

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

07100/07-E-0257

PSC Issues Certificates for Noble Chateaugay Wind Project — Construction and Operation of Wind Energy Generating Project in Franklin County —

Albany, NY—11/7/07—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today decided to authorize the construction and operation of a wind energy project capable of generating 108 megawatts of electricity in the Town of Chateaugay, Franklin County, and interconnect to the Clinton substation.

In granting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) authorization, the Commission included appropriate conditions to assure that the public interest considerations regarding reliability of the interconnected electric grid are addressed, and that environmental management of the facility is appropriate using the wind turbines proposed by Noble Chateaugay Windpark, LLC. The developer estimates economic benefits in the project area will total \$152.9 million over 20 years.

“One of Governor Spitzer’s goals is to stimulate economic growth, increase energy diversity, and promote a cleaner, healthier environment by generating electricity from renewable energy sources,” said Commission Chairwoman Patricia L. Acampora. “The CPCN approval by the Commission today for the Noble Chateaugay project will provide electricity through facilities utilizing renewable resource technology to provide clean and renewable supplies of electricity to the wholesale energy market.”

An environmental review was conducted pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, with the Town of Chateaugay acting as lead agency, and the Commission as an involved agency. The environmental reviews for the project analyzed potential environmental impacts on land use and zoning, visual resources, socioeconomic issues, traffic and transportation, noise, soils, geology, terrestrial and aquatic ecology, cultural and historic resources, effects on communications facilities, storm water management, impacts of construction, and proposed general and specific mitigation measures.

Noble Chateaugay plans to build 72 wind turbines, each rated at 1.5 megawatts. Noble Chateaugay electric lines will connect to a new substation under construction on a 7.34-acre parcel, which will tie into the existing 230 kV New York Power Authority Plattsburgh-Willis transmission line, providing access to the bulk transmission system. The 390-foot tall monopole wind turbines are proposed to be sited in a generally random arrangement across the eastern and central portions of the town.

According to the petition, the company will sell the output of its facilities exclusively at wholesale and will not be a retail supplier of electricity. The company anticipates selling such output in the spot markets administered by the New York Independent System Operator, or neighboring control areas. The company intends to sell environmental attributes, or renewable energy credits, to purchasers such as green energy marketers, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority or other customers.

Noble Chateaugay is a limited liability company owned by Noble Environmental Power, LLC. Noble is principally owned by JP Morgan Partners, a financial holding company. The petition states that Noble is a leading developer of clean, environmentally responsible renewable energy facilities providing benefits to the communities where they are located. Noble is actively developing wind energy projects at locations near that of the proposed facilities in adjacent towns of Clinton, Ellenburg, and Altona, and in Wyoming County in western New York State.

The company's draft environmental impact statement also included information and analysis of an additional 14 turbines, to produce 21 megawatts, in the adjoining Town of Belmont, Franklin County, which are proposed to be developed by the affiliate company Noble Belmont, LLC. Those turbines and associated electric lines, interconnection and metering facilities will be reviewed in a separate petition as an amendment to the previously approved Noble Ellenburg, LLC CPCN.

The Commission's decision today, when issued, will be available on the Commission's www.dps.state.ny.us Web site by accessing the File Room and searching for Case 07-E-0257. Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission decisions can also be obtained from the Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500).