

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LS-446
2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE
3

4 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) DOCKET NO.
5 OF WEST CAMP WIND FARM II, LLC, IN) L-21204A-25-0207-00251
6 CONFORMANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS)
7 OF ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES §) LS CASE NO. 251
8 40-360, ET SEQ., FOR A CERTIFICATE)
9 OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY)
10 AUTHORIZING THE WEST CAMP 2 WIND)
11 FARM GEN-TIE PROJECT, WHICH) PREHEARING
12 INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 345) CONFERENCE
13 KILOVOLT(KV) OR 500 KV)
14 TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED)
15 INTERCONNECTION FACILITIES LOCATED)
16 WITHIN NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA.)
17

12 At: Phoenix, Arizona
13 Date: October 17, 2025
14 Filed: October 22, 2025
15

16 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
17 (Pages 1 through 14)
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22 GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC
23 Court Reporting, Video & Videoconferencing
24 1555 East Oranewood Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85020
25 602.266.6535 admin@glennie-reporting.com

By: Jennifer Honn, RPR
Arizona CR No. 50885

GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC 602.266.6535
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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled and
2 numbered matter came on regularly to be heard before the
3 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting
4 Committee, commencing at 2:03 p.m. on October 17, 2025,
5 with all participants appearing via videoconference.

6

7 BEFORE: Adam Stafford, Chairman

8

9 APPEARANCES:

10 For the Applicant:

11 Albert H. Acken
12 ACKEN LAW
13 111 East Dunlap Avenue
Suite 1-172
Phoenix, Arizona 85020

14

ALSO PRESENT:

15

16 Jordan Ramljak, AES, Development Manager, Wind Team
Rob Gardner, AES, Wind Team
17 Corinne Lytle Bonine, Environmental Permitting
Director
18 Colin Agner, SWCA Environmental Consultants,
Lead Project Manager
19 Tod Brewer, Assistant to Chairman Stafford

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1 CHMN STAFFORD: Let's go on the record.

2 Now is the time set for the prehearing
3 conference on the application of West Camp Wind Farm II
4 LLC for Certificate of Convenience and Necessity [sic]
5 Docket No. L-21204A-25-0207-00251, or Line Siting
6 Case 251.

7 Let's start with appearances. Mr. Acken.

8 MR. ACKEN: Good afternoon, Chairman. Bert
9 Acken on behalf of the applicant. I've got several team
10 members here with me that I'd like to introduce
11 themselves, starting with Jordan.

12 MS. RAMLJAK: Hi. My name is Jordan
13 Ramljak. I was at the prefiling conference a few weeks
14 ago. I'm a development manager on AES' wind energy team.

15 MR. ACKEN: And --

16 MR. GARDNER: Hi. Rob Gardner. I'm also
17 on the wind development team at AES.

18 MS. BONINE: Corinne Lytle Bonine,
19 environmental permitting director supporting the wind
20 team at AES.

21 MR. ACKEN: And Colin.

22 MR. AGNER: Colin Agner, lead project
23 manager at SWCA Environmental Consultants and supporting
24 the applicant in this case.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Thank you.

1 Now, Mr. Acken, just to confirm, you've got
2 the lodging arrangements for the committee members?

3 MR. ACKEN: We do. Jordan worked hard on
4 that and coordinated with Tod, and so, yes, we are all
5 set on lodging for the committee.

6 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. I haven't seen any
7 requests to intervene or any kinds of limited appearance
8 statements in this.

9 MR. ACKEN: Neither have I, nor has anyone
10 expressed a desire or an interest in doing so. This has
11 been -- there's been a decided lack of public comment on
12 this project.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. I have
14 three prehearing exhibits. The first one is the witness
15 summaries and the draft CEC. The second one is the
16 public outreach summary. And this third one is the tour
17 protocol.

18 MR. ACKEN: Yes, thank you. I would like
19 to have those marked as prehearing exhibits.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. So let it be
21 so, and they are admitted.

22 (Prehearing Exhibits 1 through 3 were
23 admitted.)

24 CHMN STAFFORD: And you agree that
25 March 14, 2026, is the time limit of the statute for the

1 committee to act?

2 MR. ACKEN: Yes.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: And the applicants complied
4 with the notice to the affected jurisdictions; correct?

5 MR. ACKEN: We have. We provided notice to
6 Navajo County, state land. And I added ADOT. I've
7 noticed some other applicants do that. I'm not sure I
8 agree that they're an affected jurisdiction, but we
9 provided notice to them just abundance of caution and why
10 not.

11 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. And
12 you've complied with the posting and publishing
13 requirements?

14 MR. ACKEN: We have. We published twice in
15 the Arizona Republic, one supplemental in a local
16 newspaper, and then two signs posted on State Route 377
17 as we discussed in the prefiling conference.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And you've had an
19 opportunity to review the agenda?

20 MR. ACKEN: I have.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: And do you have any
22 objections or additions to that?

23 MR. ACKEN: None. Thank you.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. So the hearing
25 dates we have are going to be October 27 through the 29.

1 MR. ACKEN: Yes.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: And Flagstaff, it's at the
3 conference center that's right across the street from the
4 hotel; correct?

5 MR. ACKEN: That's right. The High Country
6 Conference Center where the committee's had a number of
7 hearings over the years.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And let's see. So
9 we should be able to get done in three days; correct?
10 That's what we got it noticed for. Maybe two if we don't
11 do a tour. I think the tour protocol, it said seven
12 hours, so.

13 MR. ACKEN: That will drive whether this is
14 a two- or three-day hearing. Without a tour, this is --
15 we'll be done in two days.

16 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. I assume Peaks Audio
17 will be there to satisfy our audio/visual needs?

18 MR. ACKEN: They will. This is their
19 backyard, yes.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: They get to sleep at home
21 that night, huh?

22 MR. ACKEN: That's right.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. You'll have
24 sign-in forms for public comments. I don't think you
25 anticipate much, if any?

1 MR. ACKEN: We don't. If it's consistent
2 with the attendance at the public meetings, then we'll be
3 surprised if there is many interested members of the
4 public attend or want to make a public comment.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So we'll do the
6 opportunity for public comment, at least, from 5:30 to
7 six that first day, that Monday.

8 I assume a virtual tour is part of the
9 presentation; correct?

10 MR. ACKEN: We do.

11 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Hopefully that will
12 suffice.

13 So we'll take about a break about every 90
14 minutes, gives the court reporter a break for the
15 transcript.

16 And then this place has adequate Wi-Fi.

17 Are there any other issues about the
18 hearing itself?

19 MR. ACKEN: None come to my mind, no.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So the attire will
21 be business casual.

22 I guess you don't need to exchange any
23 witness summaries or testimony or exhibits.

24 How many exhibits do you have?

25 MR. ACKEN: I think we have about eight or

1 nine depending on, you know, letters received from
2 agencies.

3 I'm going to do it differently than I did
4 last time. I'll make sure to send to Tod beforehand an
5 electronic version for committee members who aren't there
6 in person so we don't have to wait on that.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Great. And you've
8 made the financial arrangements with the Commission?

9 MR. ACKEN: We have.

10 CHMN STAFFORD: Looks like Staff just filed
11 their letter yesterday.

12 MR. ACKEN: Yes. And that will be one of
13 our hearing exhibits.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. We've
15 got the proposed CEC. Nobody's come in to object to it.

16 What's -- checking on the permit status,
17 there was -- my recollection there's no permit needed for
18 the gen-tie but you needed a -- something from the county
19 for the actual wind project?

20 MR. ACKEN: There will be a county approval
21 process. That's about to be launched. And the team can
22 speak about that now or at the -- and certainly will at
23 the hearing. As well as a state land process that is
24 underway.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: Who's taking the county

1 permit question?

2 MR. ACKEN: Jordan, do you mind speaking
3 about the status of this? Thank you.

4 MS. RAMLJAK: Yeah, sure. We have a
5 preapplication meeting set with the county actually the
6 day after the CEC hearing's expected to end on
7 October 30. We submitted a draft application to the
8 county and then expect to submit a final application in
9 November targeting board of supervisors hearing at the
10 county in December.

11 CHMN STAFFORD: And you'll need, what, a
12 conditional use permit?

13 MS. RAMLJAK: Navajo County. Sorry.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: What would it be, a
15 conditional use permit? Is that what it will be? And
16 that'll be for the --

17 MS. RAMLJAK: So in the past, we've done a
18 special use permit. But Navajo County's introduced a
19 development agreement as an alternative pathway. Very
20 similar to a special use permit, just some nuances with
21 the process.

22 CHMN STAFFORD: You said development plan?

23 MS. RAMLJAK: Development agreement with
24 Navajo County.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: And then that's for the

1 plant itself, not for the line; correct?

2 MS. RAMLJAK: That's correct.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: The line is a permitted use
4 under the county zoning as it currently stands?

5 MS. RAMLJAK: Yes, that's correct.

6 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, there's no NEPA
7 process for any of this -- for this project at all?

8 MS. RAMLJAK: No, no NEPA process.

9 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So for the hearing,
10 have a hard copy exhibits for me and then one for the
11 court reporter. All the rest, I assume they'll be
12 electronic on the tablets for the members at the hearing.

13 MR. ACKEN: That's correct.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And you've done --
15 you've put the -- you sent out the notice of hearing
16 on -- through social media; correct?

17 MR. ACKEN: We didn't do a Facebook ad or a
18 Google ad for this one. It was direct mailers. And --
19 given that area and the limited number of people in the
20 area.

21 And just for context, the gen-tie runs
22 through a land holding of Aztec. There are no neighbors
23 close to the gen-tie. So we expanded the notice to go a
24 mile from the boundary of the wind farm just to capture
25 the few number of individuals we could to provide notice.

1 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. But all the private
2 land that you're on is owned by the single landowner
3 Aztec; correct?

4 MR. ACKEN: That's correct.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: It's only on their property
6 or state trust land; right?

7 MR. ACKEN: That's correct.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. And you
9 put the -- what are the libraries that you put the
10 notice -- the application and notices went to? Or hard
11 copy for people to look at?

12 MR. ACKEN: Library in Holbrook. And in
13 the -- one of the prefiling -- the prehearing exhibit,
14 the public involvement summary, Colin's team was able to
15 take a picture of it sitting on a side table in the
16 library. So, yes, that's where it is.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Excellent. Is there
18 else anything we need to cover, Mr. Acken?

19 MR. ACKEN: No, not from my standpoint. I
20 believe this is straightforward.

21 I'll ask the team, have I misstated
22 something or missed something, please speak up. Seeing
23 none. I think we're all set.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Tod, is that
25 everything?

1 MR. BREWER: I believe it is, Mr. Chairman.

2 Thank you.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Oh, yes, and the virtual
4 links for the hearing for members, have you sent that to
5 Tod, if any? If not, the sooner you can give it to him
6 the better.

7 MR. ACKEN: As soon as we can. As soon as
8 we receive them. We'll reach out to Peaks to ask for the
9 status of that after this meeting.

10 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Excellent. All
11 right. Well, that's everything for me.

12 Jennifer, is that -- do you have everything
13 you need? Thumbs-up, all right. With that, we are
14 adjourned.

15 (Proceedings concluded at 2:15 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

3 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were
4 taken before me; that the foregoing pages are a full,
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15 Dated at Phoenix, Arizona, October 21, 2025.

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JENNIFER HONN, RPR
Arizona Certified Reporter
No. 50885

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