

PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
ELLEN BALFREY
ON BEHALF OF TIMBERMILL WIND, LLC

NCUC DOCKET NO. EMP-118, SUB 0

INTRODUCTION

1
2 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, TITLE AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

3 A. My name is Ellen Balfrey. I am Senior Vice President of Finance for Apex
4 Clean Energy, Inc. My business address is 310 4th St. NE, Suite 300, Charlottesville, VA
5 22902.

6 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL**
7 **EXPERIENCE.**

8 A. I have worked at Apex Clean Energy, Inc. for 5 years and have been in
9 the renewable energy industry for over 15 years, working in various roles for wind and
10 solar project development companies and a wind turbine manufacturer. I graduated from
11 Yale University with a BA in philosophy.

12 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYMENT**
13 **RESPONSIBILITIES.**

14 A. As Senior Vice President of Finance, my current responsibilities include
15 managing the team that secures financing for renewable energy projects within Apex
16 Clean Energy Holdings, LLC's ("Apex") portfolio. This includes directing financing
17 activity for the Timbermill Wind, LLC ("Timbermill") facility in Chowan County, NC (the
18 "Facility").

19 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?**

20 A. No.

21 **Q. WERE YOU INVOLVED IN PREPARING THE FINANCIAL**
22 **INFORMATION INCLUDED IN TIMBERMILL'S APPLICATION IN THIS DOCKET?**

23 A. Yes.

24 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

25 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the Application for Certificate
26 of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a merchant plant filed by Timbermill,
27 and to provide the Commission with background information about the financial
28 capability of Apex and the financing plan for the Facility.

29 **FINANCIAL CAPABILITY**

30 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE APEX.**

31 A. Apex develops, constructs, and operates utility-scale wind and solar
32 power facilities across North America. Apex has one of the most experienced renewable
33 energy development teams in the industry and can internally manage the entire
34 development cycle from site identification through commercial operation. Our mission-
35 driven team of more than 250 renewable energy experts uses a data-focused approach
36 and an unrivaled portfolio of projects to create solutions for the world's most innovative
37 and forward-thinking customers. Headquartered in Charlottesville, Virginia, Apex's work
38 has led to over \$9 billion in clean energy investment—equal to nearly 7 GW of clean
39 energy being added to the grid—and we operate more than 2 GW from our remote
40 monitoring facility, also in Charlottesville.

41 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN APEX AND**
42 **TIMBERMILL.**

43 A. Timbermill is a single-member managed limited liability company and an
44 indirect subsidiary of Apex. Apex provides experienced personnel and capital to develop
45 and source financing for its project subsidiaries, including Timbermill. As a special
46 purpose limited liability company, Timbermill directly owns or will own the assets
47 necessary for the development, construction, and operation of the Facility, including
48 project components and contractual rights.

49

50 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF APEX.**

51 A. Apex has the financial capability and experience to build, own, and
52 operate wind facilities, including the Facility. This includes arranging adequate
53 assurances, guarantees, financing and insurance for the Facility's development,
54 construction and operation through a combination of Apex's balance sheet, corporate
55 lenders, and corporate financing partners. The most recent audited balance sheet and
56 income statement for Apex Holdings have been provided, under seal, as Confidential
57 CPCN Application Addendum 2.

58 **Q. HOW WILL THE FACILITY BE FINANCED?**

59 A. Prior to start of construction, the Facility will primarily be financed on
60 Apex's balance sheet. In addition, Apex may make use of various lender facilities it has
61 access to that provide Apex with the ability to use a surety bond or letter of credit to
62 provide security instruments that may be required for the Facility. As the Facility nears
63 the start of construction, Apex may obtain a construction loan that will provide funding for
64 the majority of the capital costs of the Facility or arrange for the sale of the Facility at the
65 start of construction or at commercial operation. Apex is highly experienced in raising
66 corporate and project-level financing in support of developing, constructing, and
67 operating renewable energy facilities, as well as partnering with national and
68 international companies seeking to own renewable energy projects.

69 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

70 A. Yes.