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County of Scotland

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Board of Commissioners
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Jan 03 2020

North Carolina Utilities Commission
Attn: Mr. Chris Ayers
4326 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

December 9, 2019

Re: Friesian Holdings CPCN, Docket Number: EMP-105 Sub 0

Dear Mr. Ayers:

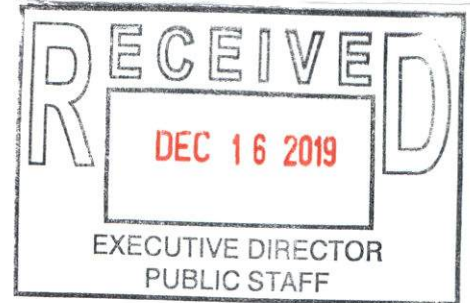
The County Commission of Scotland County took action on December 2, 2019 to offer its support for the CPCN requested by Friesian Holdings, LLC (Docket: EMP-105 sub 0). Scotland County is home to some of the earliest utility scale solar projects in the State of North Carolina. Over the last seven years, our County has gained experience with the proper siting of solar projects and has seen important benefits from an expanded tax base and workforce development that resulted from their construction. Unfortunately, in recent years, new solar investment has dramatically declined. We understand that a critical barrier to continued investment in Scotland County is the need to upgrade 60+ miles of Duke Energy's regional infrastructure at a cost of about \$225 Million. Scotland County supports the timely construction of these upgrades. These upgrades are necessary for our community to participate in the renewable energy transition planned by Duke Energy and the State of North Carolina.

The County Commission also believes that solar investment utilizes Scotland County's competitive advantages relative to other regions of the State. These include ample open land well suited for cost efficient solar construction, a ready workforce with solar experience, and a high solar resource. Solar investment also provides Scotland County farmers with an alternate source of income and better use for unproductive or high-risk land.

We respectfully ask that you approve the Friesian Holdings CPCN.

Sincerely,

Bob Davis, Chair
Scotland County Board of Commissioners





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SCOTLAND COUNTY MANAGER
P.O. Box 489
LAURINBURG, NORTH CAROLINA 28353



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