

Tab Item 12

Request For Waiver of Job Creation Requirement

May 6, 2016

Superintendent Bill Alcorn
Haskell Consolidated Independent School District
605 N. Ave. E
Haskell, TX 79521

Re: Chapter 313 Job Waiver Request

Dear Superintendent Alcorn,

Please consider this letter to be Willow Springs Windfarm, LLC's formal request to waive the minimum new job creation requirement, as provided under Texas Tax Code 313.025(f-1).

The governing body of a school district may waive the new jobs creation requirement in Section 313.021(2)(A)(iv)(b) or 313.051(b) and approve an application if the governing body makes a finding that the jobs creation requirement exceeds the industry standard for the number of employees reasonably necessary for the operation of the facility of the property that is described in this application. Wind energy projects create a large number of full-time jobs during the construction phase, but these jobs are temporary by nature. Once the project is in operation, a small crew of full-time employees will maintain and operate the facility. Based upon our experience in the wind industry and the general wind industry standard of one job for every twenty (20) wind turbines, we would expect that six (6) employees, adjusted up from the estimated five (5), would be needed to operate a 230 MW facility with 100 wind turbines, and we can commit to creating six (6) full-time positions to fill those needs. All would be qualifying jobs as described in Section 313.021(3) of the Texas Tax Code.

The applicant requests that the Haskell CISD's Board of Trustees make such a finding and waive the job creation requirement. This waiver request is in line with industry standards for the job requirements for a wind energy facility of this size, as evidenced by limitation agreement applications that have been filed by other wind energy developers, and by documentation related to the development and operation of solar generation facilities.

The project stands to provide significant benefits to the community with respect to increased tax base and the ongoing royalty payments it will make to local landowners.

Kind Regards,

Will Furgeson
Development Director
Willow Springs Windfarm, LLC