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September 14, 2021

### **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT MAIL**

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re: PETITION NO. 983 - BNE Energy Inc. Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 4.8 MW Wind Renewable Generating facility located on Flagg Hill Road, Colebrook Connecticut. Motion for Extension to Complete Construction of Wind Colebrook South.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

On behalf of BNE Energy Inc., I am hereby submitting one (1) original and fifteen (15) copies of a Motion for Extension to Complete Construction of the Wind Colebrook South wind renewable generating facility in connection with the above-referenced Petition.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions

Lee D. Hoffin

Sincerely,

Lee D. Hoffman

Enclosure

cc: Service List

 pullcom.com
 Bridgeport
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 Springfield
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 Westport
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### Petition 983 - Colebrook South

#### Certification

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed, first class postage prepaid, and/or via electronic mail to all parties and intervenors of record as follows:

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## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

PETITION OF BNE ENERGY INC. FOR A : PETITION NO. 983

DECLARATORY RULING FOR THE

LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION AND

OPERATION OF A 4.8 MW WIND : September 14, 2021

RENEWABLE GENERATING PROJECT ON FLAGG HILL ROAD IN COLEBROOK, CONNECTICUT ("WIND COLEBROOK SOUTH")

# PETITIONER BNE ENERGY INC.'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION

Petitioner BNE Energy Inc. ("BNE") hereby moves the Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") to grant a three-year extension until September 23, 2024 for the completion of construction of the Wind Colebrook South wind renewable generating facility located at 29 Flagg Hill Road and 17 Flagg Hill Road in Colebrook, Connecticut as provided for herein.

The Council issued its Decision and Order on June 2, 2011 approving the location, construction and maintenance of Wind Colebrook South subject to certain conditions including the following:

Unless otherwise approved by the Council, this Decision and Order shall be void if all construction authorized herein is not completed within four years of the effective date of this Decision and Order or within four years after all appeals of this Decision and Order have been resolved. Decision and Order, Condition 7 at 2.

The Council's Decision and Order was subsequently appealed to Superior Court by the plaintiffs FairwindCT, Inc. (FairwindCT), Stella Somers, Michael Somers and Susan Wagner, all

of whom were parties to the Siting Council proceeding. The Superior Court dismissed the appeal on October 1, 2012. The plaintiffs appealed the Superior Court decision to the Appellate Court, and the appeal was subsequently transferred to the Connecticut Supreme Court. On September 23, 2014 the Connecticut Supreme Court affirmed the judgments of the Superior Court and upheld the Council's Decision and Order.

On November 5, 2013, BNE filed a request for a Development and Management (D&M) Plan Modification for the construction, operations and maintenance of three GE 2.85 MW wind turbines and the D&M Plan Modification was approved by the Council on December 12, 2013. Wind Colebrook South constructed two of the three GE 2.85 MW wind turbines in 2015 and the turbines began commercial operations on November 4, 2015.

On March 6, 2020, the Council granted BNE's request for a Development and Management ("D&M") Plan Modification to an approval granted earlier in Petition 983 for the three wind turbines that were previously approved by the Council. A group of parties, namely Grant Swamp Group, Julia Gold, Jonathan Gold, FairwindCT and The Town of Colebrook opposed this modification to BNE's D&M Plan. On June 1, 2020, Julia Gold, Jonathan Gold, FairwindCT and the Grant Swamp Group filed a new petition for declaratory ruling (Petition No. 1408), again objecting to the Council's approval of the modifications to BNE's modified D&M Plan. The Town of Colebrook later joined Petition No. 1408.

As the Council is well aware, the Council denied the relief that was sought in Petition No. 1408, and those parties filed an appeal of the Council's Decision to the Superior Court on

January 19, 2021. That case is ongoing, and briefing related to that appeal has yet to be completed. Thus, for the foreseeable future, the project finds itself embroiled in additional litigation, which is beyond the project's ability to control.

In addition to this litigation, the recent and ongoing COVID 19 pandemic has affected business and personal lives in ways previously never seen or experienced. With that, there have been numerous unforeseen logistical delays, including worker shortages and supply chain issues.

Nonetheless, BNE is currently working on the third turbine. BNE entered into power purchase agreements with The Connecticut Light & Power Company, d/b/a/ Eversource Energy and The United Illuminating Company for the third turbine on June 20, 2017. BNE continues to advance the preliminary activities needed to construct the third turbine.

Pursuant to the Council's Decision and Order, BNE had four years from the date that all appeals of this Decision and Order have been resolved to complete construction of the project unless otherwise approved by the Council. The appeals of the Decision and Order were fully resolved on September 23, 2014 when the Connecticut Supreme Court issued its decision upholding the Council's Decision and Order. Therefore, in accordance with the Decision and Order, BNE had until September 23, 2018, which was four years from the date that all appeals were resolved, to complete construction activities unless otherwise approved by the Council. BNE timely filed a request for an extension of time to construct its third turbine until September 23, 2021, which the Council granted in due course.

Although BNE made progress on its efforts to construct the third turbine prior to September 23, 2021, more time is needed to complete construction due to events beyond BNE's control, including, but not limited to, the resolution of the pending litigation related to Petition 1408 and the impacts on construction associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, BNE is hereby requesting that the Council grant BNE a three-year extension to September 23, 2024 for the completion of construction of the Wind Colebrook South facility. The requested extension should be sufficient time for all construction activities associated with the third turbine and related equipment to be completed.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons described herein, BNE respectfully requests that the Council grant this Motion for an Extension to Complete Construction of Wind Colebrook South.

Respectfully submitted,

BNE ENERGY INC.

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Its Attorney