

**BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE )  
COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO’S APPLICATION )  
FOR APPROVAL OF A 345 KV TRANSMISSION )  
LINE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES PURSUANT )  
TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY ACT, )**

**Case No. 18-00243-UT**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO, )  
Applicant. )**

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

**NOTICE** is hereby given of the following matters pending before the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (“NMPRC” or “Commission”):

On August 10, 2018, Public Service Company of New Mexico (“PNM”) filed an Application and supporting direct testimonies in the above captioned case in accordance with Sections 62-9-1, 62-9-3, 62-9-3.2, and 62-9-6 of the Public Utility Act (“PUA”) and 17.1.2.9 NMAC and 17.9.592 NMAC. PNM seeks authorizations for the construction and operation of a new 345 kV transmission line project and associated facilities located in Santa Fe and Sandoval counties, New Mexico, referred to as the “BB2 Project”. PNM asserts the BB2 Project will expand PNM’s existing transmission capacity and parallel existing transmission facilities into New Mexico’s eastern plains so that new wind farms can deliver renewable energy to PNM’s system and can access regional energy markets.

In accordance with Sections 62-9-1(C) and 62-9-3(K) of the PUA, the Commission may approve PNM’s requests for CCN and location approvals without formal hearing if no protest is filed within sixty (60) days after PNM publishes notice of the Application in the case. PNM asks that the Commission waive a formal hearing if no written protests are timely filed, and further requests that the Commission rule promptly on PNM’s Application within nine months.

Specifically, PNM requests that the Commission enter a Final Order that grants the following approvals:

1. Issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and determination of the ratemaking principles and rate treatment of the costs of the BB2 Project;
2. Location Approval of the BB2 Project's transmission lines and facilities; and
3. A determination that a minimum 150-foot right-of-way width is necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed 345-kV transmission line.

PNM's Application states that the BB2 Project is needed to deliver renewable power from existing and new wind generation in eastern New Mexico. Currently, several wind farms are connected to PNM's BB line, extending from Albuquerque east to the Clovis-Portales area of eastern New Mexico. The current maximum transmission capacity for the BB Line is 1,000 MW, and the BB Line is fully subscribed to its maximum capacity. To accommodate additional delivery of renewable power, including the output of the 166 MW La Joya wind facility approved by the Commission in Case No. 18-0009-UT, PNM asserts that it must expand the capacity on its transmission system. PNM states the BB2 Project is the most cost effective solution, with an estimated cost of \$85.0 million, including AFUDC of approximately \$3.5 million. PNM requests authorization to recover the reasonable actual costs through its rates in future rate cases.

Further information regarding this case can be obtained by contacting PNM or the Commission at the addresses and telephone numbers provided below. The Commission has assigned Case No. 18-00243-UT to this proceeding and all inquiries or written comments concerning this matter should refer to that case number.

The present procedural schedule for this case is as follows:

- a. PNM shall post this Notice on its public website and shall publish notice of this proceeding in a newspaper of general circulation in Sandoval and Santa Fe Counties no later than September 6, 2018.
- b. On or before October 5, 2018, the Commission Utility Division staff (“Staff”) shall file a response advising the Commission on Staff’s position as to the merits of the Application and the need for a public hearing.
- c. On or before November 5, 2018 any person objecting to the requested approvals shall file a written Protest specifying the grounds for protest and demonstrating the need for a formal hearing on PNM’s Application. If no written Protests are timely filed, the Commission may vacate and waive a formal hearing on this matter.
- d. On or before November 5, 2018 any person desiring to intervene to become a party (“intervenor”) in this case must file a motion for leave to intervene in conformity with NMPRC Rules of Procedure, 1.2.2.23(A) and (B) NMAC.
- e. Staff and any intervenor testimony shall be filed by October 19, 2018.
- f. Rebuttal testimony shall be filed by October 26, 2018.
- g. If written protests are filed that demonstrate the need for a formal hearing on this matter, such public hearing shall be held beginning on December 5 2018, commencing at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter the end of the Commission open meeting on December 5, 2018 at the offices of the Commission, P.E.R.A. Building, 4th floor 1120 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and continuing on succeeding days, as determined necessary. The hearing may be vacated and waived if no written Protests are filed.

The procedural dates and requirements of this case are subject to further order of the Commission or Hearing Examiner.

The Application, together with supporting pre-filed direct testimony and any attachments and related papers, may be examined by any interested person at:

PNM's website (<http://www.PNM.com/regulatory>);

NMPRC's website (<http://www.nmprc.state.nm.us/general-counsel/caselookup.html>).

Any interested person may examine PNM's Application and all other pleadings, testimony, exhibits and other documents filed in the public record for this case at the Commission's address set out below or at the offices of PNM at the following address:

Public Service Company of New Mexico  
414 Silver Ave. SW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102  
Telephone: (505) 241-2700

Pursuant to 17.9.592.13 NMAC, the Application and supporting pre-filed direct testimony and attachments may also be examined by any interested person at:

Santa Fe Public Library  
145 Washington Avenue  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Martha Liebert Town of Bernalillo Public Library  
124 Calle Melinche  
Bernalillo, NM 87004

The Commission's Rules of Procedure, 1.2.2 NMAC shall apply to this case except as modified by order of the Commission or Hearing Examiner. A copy of such Rules may be obtained from the offices of the Commission and such Rules are available at the official NMAC website, <http://164.64.110.134/nmac/nmac-titles>.

Any person whose testimony has been filed shall attend the hearing and submit to examination under oath.

Any interested person may appear at the time and place of the hearing and make written or oral comment pursuant to 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC without becoming an intervenor. Comments shall not be considered as evidence in this case. Written comments, which shall reference NMPRC Case No. 18-00243-UT, also may be sent to the Commission at the following address:

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission  
P.E.R.A. Building  
1120 Paseo de Peralta  
P.O. Box 1269  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1269  
Telephone: (888) 427-5772

Interested persons should contact the Commission for confirmation of the hearing date, time and place since hearings are occasionally rescheduled and may be vacated in this instance.

Anyone filing pleadings, testimony and other documents in this case may file them either in person at the Commission's docketing office in the P.E.R.A. Building in Santa Fe, New Mexico, or by mail to the Commission's address at P.O. Box 1269, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1269, and must serve copies thereof on all parties of record and the Commission's Utility Division Staff ("Staff") in the manner indicated on the Certificate of Service for this case. All filings shall be e-mailed to Staff and the parties on the date they are filed with the Commission. All filings shall be e-mailed to the Commission's Office of General Counsel, at michaelc.smith@state.nm.us. Additional details regarding this proceeding and its procedural requirements are set forth in the Order Requiring Notice of Application and Staff Response issued August 22, 2018.

Individuals with a disability who are in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing, may contact the Commission's docketing office at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. The Commission's docketing office may be reached at (505) 827-4526. Public documents

associated with the hearing can be provided in various accessible forms for disabled individuals. Requests for summaries or other types of accessible forms also should be addressed to the Utility Division at (505) 827-6941.

ISSUED at Santa Fe, New Mexico this 22nd day of August, 2018.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION