BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION)
FOR THE LOCATION APPROVAL OF THE)
CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT AND)
FOR THE RIGHT-OF-WAY WIDTH APPROVAL)
PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY ACT,) Case No. 22-000UT
NMSA 1978, §62-9- 3)
DAHLIA WIND LLC, GALLINAS MOUNTAIN WIND LLC, PASTURA WIND LLC, AND PATTERN SC HOLDINGS LLC,))))
JOINT APPLICANTS.)))

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JEREMY TURNER

1 I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- 3 A. Jeremy Turner. My business address is 317 Commercial St. NE, Suite 100, Albuquerque,
- 4 New Mexico 87102.
- 5 Q. BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?
- 6 A. I am the Director, New Mexico Project Development for Pattern the Pattern Energy
- 7 Group LP (together, with Pattern Energy Group 2 LP, referred to as "Pattern Energy").
- 8 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION BACKGROUND AND
- 9 EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE.
- 10 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics/Agricultural Business and a Master of Business Administration from New Mexico State University. Prior to joining 11 12 Pattern Energy, I served as the Chief Financial Advisor for the New Mexico Finance Authority, the Executive Director for the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission 13 Authority and a Managing Partner for Forever Energy Consulting, LLC. Since joining 14 the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority in 2009 and Forever Energy 15 Consulting, LLC in 2015, I have focused my career on the development of electric 16 17 transmission infrastructure to interconnect renewable energy to the grid. In my capacity 18 as Executive Director of the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority, I worked with the Board of Directors to issue \$50 million in bond financing for the 19 transmission line upgrade to connect the High Lonesome Mesa windfarm to the Public 20 21 Service Company of New Mexico transmission system. I also worked on the 22 development and original lease agreement for the Western Spirit Transmission Line.

- While at Forever Energy Consulting, LLC, I served as Project Manager for the then
- 2 proposed Verde Transmission Project.

3 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR YOUR

CURRENT POSITION.

A. I serve on the Development and External Affairs teams focused on the development and construction of Pattern Energy's New Mexico Projects, including the proposed Corona Wind North Project which is the subject of this proceeding. In this capacity, I am responsible for the coordination of activities and communication of project objectives among the Pattern "teams" involved in the Corona Wind North Project, including the Permitting, Land, Power Marketing, Transmission, Meteorology, Engineering and Construction, Legal, Finance and Accounting teams. I am responsible for ensuring timely decisions are made and facilitating communication with all the stakeholders in the development project. I am also responsible for actively negotiating with permitting agencies, landowners, local and state governmental agencies with assistance and guidance of my colleagues to facilitate the development of renewable energy projects. The goal is to deliver high-quality, low-risk, construction-ready projects. Lastly, I actively engage in external public affairs and community relations and serve as a public interface for Pattern Energy in New Mexico.

19 Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU APPEARING IN THIS PROCEEDING?

20 A. I am appearing on behalf of the Joint Applicants in this proceeding.

21 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

1	A.	In my testimony, I will provide background on the project development with respect to
2		the location approvals sought in this proceeding. In this regard, I will discuss the efforts
3		of the Joint Applicants to identify additional areas to locate wind generation in the state,
4		which I refer to in my testimony as the "Corona Wind North Generation". I will also
5		describe the efforts undertaken to date by the Joint Applicants to secure approvals from
6		the state and private landowners to locate wind turbines in the Corona Wind North
7		Generation area. Similarly, I discuss the efforts the Joint Applicants have undertaken to
8		secure approvals for the location and route of the Gen-Tie System associated with the
9		wind turbines included in the Corona Wind North Generation. I refer to this route for the
10		Gen-Tie System as the "Corona Wind North Gen-Tie System". Collectively, I refer to the
11		Corona Wind North Generation and the Corona Wind North Gen-Tie System as the
12		"Corona Wind North Project;"
13	Q	PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE CORONA WIND NORTH
13 14	Q	PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT TO OTHER WIND PROJECTS FOR WHICH PATTERN ENERGY
	Q	
14 15		PROJECT TO OTHER WIND PROJECTS FOR WHICH PATTERN ENERGY HAS SOUGHT LOCATION APPROVAL FROM THE COMMISSION.
14	Q A.	PROJECT TO OTHER WIND PROJECTS FOR WHICH PATTERN ENERGY
14 15		PROJECT TO OTHER WIND PROJECTS FOR WHICH PATTERN ENERGY HAS SOUGHT LOCATION APPROVAL FROM THE COMMISSION.
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14 15 16 17 18 19		PROJECT TO OTHER WIND PROJECTS FOR WHICH PATTERN ENERGY HAS SOUGHT LOCATION APPROVAL FROM THE COMMISSION. The Corona Wind North Project is a separate wind generation project for which Commission location approval is being sought. Like the 2021 Revised Corona Wind Gen-Tie System location approval filing which is the subject of NMPRC Case No. 21- 00281-UT, the Corona Wind North Gen-Tie System will interconnect with the eastern
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A. Pattern Energy has or will submit ROW applications to the New Mexico State Land Office ("SLO") for the portions of the Corona Wind North Project that will be located o state lands. Q. DO THE JOINT APPLICANTS ANTICIPATE ANY DELAYS IN OBTAINING NECESSARY STATE AND PRIVATE LANDOWNER APPROVALS? A. No. We do not anticipate any significant obstacles to obtaining the necessary approvals proceed with the Corona Wind North Project. Q. IS THE PROPOSED LOCATION WELL-SUITED FOR WIND ENERG GENERATION? Yes. In this regard there is no change to the suitability of the site from the initial information	1	A.	Both. The total acreage of the Corona Wind North Project is approximately 327,895
TO SECURE NECESSARY APPROVALS FROM PRIVATE LANDOWNERS FOR THE CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT. A. All land rights necessary for the Corona Wind North Project, either have or will be secured prior to the commencement of any construction. All private land rights for the wind generation of the Corona Wind North Project have been secured. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE STATUS OF THE JOINT APPLICANTS' EFFORTS TO SECURE APPROVALS FOR LOCATING FACILITIES ON STATE LANDS A. Pattern Energy has or will submit ROW applications to the New Mexico State Land Office ("SLO") for the portions of the Corona Wind North Project that will be located o state lands. Q. DO THE JOINT APPLICANTS ANTICIPATE ANY DELAYS IN OBTAINING NECESSARY STATE AND PRIVATE LANDOWNER APPROVALS? A. No. We do not anticipate any significant obstacles to obtaining the necessary approvals proceed with the Corona Wind North Project. Q. IS THE PROPOSED LOCATION WELL-SUITED FOR WIND ENERGY GENERATION? A. Yes. In this regard there is no change to the suitability of the site from the initial information.	2		acres with 210,419 acres of private land and 117,476 acres of state lands.
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TO SECURE APPROVALS FOR LOCATING FACILITIES ON STATE LANDS 1.1 A. Pattern Energy has or will submit ROW applications to the New Mexico State Land 1.2 Office ("SLO") for the portions of the Corona Wind North Project that will be located o 1.3 state lands. 1.4 Q. DO THE JOINT APPLICANTS ANTICIPATE ANY DELAYS IN OBTAINING 1.5 NECESSARY STATE AND PRIVATE LANDOWNER APPROVALS? 1.6 A. No. We do not anticipate any significant obstacles to obtaining the necessary approvals 1.7 proceed with the Corona Wind North Project. 1.8 Q. IS THE PROPOSED LOCATION WELL-SUITED FOR WIND ENERGY 1.9 GENERATION? 2.0 A. Yes. In this regard there is no change to the suitability of the site from the initial information.	8		wind generation of the Corona Wind North Project have been secured.
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20 A. Yes. In this regard there is no change to the suitability of the site from the initial information	L8	Q.	IS THE PROPOSED LOCATION WELL-SUITED FOR WIND ENERGY
	19		GENERATION?
filed in prior Commission cases. Exhibit JT-2 shows the average wind speed across Ne	20	A.	Yes. In this regard there is no change to the suitability of the site from the initial information
	21		filed in prior Commission cases. Exhibit JT-2 shows the average wind speed across New

Mexico at 80 meters above ground level (the approximate height of an average wind turbine). Pattern Energy expects to pair industry leading wind turbine equipment with the strong wind resource in the Corona Wind North Project area to maximize energy generation.

5 Q. HOW WAS THE LOCATION CHOSEN FOR THE CORONA WIND NORTH 6 PROJECT?

A. The Corona Wind North Project is in an area with a wind resource superior to much of the rest of the State of New Mexico. After starting development for its Broadview and Grady projects in Curry County, New Mexico, Pattern Energy began looking for more opportunities to leverage its experience elsewhere in the state. Pattern Energy recognized the favorable resource at the location for the Corona Wind North Project, and also recognized that this site has relatively low numbers of sensitive species and natural resources, support from private landowners for wind development, large areas of buildable terrain, and close proximity to the eastern terminus of the proposed SunZia Project.

Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU ARE SEEKING AN EXPANDED STUDY AREA FOR A SEGMENT OF THE CORONA WIND NORTH GEN-TIE SYSTEM?

A. Approximately 10 miles of the Corona Wind North Gen-Tie is located within the existing
El Cabo Wind Farm. Pattern is working with the owner of the El Cabo Wind Farm to
determine the optimal route through thee property. We are seeking a wider approval area
for this limited section until a preferred route is selected.

- 1 Q. WHEN DO THE JOINT APPLICANTS ANTICIPATE THEY WILL KNOW THE
- 2 PREFERRED ROUTE FOR THIS SEGMENT OF THE CORONA WIND NORTH
- **GEN-TIE SYSTEM?**
- 4 A. We anticipate a selection of a preferred route in the third Quarter of 2022.
- 5 Q. WILL THE JOINT APPLICANTS NOTIFY THE COMMISSION OF THE FINAL
- 6 SITING DECISION WITH RESPECT TO THE CORONA WIND NORTH GEN-
- 7 TIE SYSTEM?
- 8 A. Yes. In each of the prior proceedings that Pattern Energy or its affiliated entities have been a part of, the Commission has imposed a requirement for quarterly reports and updates to 9 10 be filed with the Commission. These quarterly updates are intended to notify the Commission as to the status of the wind projects and any changes resulting from 11 unanticipated discoveries during the construction process. The Joint Applicants agree to 12 promptly notify the Commission of any final route determination and to provide assurances 13 that the conditions imposed upon any location approval granted in this proceeding will be 14 satisfied. In this regard, I note that the expanded study area through the El Cabo Wind Farm 15 is within the Corona Wind North Project Study Area and will have satisfied all of the 16 environmental review and mitigation requirements set forth in the applicable statutes and 17 rules of the Commission. 18
- Q. WHAT LAND USE STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
 APPLY TO THE CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT?
- 21 A. The Corona Wind North Project is subject to zoning ordinances of Torrance County for a
 22 Wind Energy Special Use District. The Project is not subject to the San Miguel Wind

1	Energy Facilities Ordinance as all generation located within San Miguel County will be on
2	state trust lands.

- 3 Q. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF OBTAINING THE VARIOUS REQUIRED LOCAL
- 4 GOVERNMENTAL APPROVALS FOR THE CORONA WIND NORTH
- 5 **PROJECT?**
- 6 A. The Wind Energy Special Use District application in Torrance County is expected to be submitted in May 2022.
- 8 Q. WERE LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS INFORMED ABOUT
- 9 THE APPROVALS REQUESTED AS PART OF THE CORONA WIND NORTH
- 10 **PROJECT?**
- A. Yes. I, along with other Pattern Energy representatives and representatives of the Joint 11 Applicants, have presented to the San Miguel and Torrance County Commissions and 12 County staff regarding the proposed project. In addition, we have provided written updates 13 and held in-person meetings with many participating landowners regarding our 14 development efforts which are the subject of this proceeding. Private landowners whose 15 lands are going to be the site of facilities included in the Corona Wind North Project have 16 leased their properties for the planned construction. Additionally, as noted previously, we 17 have submitted applications with the SLO for the portions of the Corona Wind North 18 Project that will be located on state land. 19
- Q. HAVE THE JOINT APPLICANTS INFORMED THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE
 CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT UPDATE?

- 1 A. Yes. Pattern Energy has worked with several organizations and held many forums
- throughout the years to discuss our plans for expanding wind energy in the state. We have
- 3 received overwhelming support from the public and elected officials.

4 Q. DO THE JOINT APPLICANTS HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE

LANDOWNERS AND THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO?

- 6 A. Yes. I have attached as Exhibit JT-1 to this testimony, statements of support from private
- 7 landowners and other interested members of the communities impacted by the Corona
- 8 Wind North Project

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9 Q. HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CORONA

WIND NORTH PROJECT?

- 11 A. No. As is typical with any project of the scope and size of the Corona Wind North Project, 12 it is necessary to provide detailed information to interested persons to enable them to
- understand the proposed development and avoid any misunderstandings as to the intent of
- the Joint Applicants. The Joint Applicants have found the interaction with members of the
- public and local officials invaluable in the planning and implementation of our various
- projects in terms of being able to identify and resolve potential issues. My particular
- experience has been that the response to these briefings has been very positive, with many
- landowners wanting to participate and local government officials satisfied with the
- information provided and the potential benefits to be realized for their communities.

20 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

21 A. Yes.

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION)	
FOR THE LOCATION APPROVAL OF THE)	
CORONA WIND NORTH PROJECT AND FOR THE)	
RIGHT-OF-WAY WIDTH APPROVAL PURSUANT)	
TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY ACT, NMSA 1978, §62-9-)	Case No. 22-000UT
3)	
)	
DAHLIA WIND LLC, GALLINAS MOUNTAIN)	
WIND LLC, PASTURA WIND LLC, AND PATTERN)	
SC HOLDINGS LLC,)	
)	
)	
JOINT APPLICANTS.)	
)	

AFFIDAVIT OF JEREMY TURNER

STATE OF New Mexico)
COUNTY OF Santa FL) ss)

I have read the foregoing Direct Testimony and under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of New Mexico the statements therein are true and correct based on my own knowledge and belief.

Jeremy Turner

SWORN on this _____ day of _____ 2022.

My Commission Expires

Notary Public

Official Seal
ANGELA GONZALES
Notary Public
State of New Mexico

March 30, 2022

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is [Leland Rural and I own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. I understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

helad Harral

Sincerely,

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

cravens

My name is $[M) \cap P \in \mathcal{C}$ and I own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. I understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

Miree Cravens

March 30, 2022

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Joyce Halderman and I own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. I understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

Sincerely,

Joyce Halderman

Loyce Halderman

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New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

We are Freddie and Linda Montoya, and we own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. We understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

Sincerely,

Freddie and Elnda Montoya

March 30, 2022

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Octaviano Garcia and I own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. I understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

Sincerely,

Octaviano Garcia

March 30, 2022

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Bill Wrye and I own land in Torrance County, New Mexico that is affected by Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project and its development. I understand this project is intended to connect to the SunZia Transmission Project and are in full support of the project and welcome its development.

Wind power is increasing in popularity across the nation as a form of renewable energy. I have witnessed the good Pattern Energy has brought to nearby communities through their investment in the Western Spirit Wind Projects which provide financial support to the local schools and counties. During the construction of the Western Spirit Projects, local businesses have seen increased sales and increased tax revenue which has provided much needed help to the economy of the surrounding area. The lease revenues resulting from these wind farms help local families, farms and ranches.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Corona Wind North Project.

The

Sincerely.

Bill Wrve

Wind energy projects have increased throughout Eastern New Mexico over the years, bringing with them many benefits to our local businesses and hundreds of job opportunities to rural New Mexican communities. Towns that were powerhouses in the state's agriculture economy can now find a second life through wind energy projects. More wind projects will make Torrance, Guadalupe, Lincoln Counties major energy providers, and economic powerhouses.

Renewable energy development projects in Torrance County have increased our County's overall income <u>three times in just a few years.</u> Wind energy from Torrance pumps into the SunZia and Western Spirit transmission lines, making New Mexico a regional energy provider.

Torrance County and other counties in the eastern region of New Mexico now have the opportunity to play a major role in the largest wind energy and transmission infrastructure in the northern hemisphere - the Corona Wind North project.

As the Owner/Representative for Lovona light in I greatly support expanding our local economy and job opportunities through the construction of the Corona Wind North project. The benefits of this project include:

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- Filled RV parks and hotels,
- Preservation of our agricultural lifestyle and rural communities.

Please consider this a formal letter of our support for the Corona Wind North project, developed by Pattern Energy.

Best.

Business Name

Estancia Valley Economic Development Association P.O. Box 3209 Moriarty, NM 87035 SOS-252-0252 or SOS-832-5428 director@eyedapm.com

V

January 20, 2022

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

RE: Corona North Wind Project

On behalf of the Estancia Valley Economic Development Association, we are writing to show our full support for the proposed Corona Wind North project. In our twenty-year history, we have been at the forefront of local job development and bringing in millions of dollars in economic impact.

As local leaders in fostering new industries, we have seen firsthand the positive impacts wind projects have on our communities. To put it in perspective, nearly half of Torrance County's tax revenue was brought in by the construction industry this past year. With a significant portion of these constructions jobs centering on renewable project development, the industry brought in over \$59 million and had the highest average salaries of any industry just this last quarter.

Not only have these projects enabled our county to continue growing our economy, but it has also built resilience against the many challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. This market is projected to expand and our state has the chance to be a leader and a national hub if we continue taking advantage of our world-class renewable resources.

While project development has already proven to be a great tool for generating revenue and one we hope to continue reaping, we here at Estancia Valley are excited about future prospects that the renewable industry can provide. These future jobs can range from renewable parts manufacturing to wind technicians, and establishing our community as a business-friendly model can pave the way for all this and more.

For these reasons and many others, we strongly encourage the quick approval of the proposed Corona Wind North project.

Sincerely,

ly

Myra Pancrazio Executive Director

Estancia Valley Economic Development Association

Executive Board

Betty Caller Chair

Dave Tixies V-Chair

Steve Jones Secretary

Bill Williams Treasurer

Leroy Candelaria Commissioner Torrance County

Rudy Garcia Commissioner Santa Fe County

Steve Anaya Council Moriarty

Phil Anaya Council Edgewood

Morrow Hall Trustee Estancia

Alena Brandenberger CNMEC

> Bollie Ortiz EMW Gas

Myra Panerazio Exec. Director

DATE: 03/01/2022

We Support Wind Energy Projects in Our Community!

Wind energy projects have increased throughout Eastern New Mexico over the years, bringing with them many benefits to our local businesses and hundreds of job opportunities to rural New Mexican communities. Towns that were powerhouses in the state's agriculture economy can now find a second life through wind energy projects. More wind projects will make Torrance, Guadalupe, Lincoln Counties major energy providers, and economic powerhouses.

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Business Name

DATE: 01-31-27

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Preservation of our agricultural lifestyle and rural communities.

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Best.

Bettel Strahouse

Business Name



February 7, 2022

To: New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

The Santa Fe Green Chamber of Commerce supports Pattern Energy's Corona Wind North project PRC filing. Our Chamber has long worked to build up sustainable businesses that both enable our community to financially prosper and also our environment. Developing new renewable projects is the best way to achieve both.

Investing in new renewable industries has demonstrated time and again how thoroughly they can uplift our communities. Even with the labor shortages, supply chain threats, and constantly fluctuating COVID-19 cases, renewable projects have continued flourishing in spite of the many setbacks, providing a much-needed crutch to our state's economic wellbeing. The high-paying construction jobs provide directly to the workers as well as indirectly to our adjacent businesses and the new influx of customers.

Once built, these technologies also greatly benefit our environment. By reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, we are doing our part to mitigate climate change - the greatest threat our upcoming generations will face - and protect our water. One of our main focuses is to draw attention to our need to conserve our limited water resources. Unlike traditional energy generation machinations, which can use hundreds of gallons of water per megawatt generated, wind energy uses little to none. As we face longer droughts and harsher temperatures, it is necessary to incorporate new technologies and behaviors that lift the burden on our limited resources.

We need to continue moving toward a future that both mitigates and adapts and renewable energy development will be one of the most crucial first steps in heading this direction. For this reason, we ask that the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission approve the Corona Wind North project.

Sincerely,

Glenn Schiffbauer Executive Director DATE: 02/01/22

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