

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-1611-INV

Investigation pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 30 and 209 into whether the petitioner initiated site preparation at Apple Hill in Bennington, Vermont, for electric generation in violation of 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(2)	
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Order entered: 06/29/2020

ORDER REQUESTING IMMEDIATE COMMENTS FROM THE PARTIES

On Friday, June 26, 2020, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) held a hearing in this matter. At the end of that hearing, around 1:30 p.m., the Commission announced that it was granting a temporary restraining order (“TRO”) against further tree-clearing activities by Allco Renewable Energy Limited, PLH Apple Hill Solar LLC, and PLH Chelsea Solar LLC and its affiliates, subsidiaries, and contractors (collectively, “Allco” or “petitioner”). Later that same day, the Commission issued a written order on the temporary restraining order. The next day, Saturday, June 27, 2020, at 12:15 p.m., Annette Smith of Vermonters for a Clean Environment emailed the following public comment to the Commission, the Department of Public Service (“Department”), and the Agency of Natural Resources (“ANR”): “Just got word that the logger is on the Apple Hill Site in Bennington clearing the land in violation of the TRO issued last night.” The Commission has uploaded this public comment into ePUC.

The parties are requested to file comments in response to Ms. Smith’s email by noon, tomorrow, June 30, 2020.

In particular, the Commission directs Allco to answer the following questions:

1. Was there any activity in the Apple Hill area in Bennington, Vermont, by your contractor, Robert Kobelia, or anyone else after 1:30 p.m. on June 26, 2020, when the Commission announced that it was issuing a temporary restraining order? If so, when did that activity occur and what was the nature of that activity?

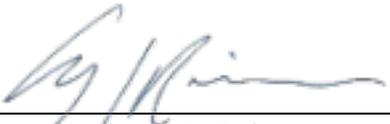
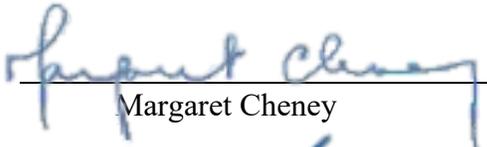
2. When, if ever, was the June 26, 2020, temporary restraining order communicated to Mr. Kobelia? If it was not communicated immediately after 1:30 p.m. on June 26, 2020, what is the explanation for the delay?

The Commission also requests that the Department and ANR inform the Commission as to whether, in response to Ms. Smith's public comment, either of these agencies has sent (or plans to send) any state personnel to the Apple Hill site to assess and report on the nature of any activity occurring there.

Party comments and responses shall be filed in ePUC by noon, tomorrow, June 30, 2020.

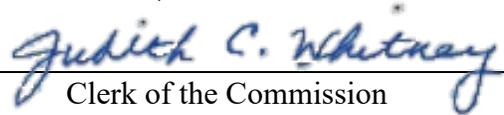
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 29th day of June, 2020.

 _____)) PUBLIC UTILITY))
Anthony Z. Roisman)	
_____)	
 _____)) COMMISSION))
Margaret Cheney)	
_____)	
 _____)) OF VERMONT))
Sarah Hofmann)	
_____)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 29, 2020

Attest: 
Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PUC Case No. 20-1611-INV - SERVICE LIST

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