

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LS-399

2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

3	IN THE MATTER OF THE)	DOCKET NO.
	APPLICATION OF HARQUAHALA)	L-21340A-24-0260-
4	FLATS ENERGY STORAGE, LLC, IN)	00241
	CONFORMANCE WITH THE)	
5	REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA)	LS CASE NO. 241
	REVISED STATUTES 40-360, ET)	
6	SEQ., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	
	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY)	
7	AUTHORIZING THE HARQUAHALA)	
	FLATS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE)	
8	SYSTEM INTERCONNECTION)	
	PROJECT, WHICH CONSISTS OF A)	
9	NEW, APPROXIMATELY)	
	2.9-MILE-LONG, 500KV)	
10	TRANSMISSION LINE CONNECTING)	
	THE PLANNED HARQUAHALA FLATS)	
11	BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM)	
	PROJECT LOCATED IN)	
12	UNINCORPORATED MARICOPA)	
	COUNTY, ARIZONA TO THE)	PREFILING CONFERENCE
13	EXISTING ARIZONA PUBLIC)	
	SERVICE DELANEY SUBSTATION.)	
14)	

15 At: Phoenix, Arizona

16 Date: November 26, 2024

17 eFiled: December 3, 2024

18

19 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

20 (Pages 1 through 16)

21

22
Glennie Reporting Services, LLC

23 1555 East Orangewood Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85020

24 602.266.6535
25 www.glennie-reporting.com

Prepared by:

Jill Marnell, RPR
Arizona Certified
Reporter No. 50021

GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, L.L.C.
602.266.6535 www.glennie-reporting.com

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ADMITTED
Exhibit 1	Unidentified map	5
Exhibit 2	Map of proposed sign locations	5

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 11:01 a.m. on November 26, 2024,
5 with all participants appearing via videoconference.

6

7 BEFORE: ADAM STAFFORD, Chairman

8

9 APPEARANCES:

10 For the Applicant:

11 JEFFREY W. CROCKETT
12 Crockett Law Group
13 2198 East Camelback Road
Suite 305
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

14

15

ALSO PRESENT:

16

James Jackson, NextEra Energy
17 Alex Simons, NextEra Energy
Anna Galanis, NextEra Energy
18 Colin Agner, SWCA
Tod Brewer, assistant to Chairman Stafford

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Let's go on the
2 record.

3 This is the time set for the prefiling
4 conference for Harquahala Flats B-E-S-S project.

5 Start with appearances. Mr. Crockett?

6 MR. CROCKETT: Good morning, Chairman
7 Stafford. Jeff Crockett appearing on behalf of the
8 applicant, which is Harquahala Flats Energy Storage, LLC.
9 And joining me on the Zoom call this morning are James --
10 James Jackson, Alex Simons, and Anna Galanis with NextEra
11 Energy, the parent company of the applicant. And then
12 we've got Colin Agner with SWCA, who is the outside
13 consultant on the project.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: Excellent.

15 Do you anticipate any intervenors in this
16 case?

17 MR. CROCKETT: At this time we do not.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. What about public
19 interest so far?

20 MR. CROCKETT: I think the public interest
21 has been pretty minimal so far, consistent with other
22 projects. This is in western Maricopa County, Harquahala
23 Valley, as you are very familiar with. We haven't had
24 much -- much public interest in the project at all to
25 date.

1 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And I've got two
2 prefiling exhibits, 1 and 2. They are both maps. Second
3 one shows the locations of the proposed signs. Those are
4 both admitted.

5 Do you want to tell us about those,
6 Mr. Crockett?

7 MR. CROCKETT: Yes, Chairman Stafford. And
8 I will note this project is a little bit unique in that it
9 is a battery storage only project. And the battery
10 storage facility sits right off Interstate 10. The
11 gen-tie is approximately 2.9 miles long. It goes west and
12 then straight south to the APS Delaney Substation where we
13 interconnect.

14 You can see on Prefiling Exhibit -- Well, I
15 guess you can see on both of them, but looking at
16 Prefiling Exhibit 2, where we have our proposed sign
17 locations, you can see there is a development there just
18 south of I-10 and south of the battery storage project.
19 We have posted signs at the north and south end -- or we
20 are proposing to post signs at the north and south end of
21 that project. And then Signs 2 and 3 on the map would be
22 over on the gen-tie on the western side of the -- Well,
23 it's kind of the center of the map, but heading down to
24 the Delaney Substation. And then the -- Sign 3 is on the
25 highway and I'm -- The name of the highway at this point

1 is kind of escaping me.

2 Colin, do you remember?

3 MR. AGNER: Salome.

4 MR. CROCKETT: That -- that's it. Thank
5 you.

6 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, say it
7 again. Salome?

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Yes. It's S-A-L-O-M-E.

9 MR. CROCKETT: Yeah. So proposing four
10 signs, which we think is -- is adequate in the area to
11 advise the public of the project.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Excellent.

13 Now, you'll get me a draft notice of hearing
14 in Word when you file something?

15 MR. CROCKETT: Yes, we have that.

16 And Chairman, we are -- we are planning to
17 file the application this afternoon after we finish this
18 prefiling conference. So I've got a draft of the notice
19 that I will send over once I have the docket number.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

21 MR. CROCKETT: And I'll send that over to
22 Tod. That will be this afternoon.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

24 MR. CROCKETT: Hopefully we will get that
25 filed this afternoon, along with the list of affected

1 jurisdictions.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: Ah. Nice segue. So which
3 are Maricopa County. Other than that?

4 MR. CROCKETT: Maricopa County, Maricopa
5 County Department of Transportation, Arizona State Land
6 Department, and then the fourth entity I've not dealt with
7 before is the Arizona Fire and Medical Authority, which
8 provides the fire protection services to the area where
9 the project's located.

10 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And so you will get
11 the notices to them.

12 Now, for the publication of the notice in
13 the papers, what's -- which papers and what publication
14 dates are you looking at?

15 MR. CROCKETT: Colin, could I ask you to
16 respond to that question?

17 MR. AGNER: Sure.

18 Chairman Stafford, we've coordinated with
19 the West Valley View, which is a newspaper publication in
20 circulation in the area. We -- If we could have the
21 notice of hearing back to us today we can publish in the
22 West Valley View this Wednesday, which is tomorrow, and
23 next Wednesday. If we can't get the notice of hearing
24 back by today we probably would need to publish in the
25 Arizona Republic to meet the publication requirements.

1 CHMN STAFFORD: So it's -- Next Wednesday
2 would be the 4th?

3 MR. CROCKETT: Correct.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And then what's
5 the anticipated hearing date?

6 MR. CROCKETT: It is January 13th.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. Well, you
8 know what, you should probably just send over the draft
9 before you get the docket number.

10 MR. CROCKETT: Okay. I'll send that -- I'll
11 send that to Tod as soon as we finish our call.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay, great. Then we'll
13 have that prepped to go and then all you have to do is --
14 we will have to do is fill in the docket number.

15 Yeah, because I'm sure it will cost you
16 quite a bit less to do it in the West Valley View and not
17 the Arizona Republic. Right?

18 MR. CROCKETT: That's true. Yes.

19 MR. AGNER: Correct, Chairman Stafford.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And so the
21 hearing, where do you anticipate holding the hearing?

22 MR. CROCKETT: The hearing will be at the
23 Hampton Inn & Suites in Goodyear on Litchfield Park Road.
24 It's a place we've been at before. And we've -- we've
25 made arrangements for that week to be there.

1 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So we are setting it
2 for the 13th through the 18th, I guess.

3 MR. CROCKETT: Correct.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Shouldn't take that long.

5 MR. CROCKETT: Actually the 17th, I believe.

6 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And you will have
7 lodging for the out-of-town committee members?

8 MR. CROCKETT: Yes, we will.

9 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Now, have a plan
10 for a tour. It will be in the procedural order, too, but,
11 yeah, plan on one. Again, since it's -- What's the
12 distance from -- from the Hampton Inn to this project
13 anyway?

14 MR. CROCKETT: Let me ask either James or
15 Alex to answer that question. I'm guessing it's about
16 40 miles, but --

17 MR. JACKSON: Chairman Stafford, I don't
18 have that off the top of my head but I can research it
19 really quick.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay, great.

21 MR. CROCKETT: And Chairman, I think it
22 would probably be looking at about a three-hour round-trip
23 tour.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

25 MR. AGNER: That's correct, Chairman

1 Stafford. And Jeff. I think it's roughly a 30- to
2 40-minute drive from the hotel to the -- you know, a stop
3 that we would propose for the tour.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. A tour
5 ordinarily wouldn't be necessary, but we'll see what kind
6 of public comment we get. The thing is, with that
7 development down to the south of the project, I mean,
8 it's -- it's closer to the -- to the BESS, but it's -- the
9 line is going the opposite direction, from what I'm
10 looking at on the map.

11 MR. CROCKETT: That's correct.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So we'll see -- A
13 tour is not inconceivable, but I would venture that it
14 would be unlikely.

15 MR. CROCKETT: We will be prepared with a
16 tour. We will have a tour map and itinerary, as well as
17 arrangements for a bus that can take the committee on the
18 tour.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. So if we do do
20 one it will be on that Tuesday morning; right?

21 MR. CROCKETT: That's what we are planning
22 for, yes.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. And Tod,
24 what do we have for the prehearing conference date?

25 MR. BREWER: We have this scheduled for

1 January the 6th at 11:00, Mr. Chairman.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And you intend to
3 file it today, you said?

4 MR. CROCKETT: Yes.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. You probably
6 wouldn't get the procedural order till after the holiday,
7 but I think you'll be all right.

8 Yeah, have the draft CEC filed by the time
9 of the prehearing conference.

10 Now, we'll do public comment at 5:30 on the
11 first day. Do you anticipate much public comment? I
12 guess the -- the folks that live in that area, is it -- Is
13 that developed or is it slated to be developed?

14 MR. CROCKETT: I believe there are some
15 residences there. Maybe James or Alex can provide a
16 little more detail on how many -- approximately how many
17 residents we have in that area.

18 MR. JACKSON: So to the -- to the east of
19 the project site there are -- a staked-out development
20 area with roughly I would say maybe five to ten houses in
21 the vicinity. So while it is -- there are roads for more
22 houses, there are roughly a handful.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. But that -- it's
24 platted out to develop, what is it, single-family homes
25 out there?

1 MR. JACKSON: I believe so, Chairman.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay, thank you.

3 All right. Now, what the -- Oh, do you
4 anticipate any public officials wanting to make public
5 comment?

6 MR. CROCKETT: We don't at this point, no.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And what's the permit
8 status? I assume the transmission line is a permitted use
9 in Maricopa County.

10 MR. CROCKETT: The trans -- That's correct.
11 And I believe that they will be filing -- the applicant
12 will be filing for their conditional use permit for the
13 BESS in early December, or December sometime.

14 Is that -- James, is that correct?

15 MR. JACKSON: That -- that is correct. We
16 are targeting December 16th. That is the first permit we
17 have to file before we can file for the T line.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And there's no
19 federal nexus? No cities, towns?

20 MR. CROCKETT: That's correct.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: No highway crossings? Just
22 state road crossings, looks like.

23 MR. CROCKETT: We just have two MCDOT road
24 crossings.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: Indian School and?

1 MR. CROCKETT: I'm not sure what two road
2 crossings those are.

3 James, do you happen to have that
4 information?

5 CHMN STAFFORD: It looks like 451st Avenue
6 and Indian School Road looking at the map.

7 MR. JACKSON: That's correct, Chairman.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. And I
9 assume you'll have Peaks Audio to handle all our Wi-Fi and
10 technological needs.

11 MR. CROCKETT: Yes. Those arrangements have
12 been made.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And you'll have
14 standard tablets and Kindles for us to make everything
15 electronic work properly?

16 MR. CROCKETT: Yes.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: Excellent.

18 And the filing fee for this I am assuming
19 was a thousand dollars.

20 MR. CROCKETT: That's correct.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: You know the Commission is
22 obligated by statute to pay the costs of reporting and
23 transcribing any application hearing, as well as the
24 actual and necessary expenses incurred by the committee
25 members in connection with their participation in

1 committee meetings from the filing fee. Costs and fees
2 exceeding that amount may, with the applicant's consent,
3 be incurred by the committee and charged to the applicant.

4 Does the applicant consent to pay the
5 Commission those costs in excess of the filing fee?

6 MR. CROCKETT: Yes.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: Excellent.

8 All right. So we'll have the standard
9 three-day turnaround for the transcripts.

10 Is there anything else we need to cover
11 before you file today?

12 MR. CROCKETT: That is everything on my
13 list, Chairman.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: Tod, anything else? I think
15 we got it.

16 MR. BREWER: No, Mr. Chairman. That's it.
17 Thank you.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Excellent.

19 MR. CROCKETT: And Chairman --

20 CHMN STAFFORD: Yes.

21 MR. CROCKETT: -- we will hand-deliver -- we
22 will hand-deliver a copy of the application to your office
23 this afternoon.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay, great. And then,
25 yeah, just email the Word version of the notice of hearing

1 so I can get that today and then you will be able to --

2 MR. CROCKETT: Do you want me to go through
3 Tod or do you want me to --

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Yeah, send it to Tod.

5 MR. CROCKETT: Okay.

6 CHMN. STAFFORD: Yeah, send it to Tod.

7 Yeah, and then -- Yeah, so we'll make sure you get that
8 ready so you can get the publications done in the West
9 Valley View.

10 I think that should cover everything. Have
11 a happy Thanksgiving.

12 MR. CROCKETT: Hey, you do the same.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. I look forward
14 to -- to getting that, the application. And then we'll
15 see you in January.

16 MR. CROCKETT: Thank you.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: Actually, I will see you
18 before that but on a different matter.

19 MR. CROCKETT: Yes.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. You got
21 everything you need, Jill?

22 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes. Thank you.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. With that we're
24 adjourned.

25 (At 11:15 a.m. the proceedings ended.)

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

4 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings are a
5 full, true, and accurate record of the proceedings, all
6 done to the best of my skill and ability; that the
7 proceedings were transcribed and reduced to print under my
8 direction.

9 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to, nor
10 employed by any of the parties hereto, and have no
11 interest in the outcome thereof.

12 I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical
13 obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA
14 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) and (2).

15 Dated at Prescott, Arizona, this 1st day of
16 December, 2024.

17 

18 JILL MARNELL
19 Certified Reporter #50021
20 Registered Professional Reporter

21 * * * * *

22 I CERTIFY that GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC, has
23 complied with the provisions in ACJA
24 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1)

25 

GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC
Registered Reporting Firm
Arizona RRF No. R1035