



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY

MINUTES
Of the Renewable Energy Tax Abatement Hearing of the
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY

AFN 12-0405SPV
Silver State Solar Power South, LLC

November 5, 2013

The Governor's Office of Energy held a public meeting on November 5, 2013, beginning at 10:30 AM. at the following location:

Governor's Office of Energy, 755 North Roop Street, Suite 202, Carson City, Nevada

Present at the hearing:

Paul Thomsen, Director of the Governor's Office of Energy

Suzanne Linfante, Governor's Office of Energy

Koryn Kendall, First Solar

Josh Hicks, Brownstein Farber Hyatt Schrek

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Director Paul Thomsen.

2. Director's comment: Director Thomsen stated that this was a hearing on the merits of Silver State Solar Power South. The application for partial abatement of taxes is for the operation of a 250 MW solar facility located on 3000 acres of BLM land in Clark County.

3. Public comment and discussion (1st period): Director Thomsen asked if anyone from the public sought to make a comment on the matter. There was no public comment.

4. Presentation of Evidence and Testimony: The Director submitted Exhibit 1, a packet of documents consisting of the pre-application of Silver State Solar Power South, LLC, the application, the fiscal note from the Nevada State Department of Taxation, the fiscal note from the Nevada Department of Administration, and the pre-filed testimony of Koryn Kendall, into evidence and asked if Silver State Solar Power South intended to call a witness to testify. Silver State Solar Power South called Koryn Kendall to testify in regards to the application.

Josh Hicks submitted a copy of the application letter to the Board of County Commissioners as evidence and the Director marked it as exhibit 2. Josh Hocks also submitted a copy of the press release regarding the sale of the First Solar project and it the Director marked it as exhibit 3.

The Director asked for witnesses to provide testimony in regards to the matter. Josh Hicks asked Koryn Kendall if the written testimony supplied was correct and based on the best of her knowledge in which Koryn Kendall said it was.

The Director asked if any other person wanted to be heard in regards to the matter to which he received no response. The Director asked if any person wished to add any closing remarks to which he received no response.

5. The Director stated his findings and conclusions based upon the substantial, reliable, and credible evidence presented in the exhibits and testimony.

As to NRS 701A.360 (1), the Director found that the applicant intends to locate within this State a facility for the generation of solar renewable energy, thus meeting the intent of the statute. As to NRS 701A.360(2), the Director found that the facility is not owned, operated, leased, or controlled by a government agency, thus meeting the requirement of the statute. The Director found that NRS 701A.365(1)(a)(1) has been met by this renewable energy project, as the facility is expected to continue in operation in this State for a period of at least 10 years and is expected to continue to meet the eligibility requirements for the abatement. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(b), the applicant has provided information supporting testimony that all the necessary state and local permits and licenses to construct and operate will be received, thus meeting the requirement of the statute. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(c), the applicant has provided testimony that no funding for facility is or will be provided by any governmental entity in this State for the acquisition, design or construction of the facility or for the acquisition of any land therefore, thus meeting the requirement of the statute. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(d)(1), the application states that the construction of the facility will employ 264 full-time employees during the second quarter of construction of which at least 50% will be Nevada residents. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(d)(2), the Director found that the total capital investment in the facility is estimated to be \$ 385,968,292, thus exceeding the \$10,000,000 capital investment required by the statute. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(d)(3), the Director found that this statute is met as the application states that the average hourly wage that will be paid by the facility to its employees in this State, excluding management and administrative employees, is approximately \$23.00, which is at least 110% of the average statewide hourly wage set by DETR. As to NRS 701A.365 (1)(d)(4), the Director found that this statute is met as the application states that the average hourly wage that will be paid by the facility to all of its construction employees working on the facility, excluding management and administrative employees, will be approximately \$36.00, which is at least 175% of the average statewide hourly wage set by DETR. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(d)(4)(I) and (II), the application states that the health insurance provided to the construction employees on the facility allows for the coverage of the dependents of the employees and will meet or exceed the standards established by the Director, thus meeting the requirement of the statute. As to NRS 701A.365(1)(f), the Director found that the benefits that will result to this State from the employment by the facility of the residents of this State and from capital investments by the facility in this State exceeds the loss of tax revenue that will result from the abatement, thus meeting the requirement of the statute.

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The Director found that the financial benefits to the state exceeded the abated amounts and provided each figure. The total benefits to the state of Nevada are \$473,285,818.60 and the total abatement is \$58,257,601.03.

The Director found that the partial abatement of sales and use tax and property tax did not apply during a time in which the facility was receiving an abatement for the same.

6. Approval of Application.

7. Explanation of Process: The Director explained that the applicant could meet with a representatives of the Governor's Office of Energy and the state department of taxation should there be any questions.

8. Public comment and discussion (2nd period): The Director asked if anyone had any public comment to which there was no response.

7. Adjournment: 10:50 A.M.