

Attachment B

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND**

**THE APPLICATION OF DAN'S MOUNTAIN
WIND FORCE, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
TO CONSTRUCT A 59.5 MW WIND
ENERGY GENERATING FACILITY IN
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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Case No. _____

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DAVID K. FRIEND

ON BEHALF OF

DAN'S MOUNTAIN WIND FORCE, LLC

January 14, 2016

1 **Direct Testimony of David K. Friend**

2 **INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

3 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS?**

4 A. My name is David K. Friend. My business address is 645 E. Pittsburgh Street # 356,
5 Greensburg, PA 15601.

6 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER AND POSITION?**

7 A. I am the Chief Executive Officer of Laurel Renewable Partners, LLC (“Laurel”), a
8 developer of wind-powered renewable energy facilities. I also serve as Member Manager
9 of Dan’s Mountain Wind Force, LLC (“Dan’s Mountain”), the Applicant in this
10 proceeding. Dan’s Mountain is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Laurel.

11 **Q. WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT?**

12 A. I am responsible for overall project development, including obtaining necessary permits
13 and approvals.

14 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL
15 BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.**

16 A. I am a graduate of Penn State and Point Park Universities and hold a BS in Mechanical
17 Engineering Technology. Prior to cofounding Laurel Renewable Partners in May 2013, I
18 served as Chairman and CEO of US Wind Force, LLC from 2009-2013 and it’s Vice
19 President of Sales and Marketing from 2001-2009. Prior to joining US Wind Force, I was
20 employed by Allegheny Energy, Inc. (now a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corporation) for
21 more than 23 years. During my tenure with Allegheny, its predecessors and affiliates, I
22 served in a number of capacities, primarily in managing energy trading, risk management,
23 marketing, customer services, and engineering functions.

1 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?**

2 A. Yes. In Case No. 9164, regarding a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
3 (“CPCN”) exemption extension for the Dan’s Mountain Wind Project.

4 **Q. PLEASE STATE THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**
5 **PROCEEDING.**

6 A. The purpose of my testimony is to introduce the activities that are the subject of this
7 Application for a CPCN for the Dan’s Mountain Wind Project (the “Project”) and to
8 provide an overview of the purpose of the Project and of its associated impacts. My
9 testimony will also introduce the Direct Testimony of Allison Haraminac of Pinyon
10 Environmental, Inc., who is sponsoring the Environmental Review Document (“ERD”)
11 attached to and incorporated into the Application.

12 **OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT**

13 **Q. WHAT PROJECT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE APPLICATION?**

14 A. The Dan’s Mountain Wind Project consists of the construction and operation of up to a
15 59.5 MW (nominal) wind energy generating facility proposed to be located 3 to 4 miles
16 southeast of the City of Frostburg and approximately 7 miles southwest of the City of
17 Cumberland in Allegany County, Maryland.

18 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE DAN’S MOUNTAIN WIND PROJECT?**

19 A. The purpose of the Dan’s Mountain Wind Project is to contribute significant additional
20 wind generation resources to Maryland’s portfolio of clean, renewable generation,
21 consistent with the policy of the state. The Project will increase the state’s current wind-
22 generated electricity output and provide a source of in-state renewable energy credits that
23 can help meet the state’s Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. In doing so, it will help

1 to reduce Maryland's reliance upon power generated out of state, and contribute to the
2 stated goals and objectives of Section 7-702 of the Public Utilities Article of the Annotated
3 Code of Maryland.

4 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT.**

5 A. The Dan's Mountain Wind Project will involve the construction and operation of up to a
6 59.5-MW (nominal) wind energy generating facility. The Project has been in development
7 since 2001 and will include three arrays of wind turbines to be erected parallel to and
8 upwind of the northwesterly facing slope of Dan's Mountain. The Project will be
9 constructed entirely on private land. The specific site location was selected because of its
10 wind resource potential, favorable site characteristics, and minimal impact to the
11 environment.

12 The proposed wind energy facility will consist of 17 utility-scale turbines, each mounted
13 on a free-standing tubular tower to achieve the optimal high wind speed and capacity factor,
14 and connected to a pad-mounted transformer at its base. At present, turbine models are
15 expected to be General Electric (GE) 1.79-100, GE 2.4-107, or a combination of both
16 models; however, other models may be considered as wind turbine technology continues
17 to advance. While the Project is currently planned with 3 - GE 1.79-100 turbines plus
18 14 - GE 2.4-107 turbines (for a nominal capacity of 39 MW), the Project could be
19 constructed with 3.5 MW turbines in the same locations for a total of up to 59.5 MW of
20 capacity. Other than access roads, the turbines and turbine pads, a new on-site substation,
21 and electric lines/equipment, no permanent building, utility, or infrastructure construction
22 is planned as part of the Project.

23 **Q. WHEN IS THE APPLICANT SEEKING TO BEGIN THE PROJECT?**

1 A. Following approval of a CPCN, construction is anticipated to be initiated in Fall 2016 with
2 completion and operational startup in the Summer or Fall of 2017.

3 **OVERVIEW OF IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT**

4 **Q. HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE OVERALL ENVIRONMENTAL**
5 **IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT?**

6 A. As described in greater detail in the Direct Testimony of Allison Haraminac and the ERD,
7 the Dan's Mountain Wind Project provides substantial environmental benefits with
8 minimal environmental impacts. The Project will minimize pollution over alternative
9 power generating technologies in a number of ways that will result in lower environmental
10 impacts than these other power generation alternatives.

11 **Q. HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE OTHER IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH**
12 **THE PROJECT?**

13 A. The Project supports Maryland's energy, environmental, and economic goals, including as
14 codified in Maryland's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. The Project will have
15 additional positive impacts on the economics of the State of Maryland and Allegany
16 County by adding construction jobs and payrolls, increasing tax revenues, increasing the
17 demand for materials and services, and the subsequent increase in spending by employees.

18 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

19 A. Yes.