenor funds providing a schedule and related information describing how interested members of the public may apply for pre-application funds. Requests for pre-application funds must be submitted to the Hearing Examiner within thirty (30) days after the issuance of the notice of the availability of pre-application intervenor funds. A pre-application meeting to consider funding requests will be convened within no less than 45 but no more than 60 days after the filing of the PSS.

Contact Information

To obtain information regarding the Project, please contact:

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(434) 234-4405

Contact information for the DPS public information coordinator:

James Denn
NYS Department of Public Service
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY
(518) 474-7080

Information is also available at the public document repositories and on the web. The DPS website is (<http://www.dps.ny.gov/>). To access documents, go to "Search" on the top of the webpage and then search using the Case Number 15-01278 or the direct link: <http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=15-F-0327>.

or by going to the Project-specific website maintained by the Applicant: <http://www.gallooislandwind.com>.

File a Request for Notices

Any interested member of the public may file a request with the DPS Secretary to receive copies of all notices concerning the Project, including but not limited to notices regarding any proposed pre-application stipulation. Written requests should be sent to the DPS Secretary at secretary@dps.ny.gov or sent by mail to the following address:

Honorable Kathleen H. Burgess
Secretary to the Commission
NYS Public Service Commission
Agency Building 3
Albany, New York 12223-1350