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# Original Filing

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada Electronic Filing

Submitted: 4/27/2021 11:12:06 AM

Reference: 630c0058-4dc7-476e-985d-be0121a5fe0d

Reference:

Filed For: Holland and Hart LLP
In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Cecilia Martin

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By electronically filing the document(s), the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized agent or

representative of the signer(s) and Holland and Hart LLP

#### FILED WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA - 4/27/2021



Bryce C. Alstead Partner Phone 775.327.3067 balstead@hollandhart.com 75886.0049

April 27, 2021

#### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Trisha Osborne Assistant Commission Secretary Public Utilities Commission of Nevada 1150 E. William Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

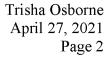
Re: Docket No. 21:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - Notice of Boulevard Associates, LLC, of an application for approval to construct a 1,000-MW solar energy generating facility, an up to 1,000-MW energy storage facility, a 230-kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities in Nye County, Nevada under the Utility Environmental Protection Act

Dear Ms. Osborne:

Accompanying this letter for filing with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (the "Commission") is Boulevard Associates, LLC's ("the Applicant") notice under NAC 703.421 that it intends to file an SF-299 Application for Transportation and Utility Facilities on Federal Lands with the United States Bureau of Land Management for a right-of-way for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the Sawtooth Energy Center Project, which will consist of a 1,000-MW solar energy generating facility, an up to 1,000-MW energy storage system, an optional 230-kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Nye County, Nevada.

Exhibit 3 of the notice attached hereto contains confidential commercial information of the Applicant – specifically, bank account identification, bank key, and bank account numbers – and has been redacted accordingly. Pursuant to NRS 703.190 and NAC 703.5274, the Applicant requests that the confidential portion of the filing be maintained under seal, and the Applicant will be hand-delivering a confidential, unredacted version of the corresponding document to the Commission under separate cover. The confidential information will be enclosed in a sealed envelope and appropriately marked, on pink paper, and will contain the unredacted confidential commercial information that has been redacted from the attached filing. The Applicant requests that the Commission maintain the confidentiality of this information for a period of ten years.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.





Sincerely,

/s/ Bryce C. Alstead

Bryce C. Alstead Partner of Holland & Hart LLP Attorney for Boulevard Associates, LLC

BCA:cpm Enclosures

16622272\_v1

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Notice of Boulevard Associates, LLC, of an application	)	
for approval to construct a 1,000-MW solar energy	)	
generating facility, an up to 1,000-MW energy storage	)	
facility, a 230-kV generation-tie line, and associated	)	Docket No. 21
facilities in Nye County, Nevada under the Utility	)	
Environmental Protection Act	)	
	_)	

NOTICE OF BOULEVARD ASSOCIATES, LLC, OF AN APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO CONSTRUCT A 1,000-MW SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING FACILITY, AN UP TO 1,000-MW ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY, A 230-KV GENERATION-TIE LINE, AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES LOCATED IN NYE COUNTY, NEVADA, UNDER THE UTILITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

#### I. Introduction

Pursuant to the Nevada Utility Environmental Protection Act ("UEPA"), Sections 704.820 to 704.900 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), and Sections 703.415 to 703.427 of the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"), Boulevard Associates, LLC (the "Applicant"), hereby provides the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") with this notice under NAC 703.421 ("Notice") that it will be filing a SF-299 Application for Transportation and Utility Facilities on Federal Lands ("SF-299") with the United States Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") for a right-of-way for the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Sawtooth Energy Center Project, which will consist of a 1,000-megawatt ("MW") solar energy generating facility ("Generating Facility"), an up to 1,000-MW energy storage system, an optional approximately 17-mile-long 230-kilovolt ("kV") generation-tie line ("Gen-Tie Line"), and associated facilities located on approximately 10,000 acres of BLM-administered land located in Nye County, Nevada (the "Project").

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All correspondence related to this Notice should be sent to the below:

Kathleen Campanella Boulevard Associates, LLC c/o NextEra Energy Resources LLC 700 Universe Boulevard Juno Beach, Florida 33408 Kathleen.Campanella@nexteraenergy.com

and

Bryce C. Alstead Erica K. Nannini Holland & Hart LLP 5441 Kietzke Lane, Second Floor Reno, NV 89511 balstead@hollandhart.com eknannini@hollandhart.com

The Project includes the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the Generating Facility, the optional Gen-Tie Line, and other associated facilities to be located on federal land administered by the BLM. The nameplate of the Generating Facility is 1,000 MW, and the voltage of the optional Gen-Tie Line is 230 kV, which are each above the respective thresholds for UEPA regulation, thus each of these Project components qualifies as a "utility facility" as defined by NRS 704.860(1) and (2), respectively. Accordingly, the Applicant is providing this Notice of the Project pursuant to NRS 704.870(2)(a).

The Applicant requests that the Commission accept this Notice under UEPA as complying with NRS 704.870(2)(a) and NAC 703.421. Within thirty (30) days of the issuance of a final Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement for the Project, 1 the Applicant will submit a detailed UEPA application for approval of a Permit to Construct pursuant to NRS 704.870(2)(b).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note that it is currently unknown whether the BLM will require an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement for the Project.

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#### II. **Information Required Pursuant to NAC 703.421**

1. The name, address and telephone number of the person who filed the application with the appropriate federal agency.

The name, address, and telephone number of the person who will be filing the SF-299 for the Project is:

> Kathleen Campanella Boulevard Associates, LLC c/o NextEra Energy Resources LLC 700 Universe Boulevard Juno Beach, Florida 33408 Telephone: (561) 691-7171

2. The date on which the application was filed with the appropriate federal agency.

The SF-299 for the Project will be submitted to the BLM on or about April 28, 2021.

3. A general description of the location of the proposed utility facility.

The Project area is comprised of approximately 10,000 acres of public lands administered by the BLM in Nye County, Nevada. The Project is located on variance lands as identified in the 2012 Final Solar Energy Development Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, and BLM exclusion lands would not be utilized. More specifically, the Project is located on the Springdale SW, Nevada, U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-topographic quadrangle, on a site situated approximately 12.3 miles north of the Town of Beatty, Nevada, and approximately 4 miles southwest of U.S. Route 95. See Project Map, attached hereto as Exhibit 1. A more detailed description of the location of the Project will be provided in the application which the Applicant will submit following the issuance of the Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement for the Project, as applicable.

#### 4. A general description of the proposed utility facility.

The Project will consist of a 1,000-MW alternating current ("AC") solar photovoltaic Generating Facility and an energy storage system with a capacity no larger than that of the Generating Facility (approximately 1,000 MW), which will be connected using an AC- or direct current-coupled system, depending on off-taker preference.

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Currently, the Applicant is exploring several transmission options for the Project, the first of which requires construction of the Gen-Tie Line described in this Application. Under the first option, an approximately 17-mile-long 230-kV Gen-Tie Line will extend from an on-site substation through BLM land to the existing Valley Electric Association Beatty substation. Under the second option, the Project may interconnect to Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy's newly approved 525-kV Greenlink West transmission line through a new tie-in facility. Under the third option, the Project may interconnect to GridLiance West's proposed 230-kV Silverado Renewables' Connection Phase 2 transmission line that would run parallel to the Greenlink West transmission line. Because the first option would require construction of a Gen-Tie Line which exceeds the threshold for UEPA regulation as described above, the Applicant has included that option for purposes of this Notice. The Project will also include construction of associated facilities typical of utility-scale solar energy generating facilities and high-voltage energy transmission lines, including inverters, perimeter fencing, roads, and a supervisory control and data acquisition system. The Applicant will pursue issuance of a Title V Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 right-of-way from the BLM for a 30-year term.

The Applicant expects that the Project will be constructed in a single phase which would last approximately 48 months. However, the construction schedule may require multiple phases and an extended timeframe depending on the terms and circumstances surrounding final power purchase agreements.

# 5. Proof that a copy of the notice has been submitted to the Nevada State Clearinghouse within the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

A copy of this notice has been submitted to, among others, the Regulatory Operations Staff of the Commission, the Bureau of Consumer Protection, the Nevada State Clearinghouse within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nye County Clerk. *See* Certificate of Service to this Notice.

#### III. Other Required Filings.

#### 1. Draft Public Notice

5441 KIETZKE LN, 2ND FLOOR

HOLLAND & HART LLP

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A copy of the draft notice required pursuant to NAC 703.162 is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

2. Proof of compliance with the Nevada Department of Wildlife's Energy Cost Recovery Fund Program (NRS 701.600 - .640).

The required notice to the Nevada Department of Wildlife ("NDOW") pursuant to NRS 701.610 was filed on or about April 26, 2021. See Application for Energy Projects "Fund for the Recovery of Costs," attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

#### IV. **Conclusion**

The Applicant requests that the Commission accept this Notice as complying with NRS 704.870(2)(a) and NAC 703.421. The Applicant will submit its UEPA Application within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the federal environmental review process pursuant to NRS 704.870(2)(b). At that time, Applicant will apply for, and request that the Commission issue, a UEPA Permit to Construct the Project.

DATED and respectfully submitted this 27th day of April, 2021.

#### **HOLLAND & HART LLP**

/s/ Bryce C. Alstead

Bryce C. Alstead, Esq. Erica K. Nannini, Esq. Holland & Hart LLP 5441 Kietzke Lane, Second Floor Reno, Nevada 89511

Attorneys for Boulevard Associates, LLC

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I am an employee of Holland & Hart LLP and on April 27, 2021,

I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to the following:

#### **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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#### Skip Canfield, Program Manager Nevada State Clearinghouse Department of Conservation & Natural Resources. Division of State Lands 901 S. Stewart Street, Ste. 5003 Carson City, NV 89701 nevadaclearinghouse@lands.nv.gov

#### **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Kristen Burke Administrative Assistant Nevada Division of Environmental Protection 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, NV 89701 K.burke@ndep.nv.gov

#### **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Staff Counsel Support
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109
Pucn.sc@puc.nv.gov

#### **ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Ernest Figueroa, Esq. Nevada State Consumer Advocate Bureau of Consumer Protection 100 N. Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701 bcpserv@ag.nv.gov

#### **U.S. MAIL TRANSMITTAL:**

Nye County Clerk
1520 E. Basin Ave
Pahrump NV 89060

/s/Cecilia Martin

Cecilia Martin, Legal Secretary an employee of Holland & Hart LLP

### Exhibit "1"

### **Project Map**

[see attached]

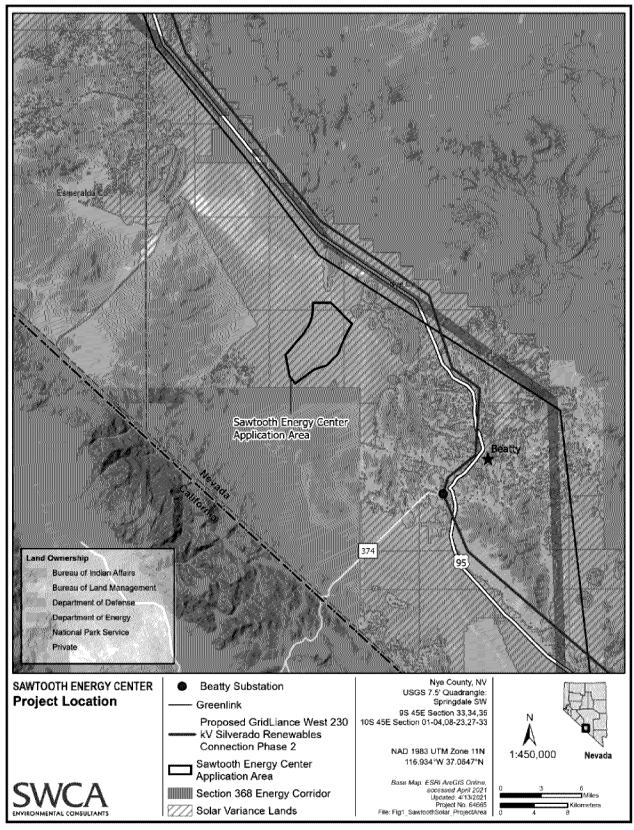


Figure 1. Sawtooth Energy Center application area.

### Exhibit "2"

#### **Draft Public Notice**

[see attached]

# PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA DRAFT NOTICE

(Applications, Tariff Filings, Complaints, and Petitions)

Pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") 703.162, the Commission requires that a draft notice be included with all applications, tariff filings, complaints and petitions. Please complete and include **ONE COPY** of this form with your filing. (Completion of this form may require the use of more than one page.)

A title that generally describes the relief requested (see NAC 703.160(5)(a)):

Notice of Boulevard Associates, LLC, of an application for approval to construct a 1,000-MW solar energy generating facility, an up to 1,000-MW capacity energy storage system, a 230-kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities located in Nye County, Nevada under the Utility Environmental Protection Act ("UEPA").

The name of the applicant, complainant, petitioner or the name of the agent for the applicant, complainant or petitioner (see NAC 703.160(5)(b)):

#### Boulevard Associates, LLC

A brief description of the purpose of the filing or proceeding, including, without limitation, a clear and concise introductory statement that summarizes the relief requested or the type of proceeding scheduled <u>AND</u> the effect of the relief or proceeding upon consumers (see NAC 703.160(5)(c)):

Boulevard Associates, LLC (the "Applicant") is filing a notice pursuant to NAC 703.421 ("Notice") that it will be filing an SF-299 Application for Transportation and Utility Facilities on Federal Lands ("SF-299") with the United States Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") for a right-of-way for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the Sawtooth Energy Center Project, which will consist of a 1,000-MW solar energy generating facility ("Generating Facility"), an up to 1,000-MW energy storage system, an optional approximately 17-mile-long 230-kV generation-tie line ("Gen-Tie Line"), and associated facilities located on approximately 10,000 acres of land administered by the BLM in Nye County, Nevada (the "Project").

On or about April 28, 2021, the Applicant will file the SF-299 with the BLM, which in turn will begin the federal environmental review process with the BLM. Upon the issuance of the final Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement for the Project, the Applicant will then file an application for the approval of a UEPA Permit to Construct pursuant to NRS 704.870(2)(b).

The Project will include the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the above-referenced components on federal land administered by the BLM. The nameplate capacity of the Generating Facility is 1,000 MW, and the voltage of the optional Gen-Tie Line is 230 kV, which are each above the respective thresholds for UEPA regulation, thus each of these Project components qualifies as a "utility facility" as defined by NRS 704.860(1) and (2), respectively. Accordingly, Applicant is providing this Notice of the Project pursuant to NRS 704.870(2)(a).

HOLLAND & HART LLP

The Project will not have any adverse effects on the health, safety, or welfare of Nevada residents, but will instead provide economic benefits, including jobs and revenue, to the State of Nevada and Nevada's residents. Because the Project will be owned by the Applicant, which is not a public utility in Nevada and whose costs of the Project will not be passed down to Nevada's ratepayers, this proceeding will have no effect on Nevada consumers.

A statement indicating whether a consumer session is required to be held pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute ("NRS") 704.069(1)<sup>2</sup>:

A consumer session is not required by NRS 704.069.

If the draft notice pertains to a tariff filing, please include the tariff number **AND** the section number(s) or schedule number(s) being revised.

This application does not pertain to a tariff filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NRS 704.069 states in pertinent part:

<sup>1.</sup> The Commission shall conduct a consumer session to solicit comments from the public in any matter pending before the Commission pursuant to NRS 704.061 to 704.110 inclusive, in which:

<sup>(</sup>a) A public utility has filed a general rate application, an application to recover the increased cost of purchased fuel, purchased power, or natural gas purchased for resale or an application to clear its deferred accounts; and

<sup>(</sup>b) The changes proposed in the application will result in an increase in annual gross operating revenue, as certified by the applicant, in an amount that will exceed \$50,000 or 10 percent of the applicant's annual gross operating revenue, whichever is less.



## Application for Energy Projects "Fund for the Recovery of Costs"

Nevada Revised Statutes 701.600-640 Nevada Administrative Code 701.800-820

Applicant:
☐ Self
✓ Private Company
Government Agency
da Zip Code 33408 Other
Phone (561) 694-3854 Email Kathleen.Campanella@nee.com
Anthony Pedroni Title Vice President
Fuel Biomass Fuel Pipeline Power Transmission  W Estimated Voltage (power transmission) 525 kV Proposed Transmission Length (miles) 17  Inds or tanks, recharge stations; estimated acres)  Ind shapefiles) 26 miles north of Beatty, NV; Nye County, NV age that will be an up to approximately 1,000 MW alternating current PV solar energy and supervisory control and data acquisition system. The Project includes either a short
ansmission line or a 17-mile 230 kV gen-tie to the Beatty switchyard; depending on final interconnection.
on Start ~Q4 2023; COD ~Q4 2025  Date 4/2/2021

Enclose initial payment made out to Nevada Department of Wildlife.

- Remit \$5,000 for fuel pipelines less than 50 miles in length, power transmission projects greater than 50kV and less than 50 miles in length, or geothermal production projects.
- Remit \$10,000 for fuel pipelines more than 50 miles in length, power transmission projects greater than 50kV and more than 50 miles in length, or solar, wind, fossil fuel or other energy production projects.

Submit project shapefiles (ArcGIS or GoogleEarth are acceptable) to: <a href="mailto:ikleiber@ndow.org">ikleiber@ndow.org</a>

Submit application, payment, and maps to:

Nevada Department of Wildlife Habitat Division – AB307 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120 Reno, NV 89511 USA Name City

STATE OF NEVADA RENO

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