BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION)
FOR THE LOCATION APPROVAL OF THE)
EXPANDED CORONA WIND PROJECTS AND THE)
REVISED CORONA GEN-TIE SYSTEM AND FOR)
RIGHT-OF-WAY WIDTH APPROVAL PURSUANT) Case No. 22-00UT
TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY ACT, NMSA 1978, §62-9-)
3)
)
ANCHO WIND LLC, COWBOY MESA LLC,,)
GALLINAS MOUNTAIN WIND LLC, MESA	
CANYONS WIND, LLC, PATTERN SC HOLDINGS)
LLC, VIENTO LOCO 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 ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND WHAT IS YOUR POSITION?
- 6 A. I am employed by Pattern Energy Group LP (together, with Pattern Energy Group 2 LP,
- 7 ("Pattern Energy") as the Director, New Mexico Project Development.
- 8 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.
- 9 A. I have a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics/Agricultural Business and a 10 Master of Business Administration from New Mexico State University. Prior to joining Pattern Energy, I served as the Chief Financial Advisor for the New Mexico Finance 11 Authority, the Executive Director for the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission 12 Authority and a Managing Partner for Forever Energy Consulting, LLC. Since joining the 13 New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority in 2009 and Forever Energy 14 Consulting, LLC in 2015, I have focused my career on the development of electric 15 transmission infrastructure to interconnect renewable energy to the grid. In my capacity as 16 17 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 18 19 transmission line upgrade to connect the High Lonesome Mesa windfarm to the Public 20 Service Company of New Mexico transmission system. I also worked on the development and original lease agreement for the Western Spirit Transmission Line. While at Forever 21 22 Energy Consulting, LLC I served as Project Manager for the proposed Verde Transmission 23 Project.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR YOUR 2 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 2022 Corona Wind Update which is the subject of this proceeding. In this capacity, I assist with the coordination of activities and communication of project objectives among the Pattern "teams" involved in the Corona Wind Project, including the Permitting, Land, Power Marketing, Transmission, Meteorology, Engineering and Construction, Legal, Finance and Accounting teams. I am responsible for ensuring and facilitating communication with all the stakeholders in the development project. I am also active in negotiations with the various local and state permitting agencies and landowners. Lastly, I actively engage in external public affairs and community relations and serve as a public interface for Pattern Energy in New Mexico.

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

I am testifying on behalf of Ancho Wind LLC, Cowboy Mesa LLC, Gallinas Mountain
Wind LLC, Mesa Canyons Wind, LLC, Pattern SC Holdings LLC, and Viento Loco LLC,

(collectively, the "Corona Wind Companies" or the "Joint Applicants") in support of this

Joint Application for location control approval before the New Mexico Public Regulation

Commission ("Commission") pursuant to NMSA 1978, §§62-9-3, 62-9-3.2 and

Commission Rule 17.9.592 NMAC ("Joint Application").

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

I am submitting testimony in support of this Joint Application for location approval to authorize the Joint Applicants to expand the area for the wind turbines beyond that

- previously approved by the Commission in NMPRC Case Nos. 17-00221-UT, 18-00065-
- 2 UT and 21-00281-UT. The expanded area for wind turbines for which Commission
- approval is sought in this Joint Application is hereafter referred to as the "2022 Corona"
- 4 Generation Expansion" and is more specifically described in Exhibit JA-1 attached to the
- 5 Joint Application. I am co-sponsoring this Exhibit JA-1.

6 Q. HOW IS YOUR TESTIMONY ORGANIZED?

- First, I will provide an overview of Pattern Energy and the Joint Applicants. Then, I will review the Joint Applicants' currently approved wind energy facilities and the associated Gen-Tie System. Collectively, the wind generation and associated Gen-Tie System and facilities that were approved in the proceedings in NMPRC Case Nos. 17-00221-UT, 18-00065-UT, 20-00008-UT, and 21-00281-UT, comprise the Corona Wind Project. In my testimony, I discuss the reason for the changes contemplated in the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion.
- 14 Q. WHAT SUBJECTS WILL OTHER WITNESSES ADDRESS?
- Adam Cernea Clark, Senior Environmental and Natural Resources Manager of Pattern 15 A. Development, will provide more detailed testimony about the environmental values 16 17 which are incorporated into the planning, design, construction, and operation of our projects. He will also describe the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion and the Joint 18 Applicants' commitment to comply with federal, state, and local law. Mr. Cernea Clark 19 20 will provide testimony regarding the update to the environmental report prepared by Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. ("Burns & McDonnell") and submitted to the 21 22 Commission in NMPRC Case No. 20-00008-UT, hereafter referred to as the 23 "Environmental Report." Finally, Mr. Cernea Clark will again commit the Joint

- 1 Applicants to comply with all the same conditions and best management practices that were
- 2 advanced by Pattern Energy and approved by the Commission in the Joint Applicants' last
- filing in NMPRC Case No. 21-00281-UT.
- 4 Makena Caruso, Business Development Analyst of Pattern Energy will testify as to the
- 5 Joint Applicants' efforts to secure all required approvals and consents from local
- 6 government entities and impacted landowners in connection with this proceeding.

7 O. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE ANY REGULATORY

8 **AUTHORITIES?**

- 9 A. Yes. I provided testimony before the Commission in NMPRC Case Nos. 18-00065-UT, 20-
- 10 00008-UT, and 21-00281-UT.

11 II. OVERVIEW OF PATTERN ENERGY AND THE JOINT APPLICANTS

- 12 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE SOME BACKGROUND OF PATTERN ENERGY.
- 13 A. Pattern Energy is a leading developer of renewable energy and transmission assets
- throughout the world. With a global footprint spanning all over the United States, Canada,
- Mexico, Chile and Japan, the highly experienced Pattern Energy team has brought more than
- 16 6,000 MW of renewable power projects to market. Pattern Energy's headquarters are in San
- 17 Francisco, California.

18 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE JOINT APPLICANTS.

- 19 **A.** The Joint Applicants are limited liability companies, organized under the laws of the State
- of Delaware. These companies will obtain the land rights and permits needed for the
- 21 development and construction of the Corona Wind Project. An organization chart showing
- the relationship of the Joint Applicants with Pattern Energy is attached to my testimony as
- Exhibit JT-1.

1 Q. WILL PATTERN ENERGY IMPLEMENT COMPANY ENVIRONMENTAL

POLICIES OR PRACTICES REGARDING THE 2022 CORONA GENERATION

EXPANSION?

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

A.

Yes. As discussed in more detail in the testimony of Adam Cernea Clark, Pattern Energy actively participates in wind industry efforts to understand, study, and minimize the environmental impacts of wind energy and to advance the development of technology and best practices. Pattern Energy also routinely implements voluntary best management practices ("BMPs") and mitigation strategies that further its environmental values. As evidence of our commitment to implementing environmental best practices with all of our projects, when Pattern Energy acquired the Mesa Canyons Wind Project in 2018, a wind farm located in Lincoln County, New Mexico, which was previously approved by the Commission in its Final Order in NMPRC Case No. 17-00221-UT, we voluntarily elected to implement the same BMPs and Protective Measures that we proposed, and which were accepted by the Commission for the Corona Wind Project in Case No. 18-00065-UT. These additional BMPs and Protective Measures were not a requirement of the Commission's Final Order in NMPRC Case 17-00221-UT. Subsequently we incorporated all the same BMPs in our Joint Application in NMPRC Case Nos. 20-00008-UT and 21-00281-UT, both of which the Commission approved. In each instance we applied the same BMPs and Protective Measures to the entire Corona Wind Project and not just the portions involving transmission, notwithstanding the different standards for approval of the location of generation and transmission assets set forth in Section 62-9-3 NMSA 1978.

Q. WHO WILL CONSTRUCT THE EXTENDED CORONA GEN-TIE SYSTEM?

23 A. Construction will be managed by Pattern Energy's in-house construction group, which has

- successfully overseen the development of more than 6,000 MW of wind projects, including
 the Clines Corners, Duran Mesa, Red Cloud Wind, and Tecolote Wind Projects (of which
 the latter three are parts of the Corona Wind Project) near Corona, New Mexico.
 Construction of the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion will likely be performed by one
 or more third party contractors under a balance of plant agreement.
- 6 Q. WHAT COMMISSION APPROVALS ARE THE JOINT APPLICANTS
 7 REQUESTING?
- 8 A. The Joint Applicants request that the Commission approve the location of the 2022 Corona
 9 Generation Expansion.
- 10 Q. ARE THE CORONA WIND COMPANIES REQUESTING THE COMMISSION
 11 ISSUE A PUBLIC CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY?
- 12 **A**. No. Neither the Joint Applicants, Pattern Energy nor any affiliates of Pattern Energy are or
 13 will be public utilities if the proposed location permits are granted and the Corona Wind
 14 Project is constructed.
- 15 III. THE 2022 CORONA GENERATION EXPANSION
- 16 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE 2022 CORONA GENERATION EXPANSION.
- A. The 2022 Corona Generation Expansion will consist of approximately 65 wind turbines, which is part of the overall 950 turbines that have already been approved by the Commission in related proceedings. These 65 turbines will be moved from prior approved areas to aid in the optimization of the layout of the Corona Wind Project. The Corona Wind Project will still be located in Lincoln and Torrance Counties in New Mexico and will encompass approximately 543,549 acres of private and state land within the two counties, of which approximately 457,241 acres will be private land and 86,308 acres will be state land. To produce the

desired energy, it is anticipated that the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion will consist of approximately 65 wind turbines with a nameplate capacity ranging from 2.3 MW to 4.5 MW. Exhibit JA-1, attached to the Joint Application, provides a map showing the location of the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion. Of course, as noted in each of our prior filings, the proposed location of the turbines in the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion is subject to change as further onsite studies are performed and more information becomes available. As in the past, the Commission will be notified of these changes to the extent it involves movement of a turbine.

A.

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 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 Project area to maximize energy generation.

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

As discussed previously, the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion 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. Once Pattern Energy recognized the favorable resource at the location for the Corona Wind Project, it also recognized that this site has relatively low numbers of sensitive species and natural resources, broad support from private landowners for wind

1		development, large areas of buildable terrain, and close proximity to the eastern terminus
2		of the proposed SunZia Project.
3	Q.	WHAT IS THE TIMEFRAME FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE CORONA WIND
4		PROJECTS?
5	A.	Construction of a portion of the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion is expected to begin
6		once all the necessary permits to begin construction are in hand. The in-service date for the
7		2022 Corona Generation Expansion is by the end of 2026.
8	Q.	HAS THE TIMEFRAME FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CORONA
9		ENERTAION EXPANSION BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF THE CHANGES
10		DESCRIBED IN THIS FILING?
11	A.	No. The changes in this filing are the product of ongoing diligence and development by
12		Pattern Energy.
13	Q.	WILL THE CORONA 2022 CORONA GENERTAION EXPANSION HAVE AN
14		INCREASED NAMEPLATE THAN WAS PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED IN NMPRO
15		CASE NO. 21-00281-UT?
16	A.	The addition of private lands to the 2022 Corona Generation Expansion will offer increased
17		flexibility for siting wind turbines and potentially for additional MW. This has not been
18		finalized yet.
19	Q.	HOW MANY ADDITIONAL TURBINES WILL THERE BE COMPARED TO THE
20		NUMBER ESTIMATED IN NMPRC CASE NO. 21-00281-UT?
21	A.	Although the overall nameplate capacity of the wind farm may increase, the number of
22		turbines is still expected to be approximately 950. The properties subject to this proceeding

23

will add additional land and aid in the optimization of the windfarm layout currently

- 2 Q. WHY WAS THE ADDITIONAL LAND NEEDED FOR GENERATION THAT IS
- 3 THE SUBJECT OF THIS APPLICATION NOT PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN
- 4 CASE NO. 21-00281-UT, CASE NO. 20-00008-UT OR CASE NO. 18-00065-UT?
- 5 A. Portions of the land included in this Joint Application were previously included in the initial
- filing in NMPRC Case No. 20-00008-UT but were later retracted at the request of the
- 7 landowner. An Errata was filed removing this proposed generation from that filing. This
- land has since been acquired by a new landowner who is in full support of the project and
- 9 wants to include wind generation on these newly acquired lands. The remaining additional
- land for generation that is part of this filing is included as a "clean up" effort to capture all
- 11 remaining land needed to efficiently complete the Corona Wind Project and optimize the
- layout.
- 13 Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE CONDITIONS PLACED UPON THE JOINT
- 14 APPLICANTS AS PART OF THE COMMISSION'S FINAL ORDER IN NMPRC
- 15 CASE NOS. 18-00065-UT, 20-00008-UT and 21-00281-UT?
- 16 **A.** Yes. I was intimately involved in those proceedings and agreed to those conditions at that
- time.
- 18 Q. ARE YOU AUTHORIZED TO AGREE TO THE SAME CONDITIONS AS PART
- 19 OF THIS JOINT APPLICATION AS WERE IMPOSED UPON JOINT
- 20 APPLICANTS IN THOSE PROCEEDINGS?
- 21 A. Yes, I am. I do agree to the numerous conditions and environmental protections that were
- included as conditions of the Final Order in NMPRC Case Nos. 18-00065-UT, 20-00008-
- 23 UT, and 21-00281-UT.

- 1 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
- 2 **A.** Yes.

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION FOR THE LOCATION APPROVAL OF THE 2022 CORONA GENERATION EXPANSION PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY ACT, NMSA 1978, §62-9-3 ANCHO WIND LLC, COWBOY MESA LLC, GALLINAS MOUNTAIN WIND LLC, MESA CANYONS WIND, LLC, PATTERN SC HOLDINGS LLC, VIENTO LOCO LLC, JOINT APPLICANTS.))) Case No. 22-00UT))))))
A FEIDAVIT OF JEDEMY T	LIDNED

AFFIDAVIT OF JEREMY TURNER

THE STATE OF New Mexico)
COUNTY OF Santase)

Jeremy Turner hereby deposes and states under oath that the foregoing Direct Testimony of Jeremy Turner and supporting Exhibits were prepared under my direct supervision and the statements therein are true and accurate based on my personal knowledge and belief.

Jereny Turner

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, notary public, on this the 15 day of July, 2022.

My Commission expires: 11/15/2024 Notary Public, State of: New Mexic 2 Elizabeth a. Lucerd

STATE OF NEW MEXICO **NOTARY PUBLIC** ELIZABETH A. LUCERO **COMMISSION # 1082135** COMMISSION EXPIRES 11/15/2024

















