



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro CA 92243
www.blm.gov/office/el-centro-field-office

December 3, 2021

In Reply Refer To
CACA 051552/2800(P)
CA670.60

Transmitted Electronically

NOTICE

Pattern Energy Group	:	Ocotillo Wind Project
Rita Brady, Asset Manager	:	CACA 051552
1201 Louisiana St. Suite 3200	:	
Houston TX 77002	:	

Acceptance of Return to Service Plan

Review of Return to Service Plan

On October 25, 2021, Pattern Energy Group (Pattern) submitted its Return to Service (RTS) Plan as requested in the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Notice of Temporary Suspension of Operations issued September 20, 2021. As noted in correspondence dated October 27, 2021, the BLM engaged the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) to provide technical assistance in reviewing the RTS Plan. The BLM issued a request for additional information to support the RTS Plan on November 15, 2021. Pattern submitted its written response on November 17, 2021, and a question and answer session between BLM, NREL, Pattern, and Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy (SGRE) was held via conference call on November 22, 2021.

On November 23, 2021, NREL submitted email correspondence stating that based on initial discussions, the NREL team supports moving forward with the RTS Plan as submitted.

The RTS Plan is being accepted prior to the final confirmation of the Root Cause Analysis (RCA). Although NREL has agreed with the findings in the RCA, the submission of test results being performed by SGRE on the “bacon strip” from T105-blade A is necessary to confirm the RCA. Upon completion of testing, results shall be provided to NREL through the BLM.

Process for Returning Turbines to Service

This notice does not lift the temporary suspension of operations for the entire project. The process for returning individual turbines to service is as follows:

- A RTS Package will be completed and submitted to the BLM for each turbine at the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility (OWEF).
- The RTS Package will include documentation of completed inspections in accordance with the OWEF proposed RTS Plan dated October 22, 2021 (incorporated by reference).
- Each RTS Package will contain an RTS Form signed by authorized representatives of SGRE and OWEF/Pattern.
- The BLM's Authorized Officer will review each RTS Package and authorize, by written notice, individual turbines to be removed from temporary suspension of operations and returned to service.
- Any modifications to the RTS Plan shall require the review and approval of the BLM's Authorized Officer.

Note that all other terms and conditions of the Record of Decision and Right-of-Way grant (CACA 051552) continue to apply.

Thank you for your adherence to the temporary suspension of operations order, the process to return turbines to service outlined above, and for your continuing cooperation with the BLM.

I can be reached at 760-337-4400 or please contact Carrie Sahagun, BLM Assistant Field Manager, at 760-337-4437, if you have any questions.

Ryan Chatterton
Field Manager

Cc:

- NREL, Owen Roberts – Transmitted Electronically
- Pattern Energy, Ryan Pierce – Transmitted Electronically