



August 6, 2021

Hon. Marybel Batjer,
President
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue,
San Francisco, California 94102

Subject: Support for the Application of DCR Transmission, L.L.C. (“DCRT”) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Ten West Link Project
Ten West Link 500 kV Transmission line – Docket A.16-10-012

Dear President Batjer:

The American Council on Renewable Energy (“ACORE”) expresses its support for DCRT’s Ten West Link 500 kV transmission line project (“Ten West Link” or “Project”), and respectfully requests that the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) approve DCRT’s Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) for the Project.

Founded in 2001, ACORE is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit organization that unites finance, policy and technology to accelerate the transition to a renewable energy economy. ACORE has been at the forefront of efforts to develop renewable energy across America and has urged policymakers to address the pressing need for new transmission resources to enable full development and integration of renewable projects into the California transmission system. ACORE is supporting Ten West Link because, in addition to providing economic benefits to California ratepayers and enhancing the reliability of the bulk transmission network, the project will provide the transmission infrastructure necessary to facilitate the development and integration of solar energy and energy storage projects in the Southwest. These projects provide near-term capability to serve the electric demand in the Golden State with clean and reliable energy.

DCRT, a privately held independent transmission company, is in the late stages of permitting the Ten West Link project, a 125-mile long, 500 kV transmission line connecting the renewable energy-rich region in central Arizona to electric users in Southern California. The symbiotic relationship between new transmission infrastructure and the development of new renewable energy regions is well-established; a fact that will hold true in the case of this project as well. The route traversed by Ten West Link will pass through a region in the country with some of the best solar energy resources; an area where, to date, the development of renewable energy projects has not reached its full potential due to a need for greater transmission infrastructure. The development of significant renewable generation and energy storage projects in the solar-rich region around Ten West Link would be significantly enhanced by the new



transmission capacity afforded by the project. Moreover, Ten West Link will lower costs for consumers by enhancing competition among energy suppliers.

The economic and reliability benefits of Ten West Link have already been quantified by the California Independent System Operator (“CAISO”). New transmission infrastructure will improve power system economics by reducing transmission congestion and losses, provide California Load Serving Entities access to diverse energy resources, and enhance operational flexibility of the transmission power grid - thereby helping the Golden State power system operator run the transmission grid in a reliable, efficient and effective manner.

As you well know, the development of transmission resources to unlock the potential of renewables is a growing national priority. The President and the Congress are working on broad infrastructure legislation that includes calls for expanded transmission. A study by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology indicates that an aggressive national transmission build-out will further slash the costs of reaching a zero-carbon grid with wind, solar and battery technologies that are cost-effective today.

The variety and scale of economic, reliability and public policy benefits associated with Ten West Link make it an excellent example of how California can meet its aggressive renewable and clean energy targets and help the nation move towards a zero-carbon electric sector. We urge the Commission to give this project every consideration and to advance its progress expeditiously.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory S. Wetstone".

Gregory Wetstone
President & CEO
American Council on Renewable Energy

cc: Hon. Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner
Hon. Martha Guzman Aceves, Commissioner
Hon. Clifford Rechtschaffen, Commissioner
Hon. Darcie L. Houck, Commissioner

ALJ Daphne Lee
All Parties of Record A. 16-10-012