

# **Filing Receipt**

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Aldert Energy, Consulting LLC 16479 Dallas Parkway Ste. 470 Addison, TX 75001 July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Filing Clerk, Central Records Division Public Utility Commission of Texas 1701 N. Congress Avenue PO Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326 Telephone: 512-936-7180

RE: ANNUAL REPORT FORM FOR AGGREGATORS - Alden Energy Consulting LLC, Project No. 26280

To Whom It May Concern,

Please find an enclosed original and three copies of Alden Energy Consulting LLC Annual Aggregator Report Form and addendum for reporting period July 1st, 2022 through June 30th, 2023 to be filed in Project No. 26280. I am hopeful this covers everything, but please let me know if anything additional is required. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

I IA

Sincerely.

Travis H. Cooke Managing Member

Alden Energy Consulting LLC

972-462-8800

(Enclosures)

# ANNUAL REPORT FORM FOR

### **AGGREGATORS**

FOR REPORTING PERIOD OF July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
FOR AGGREGATOR REGISTRATION NO. 80421
FILED IN PROJECT NO. 26280, Aggregator Annual Reports

#### Part A: General Information

Part A is applicable to all Aggregators operating in the State of Texas.

- 1. **Aggregator Names:** Provide the Aggregator's legal name under which it is registered with the Commission, as well as any other trade or commercial names under which the Aggregator provides services.
- 2. Contact Person for this Annual Report: Provide name, title, address, telephone number, facsimile transmission number, and e-mail address.
- 3. Aggregator Classification. Under which classifications is the Aggregator currently registered: Class I, Class II.A, Class II.B, Class II.C, and/or Class II.D?
- 4. Scope of Registration. If a Class I, Class II.A, or Class II.D, did the Aggregator register pursuant to §25.111(f)(1), the Standard Registration allowing aggregation of customers of any size, or pursuant to §25.111(f)(2), the Alternative Limited Registration (limited to customers contracting for 250 kilowatts peak demand)?
- 5. Activity with Customers. Which of the following statements describe the Aggregator, the services it performs, and the customers it serves? (List all that are applicable: 5.a, 5.b, 5.c, 5.d, and/or 5.e). If more than one of these statements apply, explain how the Aggregator separates and distinguishes each activity from the other(s) to ensure compliance with § 25.111(d), which specifies different operational parameters for each class of aggregator.
  - a. A person<sup>2</sup> that aggregates private<sup>3</sup> customers.
  - b. A person that aggregates municipalities and/or other political subdivisions.
  - A political subdivision corporation<sup>4</sup> that aggregates municipalities and/or other political subdivisions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The definition of "person" includes an Individual, Partnership, Corporation, or Mutual or Cooperative Association, but not a Political Subdivision Corporation, municipal corporation, electric cooperative, county, hospital district, or other political subdivision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In this question, "private" customers are any that are not a Political Subdivision Corporation, municipal corporation, county, hospital district, or other political subdivision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A Political Subdivision Corporation is a specific arrangement among municipalities and/or other political subdivisions that is specified in LGC 304.001.

Pursuant to PUC Substantive Rule 25.111

- A municipality or other political subdivision that aggregates its citizens. d.
- An administrator of citizen aggregation. e.
- REP Affiliation. Identify any relationship(s) that the Aggregator has with REPs. 6. [25.111(b), (f)(1)(K), and (k)]
- Registration Changes: Have there been any changes since the Aggregator's last Annual 7. Report in the information registered with the Commission? If yes, provide the date and project number under which each change was filed with the Commission and briefly describe the change(s). In addition, list any pending proceedings pertaining to the Aggregator's registration.

# Part B: Technical and Customer Protection Information

Class I, II.A and II.D Aggregators must answer only Questions 1-10. Class II.B Aggregators must answer only Questions 11 – 15. Class II.C Aggregators must answer only Questions 16-20.

## Class I. II.A and Class II.D Aggregators:

- Aggregation Information. Complete the attached Chart A-Aggregation Information, 1. concerning customer types, contracted REPs, and compensation sources for each aggregation performed by the Aggregator. [§§25.111(f)(1)(F) and (M)]
- Marketing Policies and Practices. 2.
  - Without supplying actual marketing materials, provide a summary explanation of the Aggregator's marketing policies and procedures utilized to obtain customer load. Include mention of how and when the Aggregator discloses its compensation sources in relation to executing contracts and, if compensation is rebated from the REP, whether and how that compensation is reflected on the customer's retail electric bill from the REP. [§25.111(b) and (i)(2) and 25.474]
  - b. List any and all Internet addresses used by the Aggregator or its third party contractor or marketing agent to market or solicit or obtain aggregated load and/or to provide aggregation services. [§§25.111(b) and (i)(2) and 25.474]
  - If the Aggregator contracted with or relied on a third party and/or marketing agent to obtain aggregated customer load or to otherwise provide aggregation services, list each person or company's name, contact person, physical address, telephone number, and date of contract. [§§25.111(b) and (i)(2) and 25.474]
- Licensure Status. Has the Aggregator had any registration/license/permit suspended or 3. revoked in any state or by a federal authority? If yes, provide the (a) action type, (b) docket/citation number, (c) court/agency, and (d) final disposition. [§25.111(j)(6)].
- Complaint History. Provide a summary of complaints filed since the last report against 4. the Aggregator or against any affiliates of the Aggregator that provide utility-related

- services<sup>5</sup> with any state or federal regulatory agency in states other than Texas, including (a) Aggregator or affiliate name, (b) regulatory agency, (c) total number of complaints, and (d) complaint types (e.g., customer service, unauthorized change of utility, unauthorized charge). [§§25.111(f)(1)(Q) and (i)(2)]
- 5. Legal Disclosures. Since the last report, has the Aggregator or its principals, officers or directors been (1) convicted or found liable for fraud, theft, larceny, deceit, or violations of any customer protection or deceptive trade laws in any state, (2) convicted for violation of any state or federal criminal laws, (3) found liable for violation of any state or federal civil laws, or (4) penalized by any attorney general, state or federal regulatory agency? If yes, provide the (a) violation type, (b) docket/citation number, (c) court/agency, and (d) final disposition including penalty assessed. [§§25.111(f)(1)(0) and (i)(7)]
- 6. Other Registrations. For Aggregators whose legal structure requires registration with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts or with the Texas Office of the Secretary of State (SOS): List and explain any instances where the Aggregator was "not in good standing" with the Comptroller's office or any instances where the Aggregator failed to maintain "active status" with the SOS. Include explanation of any corrective action taken. [§25.111(f)(1)(G)-(H)]
- 7. Landlord-Tenant Arrangements. Have any aggregations during the reporting period involved agreements between the Aggregator and property owners/managers for energy services to their tenants? If yes, explain the relationship and state how the tenant's independent choice of electricity provider is preserved by the arrangement. Include all supporting documentation.
- 8. **Billing Agent.** Does the Aggregator function as a billing agent for any REP (that is, does the Aggregator process the REP's billings for energy services to its retail customers)? If yes, list the REPs for which the Aggregator serves as a billing agent.
- 9. Locations Served. List each zip code and census tract in which at least one customer is served by a REP via a contract that was negotiated by the Aggregator.
- 10. Estimated Savings. Provide an estimate of the total annual savings achieved by the Aggregator for retail electric customers in relation to (1) the Price to Beat and (2) the amounts paid in 2001. Explain the assumptions and methods used in the calculation.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.111(f)(Q)(i) characterizes "utility-related services" as those services "such as telecommunications, electric, gas, water, or cable service."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Due to the complex structure of many electric rates, a comparison of savings achieved by one rate over another usually involves computing a customer's bill under each rate structure, assuming a single load/usage pattern. Therefore, the instructions for this reporting requirement are as follows: At issue are the total charges (including, for example, transmission and distribution charges, non-bypassable charges, and aggregator fees) for which the electric customer will be held responsible. For each of the aggregation contracts executed by the Aggregators in the reporting year, select the most relevant 12-month historical usage data available (the one used in preparation of the aggregation contract is likely suitable). Calculate the total annual dollar amounts that would be due under (a) the terms of the aggregation contract, (b) the PTB, and (c) 2001 rates. Across all of the aggregation contracts executed in the reporting year, sum the totals calculated for each under (a), (b), and (c) above. Using these totals, calculate (1) the percent savings in relation to PTB as [(b)-(a)]\*100-(b), and (2) the percent savings in

Pursuant to PUC Substantive Rule 25.111

[NOTE: Class II.D Aggregators do not need to report the Question B-10 information for the citizen aggregation programs they administer; rather, in the course of such administration, they may assist the associated Class II.C Aggregator(s) in reporting the information.]

#### Class H.B (Political Subdivision Corporation) Aggregators:

- Membership List. List the municipalities and/or other political subdivisions currently 11. represented by the political subdivision corporation,
- List of REPs. List each REP with which the political subdivision corporation has 12. contracted to provide energy services for the public facilities of two or more of its members.
- 13. Locations Served: List the zip codes and census tracts included in the boundaries of the member political subdivisions that are served with electricity by function of the Aggregator.
- **Estimated Savings.** Provide an estimate of the total annual savings achieved by the 14. Aggregator for its member political subdivisions in relation to (1) the Price to Beat and (2) the amounts paid in 2001. Explain the assumptions and methods used in the calculation.7
- 15. **Taking Title.** Does the Class II.B Aggregator take title to electricity? If yes, list the business names under which the Aggregator resold electricity,

#### Class II.C Aggregators (Political Subdivisions Conducting Citizen Aggregation):

- Participation Level. How many residents were participating in the Aggregator's citizen 16. aggregation program as of the end of the reporting period (last June 30)?
- 17. Subcontracting the Administration. Has the Aggregator contracted with a third party or another aggregator for the administration of its aggregation of electricity and energy services purchased for its requesting citizens, pursuant to Local Government Code § 304.002(b)? If yes, provide the third party administrator's name, address, telephone number and, if also an aggregator, its Commission registration  $[\S\S25.111(d)(4)(B)(C) \text{ and } (e)(8); LGC \S304.002]$
- 18. Verification of Customer Request. Has the Aggregator obtained and maintained on file verifiable documentation that the citizens who participated in the aggregation expressly, knowingly, and voluntarily elected to participate in the Aggregator's citizen aggregation program? If yes, provide a copy of the consent form used for signature, script used for audio verification, or any other verification documentation. [§§25.111(d)(4)(D) & (e)(8)].

relation to 2001 rates as [(c)-(a)]\*100+(c). If a different methodology for estimating sayings is necessitated by the Aggregator's data or business systems, the Aggregator's explanation should include the ways in which its calculations conform or deviate from this model and/or any assumptions necessary to calculate its estimated savings to retail electric customers.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS	2022		2023
Aggregator ANNUAL REPORT FOR REPORTING PERIOD OF July,		through June,	
Pursuant to PUC Substantive Rule 25.111			

19. Locations Served: List each zip code and census tract in which at least one resident participates in the Aggregator's citizen aggregation program.

5

20. **Estimated Savings.** Provide an estimate of the total annual savings achieved by the Aggregator for residential customers that participate in the Aggregator's citizen aggregation program in relation to (1) the Price to Beat and (2) the amounts paid in 2001. Explain the assumptions and methods used in the calculation.<sup>8</sup>

#### Part C: Financial Information

Part C is applicable only to Class I, Class II.A and Class II.D Aggregators. Aggregators that are not registered under one or more of these Classes do not need to complete Part C, and should proceed to the Affidavit.

Questions in *Part C* refer to the most recent July-to-June reporting period, as well as to any subsequent time for which information relating to these questions is reasonably known and available to the Aggregator. The Commission anticipates that the supporting documentation for the Aggregator's responses to Questions Nos. 4.a.I and 5.b are proprietary in nature.

### **Questions Applicable to All Class I, II.A and II.D Aggregators:**

- 1. **Financial Integrity**. Has the Aggregator sought bankruptcy protection, become insolvent, or otherwise has been unable to meet its financial obligations on a reasonable and timely basis? If yes, explain, including any corrective action. [§25.111(j)(5).]
- 2. Customer Prepayments. Has the Aggregator taken any deposits or other advance payments from electricity customers? If yes, provide the following:
  - a. A descriptive list of the kinds of services for which the prepayments were taken by the Aggregator; and
  - b. The project number of the proceeding in which the Aggregator obtained Commission approval to take prepayments (that is, the initial registration or any subsequent amendment; if none, explain).
- 3. Ongoing Status. To the best of its knowledge, is the Aggregator aware of anything else, or does it anticipate any potential events before the next report, including anything related to prepayments if applicable, which would be pertinent to its future financial integrity as an Aggregator operating in the State of Texas? If yes, explain.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Id. Follow the instructions for Questions B-10 and B-14 to the extent feasible, explaining any differences in methodology. If all residential customers in the citizen aggregation had a single rate before the citizen aggregation, and experienced the same change in rate due to the aggregation, then the percent change from the PTB and from 2001 could be calculated from the rates themselves without using annual historical usage patterns.

**Ouestions Applicable Only to Aggregators Who Take Prepayments:** 

An Aggregator taking customer prepayments in Texas must respond to either Question 4, if it is registered pursuant the Standard Registration, or Question 5, if it is registered pursuant to the Alternative Limited Registration. The term "customer prepayments" is used here to include both the "customer deposits" and "other advance payments" specified in § 25.111.

- 4. Standard Registrants. Is the Aggregator taking customer prepayments pursuant to §25.111(g)(1), Standard Financial Qualifications? If yes, answer the following questions:
  - a. **Financial Qualifications**. Depending on the financial method that the Aggregator uses to meet its Standard Financial Qualifications, respond to either alternative, I or II, below: [§25.111(g)(I)(A)-(D)]
    - I. Financial Evidence. Provide a detailed description of the financial evidence used. [§25.111(g)(1)(A)]

In addition, provide the highest amount of customer prepayments received in any month, as well as the December amount if different. Also, provide independent, third party verification of the amount of cash resources available during those months.

If during any month, the Aggregator either failed to maintain an excess of cash resources over customer prepayments, or the Aggregator ever reduced the level of financial resource support for its prepayments, provide these customer prepayments and cash resources for every month.

**II.** Investment Grade Credit. Provide independent, third-party verification of that credit rating. [§25.111(g)(1)(D).]

If the amount of financial resources subject to the investment grade rating is limited, the Aggregator must provide the highest amount of customer prepayments received in any months, as well as the December amount if different. If during any month, the Aggregator failed to maintain a financial resource limitation exceeding customer prepayments, provide the data for every month.

- b. **Financial Records.** Does the Aggregator maintain detailed financial records of its customer prepayments on an ongoing basis? (These customer records may be inspected by the Commission on request.) If not, explain this deficiency. [§25.111(i)(7)(A).]
- c. Ninety-Day Affidavit. Has the Aggregator filed the sworn affidavit, demonstrating compliance with its financial requirements, which is required within 90 days of receiving the first payment for aggregation services? If yes, provide a copy of the affidavit that identifies the date it was filed. If no, explain. [§25.111(i)(7)(B).]

- d. External Notice. Has the Aggregator relied on an external party, either directly or indirectly, for the financial resources needed to meet its standard financial qualification? If yes, provide evidence that a copy of the Aggregator Rule has been provided to such party, pursuant to §25.111(g)(1)(E). If no notification had been provided, explain.
- e. Changing Evidence. Since the last report, has the Aggregator changed the kind of evidence used to meet its financial qualification? If yes, provide the project number(s) for the amendment proceeding(s) that made this change in the Aggregator's registration. If the financial evidence has changed without an amendment process, explain.
- 5. Limited Registrants. Is the Aggregator taking prepayments under the authority of §25.111(g)(2), the Alternative Financial Qualifications for Limited Registration (limiting business only to customers who contract for 250 kilowatts or more of peak demand electricity)? If yes, answer the following questions:
  - a. Notarized Affidavit. Has the Aggregator obtained and maintained on file notarized affidavits from each customer stating that the Aggregator does not need to establish the cash and other financial resources otherwise needed to protect customer prepayments? If no, explain. (These affidavits may be inspected by the Commission on request.) [§25.111(g)(2)(A).]
  - b. Customer Registry. Provide a list of the Aggregator's customers, including their full names, addresses and telephone numbers. (These customers may be contacted by the Commission.)

# **AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF TE			
١.	My name is Travis H. Cooke.  egator, Alden Energy Consulting LLC	I amManaging Member [Aggregator name].	_[legal title] of the
2	I swear and affirm that (check one):		
	<ul> <li>I am an owner, partner, or officer Class I, Class II.A, and/or a Class I</li> </ul>		h is registering as a
	<ul> <li>I am an owner, partner, or officer</li> <li>Class II.B or Class II.C aggregator.</li> </ul>		th is registering as a
behalf of the representations Aggregator is if any material applicable to	I swear and affirm that I have personate, that I am competent to testify to them, a reporting Aggregator. I further swears made in this Report are true, complete not in material violation of any of the requirements of its registable Report, the reporting Aggregator has reporting Aggregator understands and we	nd that I have the authority to ar or affirm that all of the , and correct. I swear or affir uirements of its registration. I tration occurred subsequent to as notified the Commission of	make this Report on e statements and/or m that the reporting swear or affirm that, the reporting period of same. I swear or
4. disclosure requ	I swear and affirm that the Aggregate uirements, marketing guidelines, and anti-		
	I swear and affirm that any assertions ogood faith belief that an exception to plode applies to the information provided.	ublic disclosure under Chapt	er 552 of the Texas
		Signature of Affiant/Respon	sible Party
		Travis H. Cooke  Typed or Printed Name	
		Alden Energy Consulting LLC Name of Reporting Aggrega	utor
SWORN TO A	AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME o	n the 18th day of	
		Notary Public in and for the	<u>,                                    </u>
My Commissi	on Expires: 02-07-2020	State of Studio	

SHERRI DAKIN **Notary Public, State of Texas** Notary ID #586448-8

My Commission Expires 02-07-2026

# **CHART A—Aggregation Information**

# Response to Part B, Question No. 1

# ANNUAL REPORT for AGGREGATORS

(Applicable only to Class I, II.A, and/or II.D Aggregators)

Legal Name Of Aggregator Alden Energy Consulting LLC

Registration Number 80421 Aggregator Class(es) Class I

(1) Aggregation Group	(2) Customer Type(s)	(3) Total Number of Customers in Aggregation Group	(4) Aggregator Classification	(5) Retail Electric Provider (REP) Name	(6) REP Certification Number	(7) Compensation Source
TRG Aggregation	COM	5	Class 1	Hudson Energy Services LLC	10092	REP
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Alden Energy Consulting LLC 16479 Dallas Parkway Ste, 470 Addison, TX 75001 7/18/2023

# PUCT - TEXAS ANNUAL REPORT FOR AGGREGATORS ADDENDUM (to be filed in Project No. 26280)

#### PART A. General Information

- 1. **Aggregator Name**: Alden Energy Consulting LLC, aggregation registration number 80421
- 2. Contact Person for this Annual Report:

Travis H. Cooke
Alden Energy Consulting LLC
16479 Dallas Parkway Ste. 470
Addison, TX 75001
972-462-8800 (phone)
888-816-3316 (fax);
tcooke@aldenenergy.com

- 3. Aggregator Classification: Class I
- 4. **Scope of Registration**: Alden Energy Consulting LLC registered as an aggregator pursuant to 25.111(f)(2), the Standard Registration.
- 5. Activity with Customers: a. A person that aggregates private customers.
- 6. **REP Affiliation:** Alden Energy Consulting LLC has no affiliate or agency agreements with any REP or transmission and distribution utility.
- 7. **Registration Changes.** No changes have been made since our last Annual Report regarding our registration with the Public Utility Commission.

## PART B. Technical and Customer Protection Information

1. Aggregation Information: See Attached Chart – Alden Energy Consulting LLC has engaged in very limited aggregation services with one customer possessing multiple entity names, but had not in any years prior.

# 2. Marketing Policies and Practices.

- a. Alden Energy Consulting LLC does not actively market aggregation services but maintains its aggregation registration with the PUC in the event that it needs to do.
- b. Alden Energy Consulting LLC maintains a web presence on the internet at www.aldenenergy.com, but it is there for informational purposes and aggregation services are not currently marketed from it.
- c. Alden Energy Consulting LLC does not rely on any third parties and/or marketing agents to obtain aggregated customer load.
- Licensure Status. Alden Energy Consulting LLC has never had any registration/license/permit suspended or revoked in any state or by any federal authority.
  - **4. Complaint History:** Alden Energy Consulting LLC has no history of customer complaints.
  - 5. Legal Disclosures. Alden Energy Consulting LLC and its principals have never been convicted or found liable for fraud, theft, larceny, deceit or violations of customer protection or deceptive trade laws in any state. Furthermore, Alden Energy Consulting LLC and its principals have never been convicted for violating or found liable of any state or federal laws, nor have they been penalized by any attorney general or state/federal regulatory agency.
  - 6. Other Registrations. Alden Energy Consulting LLC has remained active and in good standing with the Texas Office of the Secretary of State since the company's date of formation.
  - Landlord-Tenant Arrangements. Alden Energy Consulting LLC has no Landlord-Tenant Arrangements.
  - 8. **Billing Agent.** Alden Energy Consulting LLC does not function as a billing agent for any REP.
  - 9. Locations served.

75427 100.03

75247 100.01

75234 139.01

75243 78.28

#### 10. Estimated Savings.

It's been well over 15 years since the Price to Beat has been in existence, so it's impossible to calculate the savings achieved in this case based on that, or on amounts paid in 2001.

#### PART C. Financial Information

- 1. Financial Integrity. Alden Energy Consulting LLC has never sought bankruptcy protection, become insolvent or been unable to meet its financial obligations at any point during its history.
- **2. Customer Prepayments.** Alden Energy Consulting LLC has not taken any deposits or prepayments from electricity customers.
- **3. Ongoing Status.** Alden Energy Consulting LLC is not aware of any other items or potential events prior to the next report that would be pertinent to its future financial integrity as an aggregator operating in the State of Texas.