

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LS-380
2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE
3 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) DOCKET NO.
ATLAS NORTH, LLC, IN CONFORMANCE) L-21322A-24-0208-
4 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA) 00235
REVISED STATUTES § 40-360, ET SEQ.,)
5 FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL) LS CASE NO. 235
COMPATIBILITY PREFILING CONFERENCE)
6 AUTHORIZING THE ATLAS NORTH)
GENERATION TIE LINE PROJECT,) PREHEARING
7 LOCATED IN LA PAZ COUNTY, ARIZONA) CONFERENCE

8

9 At: Phoenix, Arizona

10 Date: October 3, 2024

11 Filed: October 8, 2024

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14 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

15 (Pages 1 through 11)

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24 By: Robin L. B. Osterode, CSR, RPR
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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ADMITTED
Exhibit 1	Public Outreach Summary	6

1 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled and
2 numbered matter came on regularly to be heard before the
3 Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 West Washington
4 Street, Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at 1:00 p.m. on
5 October 3, 2024. All parties attended via
6 videoconference.

7

8 BEFORE: ADAM STAFFORD, Chairman

9

For the Applicant:

10

ALBERT H. ACKEN
Acken Law
111 East Dunlap Avenue, Suite 1-172
Phoenix, Arizona 85020

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13 Also Present:

Nicole Williams, WestLand Resources
Brian Lindenlaub, WestLand Resources
15 Kimberly Otero, WestLand Resources
Patrick Shim, 174 Power Global
16 Erin Bibeau, 174 Power Global
Tod Brewer, Assistant to Chairman Stafford

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1 CHMN STAFFORD: Now is the time set for the
2 prehearing conference in the application of Atlas North
3 for the Line Siting Case L-21322A-24-0208-00235. The
4 Line siting Case 235.

5 Start appearances. Mr. Acken?

6 MR. ACKEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bert
7 Acken of Acken Law, on behalf of the applicant, Atlas
8 North LLC. With me is Patrick Shim and Erin Bibeau on
9 behalf of the applicant. Also with us is Brian
10 Lindenlaub and Nicole Williams of WestLand Resources, and
11 perhaps Diana Sandoval will be joining us.
12 Mr. Lindenlaub, I see he has his hand raised, perhaps
13 he'S got some insight there.

14 MR. LINDENLAUB: Just raised my hand at my
15 name, Bert. No, I don't expect Diana to join. Thank
16 you.

17 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Thank you.

19 Now, Mr. Acken, you've got lodge
20 arrangements for the Committee members that are coming in
21 from out of town for the hearing?

22 MR. ACKEN: We do. It's going to be up at
23 the Embassy Suites in midtown. It was the closest,
24 reasonably nice reasonably, from a cost standpoint,
25 venue. So yes, we have a hearing block that will cover

1 the Committee both for this hearing, as well as the one
2 immediately thereafter.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Thank you.

4 Now, I -- there has been no requests to
5 intervene or notice to be -- intent to be a party filed
6 in this matter, correct?

7 MR. ACKEN: That's correct. This project
8 has received no comments from the public. No -- there's
9 little public to be out there. And so we have not
10 received any, nor do we anticipate receiving any.

11 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, you agree that
12 the time limit for the Committee to act is March 2nd,
13 2025? That's the 180-day time frame?

14 MR. ACKEN: We do.

15 CHMN STAFFORD: And the applicant's
16 complied with providing notice to the affected
17 jurisdictions, correct?

18 MR. ACKEN: That's correct. Again, the
19 respective jurisdictions for this project are La Paz
20 County and State Land Department. So they have received
21 notice of the CEC application and the applicant has been
22 closely engaged with both with respect to other processes
23 and approvals and their opinion.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And the
25 applicants complied with the posting and publishing

1 requirements of the procedural order?

2 MR. ACKEN: We have. We posted four signs
3 in the vicinity of the project. I can give you the
4 chapter and verse. Those were posted September 14th,
5 published in the Arizona Republic on September 12th and
6 September 13th.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And you emailed
8 in exhibits to Tod, and I with the Public Outreach
9 Summary?

10 MR. ACKEN: I did. And I would like to
11 offer that as Prehearing Exhibit 1. We'll make that a
12 hearing exhibit as well. But I think it makes sense to
13 make it a prehearing, just for a clean, consistent
14 record.

15 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. That is
16 admitted.

17 (Exhibit PHC-1 was admitted into evidence.)

18 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And the agenda.
19 Are there any objections or additions to the agenda.

20 MR. ACKEN: No, Mr. Chairman. I know that,
21 you know, we're set to start at 9:00. I don't know that
22 we need to start right at 9:00, but it's noticed that
23 way. So, you know, I want to throw that out there for
24 you. If you want to give Committee members a bit more
25 time to get there, you know, our direct case is not going

1 to take all day before the public comment session, but
2 that was my only comment on the agenda.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Yeah, I think we'll
4 try to start at 9:00. We may have some members that may
5 take them a little longer to get in there. I'm thinking
6 the ones that are going to travel from out of town will
7 probably come in the day before. So --

8 MR. ACKEN: I think that's right, with what
9 we know from lodging requests, that's consistent.

10 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, for the hearing
11 itself, how would you -- how are you planning on
12 providing the exhibits to Committee members? Do you have
13 tablets or do you have binders for the exhibits for each
14 member?

15 MR. ACKEN: We are going to have both.
16 We're going to have sufficient tablets. If everybody
17 wants a tablet, they'll get a tablet. We will also have
18 five hard copies, so Robin can have one, and you can have
19 a hard copy. And if someone else, you know, wants a hard
20 copy of our exhibits, we'll make those available as well.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Yeah, because we
22 need at least two hard copies, one for me and one for the
23 court reporter.

24 You'll have sign-in forms for the public
25 comment session, correct?

1 MR. ACKEN: We will.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: And that will be 5:30 the
3 Tuesday evening, the first day of the hearing?

4 MR. ACKEN: That's correct.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: Now, I assume you'll have a
6 virtual tour?

7 MR. ACKEN: We do. We do have a virtual
8 tour for this project.

9 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And there will be no
10 physical tour?

11 MR. ACKEN: This is far, remote. And we
12 think it's a really good virtual tour, along with the
13 other simulations and other photos that we're going to
14 have for this project. It's going to be pretty robust
15 and it will give the Committee a great visual
16 representation of this project.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. So you
18 made the financial arrangements with the Commission,
19 correct?

20 MR. ACKEN: We have.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: We haven't received Staff's
22 response to my letter asking them to opine on the
23 project, have we?

24 MR. ACKEN: We have not. We responded to
25 their discovery requests early last week. You recall

1 this prehearing is a little early to accommodate my
2 schedule, thank you, so I don't anticipate any problems
3 getting their response before the hearing. And we were
4 quick in responding to them on discovery. This project
5 has interconnection studies. It has interconnection
6 studies that Staff has seen before. So I'm hopeful we
7 will be in good shape there to get a letter from them.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, let's see, so
9 we've got your proposed CEC. And, let's see, the permit
10 status. We covered this before. There's not a permit
11 for the line, but you do need a plan change for the solar
12 project, correct?

13 MR. ACKEN: There has been a minor
14 Comprehensive Plan amendment that's been completed.
15 There is a conditional use permit application that will
16 be submitted shortly. Ms. Bibeau will testify as to the
17 status of that at the hearing. There's also State Land
18 approvals, both for the generating facility, as well as
19 the transmission lines that are in progress. And so
20 we'll be able to provide status of that.

21 There are also two crossings, one of the
22 CAP and one of the I-10. So somewhat ministerial
23 authorizations that we have to get for those crossings as
24 well.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Excellent.

1 Oh, yes, attire for the hearing is business
2 casual.

3 MR. ACKEN: Thank you.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. All right. I
5 think that's everything I have.

6 Tod, is there anything else we need to
7 cover?

8 MR. BREWER: No, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

9 CHMN STAFFORD: Anything else, Mr. Acken?

10 MR. ACKEN: Not from me. Thank you. At
11 this time I'd ask the team collectively if I have
12 misstated or missed anything, please speak up.

13 (No response.)

14 MR. ACKEN: Hearing nothing, I think we're
15 all set. Thank you so much.

16 CHMN STAFFORD: Yeah. Thank you very much.
17 With that, let's go off the record.

18 (The hearing concluded at 1:10 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
 2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

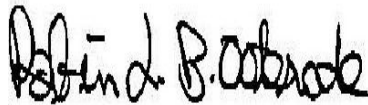
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BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me; that the foregoing pages are a full, true, and accurate record of the proceedings all done to the best of my skill and ability; that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to print under my direction.

7 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the parties hereto nor am I in any way interested in the outcome hereof.

9 I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA 7-206 (J)(1)(g)(1) and (2). Dated at Phoenix, Arizona, this 7th day of October, 2024.

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ROBIN L. B. OSTERODE, RPR
 CA CSR No. 7750
 AZ CR No. 50695

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18 I CERTIFY that Glennie Reporting Services, LLC, has complied with the ethical obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) through (6).

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