

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LS-297
2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

3
4 IN THE MATTER OF THE) DOCKET NO.
APPLICATION OF 311SV 8ME LLC,) L-21242A-23-0103-00221
5 IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE)
REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA)
6 REVISED STATUTES 40-360 ET.) LS CASE NO. 221
SEQ., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)
7 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY)
AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION) PREFILING CONFERENCE
8 OF THE CATCLAW SOLAR 230-KV)
GENERATION INTERTIE PROJECT)
9 LOCATED IN BUCKEYE, MARICOPA)
COUNTY, ARIZONA.)
10)

11 At: Phoenix, Arizona
12 Date: April 14, 2023
13 Filed: April 27, 2023
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17 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
18 (Pages 1 through 13)

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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 3:06 p.m. on April 14, 2023, with
5 all participants appearing via videoconference.

6

7 BEFORE: ADAM STAFFORD, Chairman

8

9 APPEARANCES:

10 For the Applicant:

11 JASON MOYES
12 Moyes Sellers & Hendricks
13 1850 North Central Avenue
Suite 1100
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

14

15

ALSO PRESENT:

16

Tracy Hamilton, Avantus
17 Jason Moretz, Avantus
Dean Hazle, SWCA
18 Aubrey Greer, Moyes Sellers & Hendricks
Colin Agner, SWCA
19 Julie Larsen, Paralegal to Mr. Moyes
Tod Brewer, Assistant to Chairman Stafford

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1 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Let's go on the
2 record. Now is the time set for the prefiling conference
3 for the Catclaw transmission project.

4 Take appearances, please.

5 MR. MOYES: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman.
6 My name is Jason Moyes again, with the law firm of Moyes
7 Sellers & Hendricks, representing the applicant 311SV 8me
8 LLC. Once again, the parent developer company is Avantus
9 Renewables. And --

10 THE COURT REPORTER: Renewables?

11 MR. MOYES: That's the official name, Jason,
12 that you guys prefer to be identified as, Avantus
13 Renewables, or just Avantus?

14 MR. MORETZ: Just Avantus.

15 MR. MOYES: Okay. Just Avantus.

16 And with us, as previously, as you can see
17 on the screen, Mr. Chairman, is the senior vice president
18 of development, Mr. Jason Moretz. That's spelled
19 M-O-R-E-T-Z. And also the director of permitting, Tracy
20 Hamilton. And with us is our environmental consultant
21 from SWCA, Dean Hazle. And from my office, as before, we
22 have Julie Larsen and Aubrey Greer.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: Julie Larsen is the iPhone?

24 MR. MOYES: Yes.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: And who is Colin Agner?

1 MR. MOYES: I apologize. Colin is also with
2 SWCA.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. So this
4 one should go even more quickly than the previous one.

5 Has there been any public interest so far in
6 this project?

7 MR. MOYES: No identified intervenors or
8 folks wanting to make a limited appearance. Like the
9 other project, we recently held an open house,
10 Mr. Chairman. Only had two individuals show up. One from
11 Fish & Game and one from -- unofficially from the City of
12 Buckeye. But no one has expressed an interest to actively
13 intervene in the hearings.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And I have
15 received the -- the map that you sent for this project.

16 MR. MOYES: Yes. As you can see on the map,
17 Mr. Chairman, this project is simpler in most regards than
18 the last one we discussed. It involves, again, a solar
19 generation and battery storage facility which will be
20 connecting into the --

21 Remind me the name of the substation, guys.
22 -- the APS Sun Valley substation. My
23 apologies.

24 The vast majority of the line has a single
25 option, but at the very end before we get into the Sun

1 Valley sub, Mr. Chairman, there are two potential routes,
2 which we're calling in the application Option A and
3 Option B. Option A is about seven miles long. Option B
4 would add four-tenths of a mile longer if we go with that
5 route. By the time we get to the hearing in June we hope
6 to have that clarified and a preferred route identified.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: And what's the -- the size
8 of the line? What kV is it?

9 MR. MOYES: This is a 230kV line.

10 And it does include, obviously, the Catclaw
11 substation there at the start of the line.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Well, then we'll
13 admit the prehearing exhibit map as Prehearing Exhibit 1.

14 Now, this will take the same -- this will be
15 the same hearing location that we discussed in the
16 previous call?

17 MR. MOYES: Yes, that's correct. Hilton
18 Garden Inn, again, in --

19 CHMN STAFFORD: In Avondale. But this time
20 it will be on Wednesday and Thursday?

21 MR. MOYES: Yes. June 7th and 8th.

22 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Now, for -- And
23 you will provide the -- the draft notice of hearing to us?

24 MR. MOYES: Correct.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: And now this will be -- The

1 notice will be published in the Arizona Republic. Any
2 other papers besides that one?

3 MR. MOYES: This one is actually the Arizona
4 Republic and the West Valley View.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: West Valley?

6 MR. MOYES: It's called the West Valley
7 View.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: View, okay. That was the
9 word I missed. View. Okay.

10 Now, do you have -- Where are you intending
11 to put the signs up for the notices?

12 MR. MOYES: I will turn that over to Dean
13 Hazle, who has those pinpoints already identified I
14 believe.

15 MR. HAZLE: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 We've identified four sign locations along Sun Valley
17 Parkway. Three of those locations would be where there
18 are prospective crossings of the gen-tie over the roadway
19 and then one location kind of along the center. But for
20 most of the route the gen-tie would be about a half mile
21 to the east of Sun Valley Parkway. So, you know, we are
22 endeavoring to put them as close to the road as we can
23 while still being on private property, you know, outside
24 of the road right-of-way.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: What are the affected

1 jurisdictions other than Maricopa County?

2 MR. MOYES: The line itself is located
3 entirely on private property within the jurisdiction of
4 the City of Buckeye. And that applies to both Option A
5 and Option B there at the end.

6 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. And you
7 knew, of course, to file the notice for the affected
8 jurisdictions with the Commission?

9 MR. MOYES: Yes.

10 CHMN STAFFORD: Yeah, for this one -- for
11 this one, too, I think have a planned-for tour. Probably
12 be unlikely that we actually take one, but submit a plan
13 for one. If we do it, it would be on the second day, the
14 Thursday.

15 MR. MOYES: Okay.

16 CHMN STAFFORD: And we're starting on the
17 7th -- Are we starting on the 7th at 1:00 or are we
18 starting at 9:00 on the 7th?

19 MR. MOYES: That's totally up to you,
20 Mr. Chairman. And, again, it's that contingency of if we
21 finish the Booth Hills project on Monday and Tuesday.
22 We -- we can be available to start it Wednesday morning at
23 9:00 if you prefer or wait till later in the afternoon.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Well, we'll all already be
25 there. I think we can go ahead and start at 9:00 for this

1 one.

2 MR. MOYES: Okay.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: This is the lodging for the
4 last time still; correct?

5 MR. MOYES: Yes. Same hotel; same
6 accommodations; same audiovisual company, Peaks Audio.
7 They will be set up for the entire week.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

9 MR. MOYES: The only difference between
10 these two project coordinations is we have a different
11 environmental consultant on this one than the previous
12 one.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. So then
14 the prehearing conference then will be set on --

15 MR. MOYES: I believe the same date,
16 May 30th.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: -- the 30th? Right.

18 MR. MOYES: At 3:00 p.m.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: There is, again, no
20 litigation disputes for this?

21 MR. MOYES: No.

22 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And then copies
23 of the application, you do 25. The Commission and usually
24 one hard copy delivered to my office as well. And then
25 you will need another one for the court reporter at the

1 hearing.

2 MR. MOYES: Okay.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: And then we'll put up the
4 procedural order which you filed. And then the -- provide
5 us with the draft CEC with reference to the conditions
6 from prior CECs by the time of the prehearing conference.

7 Now, for public comment for this one we
8 can -- should we -- I think we'll do 5:30 on the first
9 day. We can even start by taking public comment at 9:00
10 and begin. Do you have a preference for that?

11 MR. MOYES: We do not have a preference.
12 That may be helpful to let us then work through the day
13 and not have to cut off -- Well, I guess we would cut off
14 before 5:00 p.m. anyway if we had the public hearing at
15 9:00. So we are open to whatever you and the Committee
16 prefer.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. I think we'll -- I
18 think we'll keep it and we'll do it at 5:30 on the first
19 day, which is the Wednesday.

20 MR. MOYES: That's usually easier, we've
21 found, for folks who do want to show up or public
22 officials after work, or they are home and can get on
23 remotely if needed.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now
25 (indecipherable) status --

1 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, sir, the
2 what status?

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Permit. Permit status.

4 Now, there is -- there is no NEPA process
5 for this one because it's all on private property, you
6 said?

7 MR. MOYES: I will let Dean or Tracy speak
8 to that.

9 MS. HAMILTON: Yes. So no NEPA process.
10 And the City of Buckeye has confirmed that this would be
11 considered a minor utility and is therefore a permitted
12 use within the -- the zoning. Which is planned community.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: So you won't -- you won't
14 need a permit from the City?

15 MS. HAMILTON: For the solar facility we
16 will, but for the -- the gen-tie it is -- it's a minor
17 utility, which is a permitted use. And --

18 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

19 MS. HAMILTON: -- therefore it's an approved
20 use.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Again, the
22 hearing stuff, we covered that in the prior -- prior
23 meeting. It's going to be the same. You have the AV team
24 that everybody seems to use for these things setting
25 everything up. And you will have the iPads or copies for

1 all the members --

2 MR. MOYES: Yes.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: -- with exhibits on them?

4 Okay.

5 All right. And then turnaround time for the
6 transcripts is three days.

7 Anything else? Anything else you need to
8 clarify with me or questions?

9 MR. MOYES: Again, absent Dean or our
10 Avantus team having any questions, I don't have any for
11 me.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Well, that
13 covers everything. I look forward to reading this
14 application as well.

15 MR. MOYES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
16 believe our target filing date for this application is
17 April 24th.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: Check that.

19 Yes. That's what I have as well.

20 MR. MOYES: Okay.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. If there's
22 nothing further, then we are adjourned. Thank you very
23 much.

24 MR. MOYES: Thank you.

25 (At 3:19 p.m. the proceedings ended.)

1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
2 COUNTY OF YAVAPAI)

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12 obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA
13 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) and (2).

14 Dated at Prescott, Arizona, this 18th day of April,
15 2023.

16 

17 _____
18 JILL MARNELL
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21 * * * * *

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