



755 North Roop Street, Suite 202
Carson City, NV 89701
Office: (775) 687-1850
Fax: (775) 687-1869

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY

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

AFN 18-0827G
AMOR IX, LLC
December 11, 2018

The Governor's Office of Energy held a public meeting on December 11, 2018, beginning at 1 PM. at the following location:

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

Present at the hearing:

Angela Dykema, Director of the Governor's Office of Energy
Laura Wickham, Governor's Office of Energy
David Noble, Governor's Office of Energy
Cory Draper, AMOR IX, LLC
John Perry, AMOR IX, LLC
Scott Scherer, Holland & Hart
Jaclyn Calicchio, Holland & Hart
Josh Nordquist, Ormat
Sorin Popa, Department of Taxation
John Schillo, Department of Taxation

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Director Angela Dykema. The Director stated that this was a hearing on the merits of the application for partial abatement of property taxes originally filed by AMOR IX, LLC updated on October 8, 2018. Application filing number 18-0827G. This is an application for a 21 MW geothermal facility located in Churchill County, NV.

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

3. Presentation of Evidence and Testimony: The Director submitted Exhibits A-F, a packet of documents consisting of: Exhibit A – Notice of Public Hearing, dated November 16, 2018; Exhibit B – A redacted application as filed with the Governor's Office of Energy on August 27, 2018 and updated on October 8, 2018; Exhibit C – Fiscal Impact of the partial abatement of Property Tax as required by NRS 701A.375-1 by the Nevada Department of Taxation, received on October 24,

2018; Exhibit D – Fiscal Impact of the partial abatement of Sales and Use Tax as required by NRS 701A.375-1 by the Nevada Department of Taxation received on October 10, 2018; Exhibit E – Fiscal Impact of the partial abatement as provided by the Governor’s Finance Office, required by NRS 701A.375-1, received on October 12, 2018; Exhibit F – Pre-filed Testimony of Josh Nordquist and Cory Draper;

The parties present introduced themselves.

The Director admitted Exhibits A-F into evidence in this matter.

The Director asked if there was any additional information to be submitted in this matter. Scott Scherer of Holland & Hart stated that the testimonies submitted should have had the resumes for Cory Draper and Josh Nordquist attached as well as the list of sub-contractors. These additional documents were admitted into evidence.

The Director asked whether anyone would like to make a closing statement, there were no closing statements.

The Director closed the evidentiary portion of the hearing and thanked everyone for their testimony.

4. The Director stated her 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 geothermal 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)(e)(1), the application states that the construction of the facility will employ 150 full-time employees during the second quarter of construction of which at least 50% will be Nevada residents.

As to NRS 701A.365(1)(e)(2), the Director found that the total capital investment in the facility is estimated to be approximately \$37,240,789, thus exceeding the \$3,000,000 capital investment required by the statute.

As to NRS 701A.365(1)(e)(3), the Director found that this statute is met as there will be 12 operational employees.

As to NRS 701A.365 (1)(e)(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 \$38.66, which is at least 175% of the average statewide hourly wage set by DETR of \$21.66.

As to NRS 701A.365(1)(e)(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.

As to NRS 701A.365(1)(g), the Director found that the facility is consistent with the State Plan for Economic Development developed by the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 231.053.

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 \$39,220,181 and the total abatement is \$4,944,109.

As to NRS 701A.370(1)(a)(3), The Director found that the partial abatement of property tax did not apply during a time in which the facility was receiving an abatement for the same, other than any partial abatement provided pursuant to NRS 361.4722.

As to NRS 701A.370(1)(b)(1)(III), The Director found that the abatement will not apply during any period in which the facility was receiving another abatement or exemption from local sales and use taxes, thus meeting the requirement of the statute.

Director Dykema questioned the requirements pertaining to NRS 701A.365(1)(e)(2) concerning the \$3,000,000 capital investment requirement. Laura Wickham replied and stated that the appropriate statute was stated for the record and the eligibility requirement is for a \$3,000,000 capital investment not \$10,000,000 due to the population size of Churchill County (less than 100,000). It was confirmed that the requirements of the cited statute were met by AMOR IX, LLC.

5. Approval of Application. The Director approved the application for the partial abatement of property taxes. The Director explained that after today's hearing, she will produce a written Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order. Once the Order is issued, the Director or her representative, representatives from the Nevada Department of Taxation, and appropriate representatives of AMOR IX, LLC may meet to go over the terms and conditions of the Abatement Agreement and after that meeting, we will execute the Abatement Agreement.

The Director stated that as a reminder, pursuant to NRS 701A.380, a partial abatement approved by the Director will terminate upon any determination by the Director that the facility has ceased to meet any eligibility requirements for the abatement.

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

7. Adjournment: 1:17 PM.