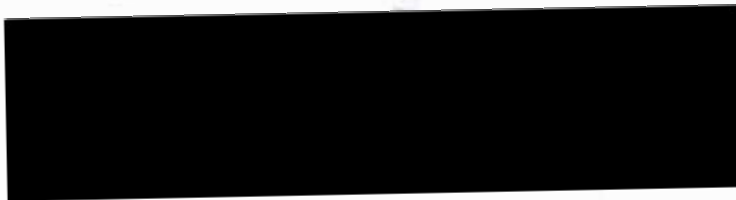


This is a copy of a lease emailed to us in 2022 by Ryan Driskill. When I printed the Word file, the date changed to 2025.

We chose not to sign, but a few farmers have. I am submitting it because it demonstrates the leases they were pushing in 2022 and possibly the form they are using now.

Rhonda Wood



RECEIVED

MAR 27 2025

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

## SOLAR OPTION AND LAND LEASE

This Solar Option and Land Lease ("Agreement") is made as of this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 ("Effective Date") between \_\_\_\_\_ ("Lessor"), and Green River Renewable Energy, LLC, a Kentucky limited liability company ("Lessee"). Lessor and Lessee are referred to individually herein as "Party" and are collectively referred to as "Parties".

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Lessor and Lessee agree as follows:

### RECITALS

A. Lessor is the owner of certain real property located in Muhlenberg County in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, more particularly described and/or referenced by deed book and page, or PVA ID No., in the attached Exhibit A, excluding the areas excepted therefrom as shown on the "Carved Out" areas depicted in Exhibit A ("Premises").

B. Lessee is exploring the possibility of developing, owning and operating a commercial solar energy facility ("Project").

C. Lessee desires to obtain an option to lease and obtain certain easements on the Premises for the purposes of investigating the suitability of the Project on the Premises and, if such option is exercised, to then lease and obtain certain easements for developing, constructing, and operating the Project.

D. Lessor desires to grant Lessee an option to lease the Premises and, upon Lessee's election to lease, to grant Lessee the right to lease and obtain certain easements on the Premises on the terms set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and obligations of the Parties included in this Agreement, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

### ARTICLE I. PREMISES

#### Section 1.1 General

(a) Grant of Option and Lease. Lessor hereby grants to Lessee and Lessee accepts from Lessor an option to lease the Premises for the purposes of testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation feasibility ("Option"). Upon Lessee's exercise of the Option, and its election to lease the Premises in accordance with Section 2.1(b), Lessor hereby leases the Premises to Lessee and Lessee hereby leases the Premises from Lessor for the purposes of constructing, installing, operating, maintaining, replacing, relocating and removing from time to time the following facilities, collectively "Solar Facilities":

(i) meteorological and solar measuring equipment, solar panels, inverters, racking, tracking, foundations and concrete pads, support structures, footing, anchors,

fences, storage, batteries, other equipment that contains and stores energy, and related fixtures and facilities;

(ii) operations and maintenance buildings, security buildings or structures, staging areas for assembly of equipment, control buildings, laydown areas, parking areas, crane pads, fences, roads and related structures and facilities;

(iii) electrical wires and cables required for the gathering and transmission of electrical energy and/or for communication purposes, which may be placed overhead on appurtenant support structures and/or underground (at Lessee's sole discretion), and one or more substations or interconnection or switching facilities from which Lessee may interconnect to a utility or third party transmission system (collectively, "Transmission Facilities"); and

(iv) any other improvements, facilities, machinery and equipment that Lessee reasonably determines are necessary, useful or appropriate for solar energy purposes.

(b) Purpose of Agreement. This Agreement is solely and exclusively for solar energy purposes, and throughout the term of the Agreement, Lessee shall have the sole and exclusive rights to use the Premises for solar energy purposes and to convert all of the solar resources of the Premises. For purposes of this Agreement, "solar energy purposes" means: solar resource evaluation, solar energy development, converting solar energy into electrical energy, collecting, storing and transmitting the electrical energy converted from solar energy, and any and all other activities related to the preceding.

(c) Option Period Activities. During the Option Period (defined below), Lessor and Lessee may undertake the following activities:

(i) Lessee, its contractors or agents, may enter on to the Premises for the purposes of extracting soil samples, performing geotechnical tests, performing environmental assessments, surveying the Premises, and conducting such other tests, studies, inspections and analyses on the Premises as Lessee deems necessary, useful or appropriate.

(ii) Lessor, or its farm tenant ("Farmer") may engage in crop farming on portions of the Premises so long as such farming is terminable upon no more than 30 days' notice and does not interfere with Lessee's ability to investigate and inspect the Premises nor interfere with Lessee's ability to exercise its Option. Upon Lessee's exercise of the Option, Lessee will use commercially reasonable efforts to allow Farmer to harvest the crop before the Extended Term commences. If Lessee requires possession of the Premises prior to harvest of the existing crop, Lessee shall reimburse Farmer for the value of the crop lost based on the crop damage calculations set forth in Section 6.2.

(d) Easements. In addition to and in connection with the leasehold interest granted in accordance with Section 1.1(a), upon Lessee's exercise of the Option to lease the Premises, Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee and its successors and assigns the following easements on, above, over, under, through and across the Premises:

(i) an exclusive easement to the free and unobstructed collection of solar energy over the entirety of the horizontal space and the entirety of the vertical air space lying above

the Premises prohibiting any obstruction to the open and unobstructed access to the sun (together with the preceding sentence, the "Solar Easement") throughout the entire Premises to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any Solar Facility is or may be located at any time from time to time (each such point referred to as a "Site") and for a distance from each Site to the boundaries of the Premises, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Premises, that is, one hundred eighty degrees (180°) or such greater number or numbers of degrees as may be necessary to extend from each point on and along a line drawn along the surface from each point along the exterior boundary of the Premises through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Premises. Lessor may not place, plant or retain any trees, structures or improvements on the Premises which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with the collection and conversion of solar energy, unless Lessor has received prior written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

(ii) an easement for ingress to and egress from the Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of existing roads and lanes, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time ("Access Easement"). The Access Easement shall include the right to improve existing roads and lanes, or to build new roads, shall run with and bind the Premises, and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon Lessor and Lessee and their respective transferees, successors and assigns, and all persons claiming under them.

(iii) If Lessee wishes to obtain from Lessor one or more easements on, over, across, along and/or above any real property owned by Lessor and adjacent to the Premises but not included in the Premises or the Project (each, an "Additional Easement") in connection with, for the benefit of, and for purposes incidental to the Project, including for (i) ingress and egress to the Premises, (ii) installation and maintenance of above-ground or overhead transmission or communication lines and facilities, or (iii) installation and maintenance of other structures or facilities related to the Project, then upon request Lessor shall grant to Lessee such easement in such location or locations as Lessee may reasonably request and the area covered by such Additional Easement shall become part of the Premises and the Project, and Lessee shall have the right to amend any memorandum of this Agreement to reflect such addition and Lessor shall execute such amendment promptly after requested by Lessee.

(e) Lessor Activities. Lessor retains all rights to use that portion of the Premises not occupied by Solar Facilities to the extent such use does not interfere with the Solar Facilities or Lessee's activities on the Premises. Lessor shall be entitled to use any private road constructed by Lessee on the Premises for access to the balance of the Premises.

## ARTICLE II. LEASE TERM

### Section 2.1 Option Period; Extended Term; Renewal Term

(a) Option Period. The “Option Period” commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth annual anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) Extended Term. The Agreement shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term, as defined below, on the date specified in a written notice received by Lessor from Lessee of Lessee’s exercise of the Option to lease the Premises for the Extended Term (“Option Notice”), which date shall be at least 30 calendar days after the date the Option Notice was sent and must be within the Option Period (“Extended Term Date”). Lessee may exercise the Option for all or a portion of the Premises, and shall include such information in the Option Notice. If Lessee elects to exercise the Option for less than the entire Premises, the legal description of that portion of the Premises to be leased will replace the legal description set forth or referenced on Exhibit A of this Agreement without the need for an amendment, if allowable by state law and county requirements, and Lessee shall record a notice of the Extended Term Date and the legal description of that portion of the Premises that Lessee has elected to lease in the public records of the county in which the Premises is located. The Extended Term of the Agreement is 30 years from the Extended Term Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Agreement (“Extended Term”).

(c) Renewal Term. Lessee shall have the right, at its option, to extend the Extended Term for four additional periods of five years (each, a “Renewal Term”). To exercise its option to renew the term of this Agreement for a Renewal Term, Lessee must deliver a written extension notice to Lessor prior to the expiration of the Extended Term or the applicable Renewal Term, as the case may be, *provided, however*, that if Lessee fails to give notice of the exercise of any option to extend, such option shall not lapse unless Lessor gives Lessee written notice requesting that Lessee either exercise or forfeit such option and Lessee, in writing, forfeits such option. The terms of the Agreement during each Renewal Term shall be the same terms and conditions applicable during the Extended Term, except as specifically provided herein. Lessee shall have no right to extend the term of this Agreement beyond the last Renewal Term provided for in this Section 2.1(c) absent further mutual agreement.

### Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

The occurrence of any of the following events shall terminate this Agreement:

- (a) The expiration of this Agreement as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of the Parties to terminate this Agreement; or
- (c) An uncured event of default by Lessee and the election of Lessor to terminate this Agreement pursuant to and in accordance with Article IX; or
- (d) Lessee’s execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor, in Lessee’s sole and absolute discretion and, if applicable, the decommissioning and removal of the Solar Facilities in accordance with Section 4.3; or

(e) Lessee's failure to deliver the Option Notice prior to the expiration of the Option Period.

### **Section 2.3 Survival of Covenants**

The Parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Agreement, including the easements described in Section 1.1, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of the Project with which the Premises will share structural and transmission components, ingress and egress, utility access, and other support, all of which are specifically designed to be interrelated and integrated in operation and use for the full life of the Project, and that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Agreement shall not be deemed nominal, invalid, inoperative or otherwise be disregarded while any portion of the Project remains operational.

## **ARTICLE III. PAYMENTS AND TAXES**

### **Section 3.1 Option Period Rent**

Lessee shall pay Lessor an annual payment of \$15 (fifteen Dollars) per acre, paid quarterly in advance, and measured by the total number of acres within the Premises, prorated for any partial acres within the Premises ("Option Rent"); provided, that, the first payment of Option Rent shall be prorated from the date that is 120 calendar days after the Effective Date ("Option Effective Date") until the next occurring March 31<sup>st</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, or December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the Option Effective Date occurs. The first payment of Option Rent will be made on or before the Option Effective Date. Thereafter, payment of one-fourth the amount of Option Rent shall be made quarterly by March 31<sup>st</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year during the Option Period. For purposes of calculating the amount of the Option Rent, the Premises are stipulated to be the number of acres set forth in Exhibit A. The Option Rent for the last year of the Option Period, if less than a full calendar year, shall be prorated based on the number of days in such year, provided, that, if the option is exercised, the Option Rent shall accrue up to the Extended Term Date and any excess Option Rent previously paid by Lessee to Lessor shall be applied against the Annual Rent. Lessee, at its sole and absolute discretion, shall have the right to terminate this Agreement at any time during the Option Period upon 30 days' written notice to Lessor; *provided, however*, no such notice shall be required in the event Lessee elects to terminate this Agreement prior to the Option Effective Date.

### **Section 3.2 Annual Rent**

The Annual Rent during the Extended Term and any Renewal Term shall be paid as follows:

(a) Within 45 calendar days after the Extended Term Date, Lessee shall pay Lessor \$\_\_\_\_\_ per acre, as measured by the total number of acres within the Premises as specified in the Option Notice, prorated for any partial acres within the Premises ("Annual Rent"). For the first year of the Extended Term, Annual Rent shall be prorated from the Extended Term Date until December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the Extended Term Date occurs. Thereafter, payment of Annual Rent will be made by February 15<sup>th</sup> of each subsequent year.

### **Section 3.3 Taxes, Assessments and Utilities**

(a) Lessor shall pay, when due, all real property taxes and assessments levied against the Premises and all personal property taxes and assessments levied against any property and improvements owned by Lessor and located on the Premises. Subject to Section 3.3(c), if Lessor shall fail to pay any such taxes or assessments when due, Lessee may, at its option, pay those taxes and assessments and any accrued interest and penalties, and deduct the amount of its payment from any Option Rent or Annual Rent, as the case may be, otherwise due to Lessor from Lessee.

(b) Lessee shall pay all personal property taxes and assessments levied against the Solar Facilities when due, including any such taxes based on electricity production. If the Premises experiences any increase in the amount of real property taxes assessed as a result of installation of the Solar Facilities on the Premises, including any reclassification of the Premises, Lessee shall pay an amount equal to the increase no later than ten days prior to the date each year on which the applicable real estate taxes are due to be paid, provided that Lessor provides Lessee with copies of the applicable current and past statements of real estate taxes payable for the Premises and any related information demonstrating the reasons for any increase in real estate taxes at least 45 days prior to the applicable due date. Lessee shall undertake commercially reasonable efforts to cause the relevant taxing authority to assign a separate tax parcel identification number to Lessee for the increase in property taxes attributable to Lessee's improvements on the Premises.

(c) Either Party may contest the validity or amount of any levied taxes, assessments or other charges for which each is responsible under this Agreement as long as such contest is pursued in good faith and with due diligence and the Party contesting the tax, assessment or charge has paid the obligation in question or established adequate reserves to pay the obligation in the event of an adverse determination.

(d) Lessee shall pay for all water, electric, telecommunications and any other utility services used by the Solar Facilities or Lessee on the Premises.

## **ARTICLE IV. LESSEE'S COVENANTS**

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

### **Section 4.1 Liens**

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all mechanics' liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed on or furnished to Lessee or any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien, whether filed against Lessor's interest in the Premises or Lessee's leasehold interest, but shall post a bond or use other available means to remove any lien that is created during the contested proceeding before such lien is foreclosed. If Lessee decides not to contest such lien, Lessee agrees to otherwise remove such mechanic's lien that is caused by Lessee's use of the Premises within 60 calendar days of receiving notice of such lien, and in any event prior to the enforcement thereof, in accordance with Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 376.010, et seq.



## **Section 4.2 Permits and Laws**

Lessee and its designees shall at all times comply with all federal, state and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, judgments and other valid orders of any governmental authority with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Agreement and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee or in the names of both Lessee and Lessor where appropriate or required, the validity or applicability to the Premises or Solar Facilities of any law, ordinance, statute, order, regulation or the like now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessor shall cooperate in every reasonable way in such contest, provided Lessee reimburses Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket expense directly incurred in connection with such cooperation. Any such contest or proceeding, including any maintained in the name of Lessor, shall be controlled and directed by Lessee, but Lessee shall protect Lessor from Lessee's failure to observe or comply during the contest with the contested law, ordinance, statute, order or regulation.

## **Section 4.3 Lessee's Improvements and Remediation**

(a) All Solar Facilities constructed, installed or placed on the Premises by Lessee pursuant to this Agreement shall be the sole property of Lessee, and Lessor shall have no ownership or other interest in any Solar Facilities on the Premises. The Solar Facilities are and shall remain personal property of the Lessee, notwithstanding any present or future common ownership of the Solar Facilities and the Premises. Throughout the term, Lessee shall, at its sole cost and expense, maintain Lessee's Solar Facilities in good condition and repair, ordinary wear and tear excepted. All Solar Facilities constructed, installed or placed on the Premises by Lessee pursuant to this Agreement may be moved, replaced, repaired or refurbished by Lessee at any time.

(b) Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, Lessee shall remove the Solar Facilities, including all concrete mountings and foundations, if any, to a depth of three feet below surface grade, within 12 months from the date the Agreement expires or terminates and restore the Premises to as close to pre-construction conditions as reasonably practical.

(c) To the extent commercially reasonable and in accordance with all applicable laws, Lessee shall bury underground electrical cables and collector lines.

## **Section 4.4 Hazardous Materials**

Lessee shall not use, dispose of or release on the Premises or cause or permit to exist or be used, stored, disposed of or released on the Premises as a result of Lessee's operations, any substance which is defined as a "hazardous material", "toxic substance" or "solid waste" in any federal, state or local law, statute or ordinance, except in such quantities as may be required in its normal business operations and only if such use is not harmful to Lessor and is in full compliance with all applicable laws. Lessee shall consult with Lessor and provide copies of any notices, claims or other correspondence from any governmental authority regarding hazardous waste issues affecting the Premises.



## **Section 4.5 Insurance**

Lessee shall obtain and maintain in force policies of insurance covering the Solar Facilities and Lessee's activities on the Premises at all times during the term, including specifically comprehensive general liability insurance with a minimum combined occurrence and annual limitation of one million dollars, for the period prior to the Extended Term Date, and two million dollars, for the period commencing on the Extended Term Date and during the Extended Term and any Renewal Term. Such insurance coverage for the Solar Facilities and Premises may be provided as part of a blanket policy that covers other solar facilities or properties as well. A combination of primary and umbrella/excess policies may be used to satisfy limit requirements.

## **ARTICLE V. LESSOR COVENANTS**

Lessor covenants, represents and warrants to Lessee as follows:

### **Section 5.1 Title and Authority**

Except to the extent otherwise stated in this Agreement, Lessor is the sole owner of the Premises in fee simple and each person or entity signing the Agreement on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to grant the Option, leasehold interest, easements and other rights granted herein. All persons having any ownership interest in the Premises (including spouses) are signing this Agreement as Lessor. When signed by Lessor, this Agreement constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms. Other than as disclosed to Lessee prior to execution of this Agreement, and other than those encumbrances that are reasonably likely to be revealed on a commitment for title insurance, there are no encumbrances, liens or other title defects against the Premises. To the extent that any such encumbrances or other title defects could interfere with the development, construction or operation of the Project or otherwise interfere with the rights of Lessee under this Agreement, Lessor shall, at Lessor's expense, promptly take such actions required to remove or otherwise cure any such encumbrances or defects. There are no farm leases or other tenancies affecting the Premises except those disclosed by Lessee to Lessor in writing prior to or at the time of execution of this Agreement.

### **Section 5.2 Quiet Enjoyment; Exclusivity; Certain Permitted Activities of Lessor**

(a) **Quiet Enjoyment.** As long as Lessee is not in default under this Agreement, Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Agreement without any interference of any kind by Lessor or any person claiming through Lessor. Lessor and its activities on the Premises and any grant of rights Lessor makes to any other person shall not interfere with any of Lessee's activities pursuant to this Agreement, and Lessor shall not interfere with any of Lessee's activities pursuant to this Agreement, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with solar energy above, on, and over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities. Solar Facilities located on the Premises from time to time may be operated in conjunction with Solar Facilities operated on other nearby properties that are part of the same Project, as determined by Lessee. In no event during the term of this Agreement shall Lessor construct, build or locate or allow others to construct, build or locate any solar energy conversion system, or similar project on the Premises.

(b) Hunting. During the Extended Term and any Renewal Term, Lessor shall not hunt on the Premises, nor shall Lessor permit any other person or invitee to hunt on the Premises.

### **Section 5.3 Hazardous Materials**

Lessor shall not use, store, dispose of or release on the Premises or cause or permit to exist or be used, stored, disposed of or released on the Premises as a result of Lessor's operations, any substance which is defined as a "hazardous substance", "hazardous material", to "solid waste" in any federal, state or local law, statute or ordinance, except in such quantities as may be required in its normal business operations and only if such use is not harmful to Lessee and is in full compliance with all applicable laws. Lessor represents to Lessee that Lessor has no knowledge of any condition on the Premises that is in violation of such laws, statutes or ordinances, and that it will indemnify and hold Lessee harmless from and against any claims related to any pre-existing conditions affecting the Premises.

### **Section 5.4 Cooperation; Further Assurances**

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee and use Lessor's best efforts to obtain such non-disturbance and subordination agreements as may be requested by Lessee from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Premises, to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by the holder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Agreement. Lessor shall also support and cooperate with, and shall not directly or indirectly impair, oppose or obstruct, the efforts of Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits and third party easements and other land rights needed for the Solar Facilities and the Project. In connection with the issuance of such permits, and to the extent allowed by (and subject to) applicable law, Lessor hereby waives any and all setback requirements, including any setback requirements described in the zoning ordinance of the county in which the Premises are located or in any governmental entitlement or permit hereafter issued to Lessee, with respect to the locations of any Solar Facilities to be installed or constructed on the Premises or on adjacent properties that are a part of the Project. Lessor shall also provide Lessee with such further assurances and shall execute any estoppel certificates, consents to assignments or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders or investors. Lessee shall reimburse Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket expense directly incurred in connection with such cooperation.

### **Section 5.5 Estoppel Certificates**

Within 15 days of receipt of a request from Lessee or from any existing or proposed Lender (defined below), Lessor shall execute an estoppel certificate (a) certifying that this Agreement is in full force and effect and has not been modified (or, if the same is not true, stating the current status of this Agreement), (b) certifying to the best of Lessor's knowledge there are no uncured events of default under the Agreement (or, if any uncured events of default exist, stating with particularity the nature of such events of default), and (c) containing any other certifications as may reasonably be requested. Any such statements may be conclusively relied upon by Lessee and any existing or proposed Lender, investor, title company and purchaser. The failure of Lessor to deliver such statement within such time shall be conclusive evidence upon Lessor that this Agreement is in full force and effect and has not been modified, and there are no uncured events of default by Lessee under this Agreement.

## ARTICLE VI. INDEMNIFICATION

### Section 6.1 Indemnification

Each Party (the “**Indemnifying Party**”) agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the other Party and the other Party’s officers, directors, employees, representatives, mortgagees and agents (collectively, the “**Indemnified Party**”) against any and all losses, damages, claims, expenses and liabilities for physical damage to property and for physical injury to any person, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys’ fees, to the extent resulting from or arising out of (i) any operations or activities of the Indemnifying Party on the Premises (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Premises by any person or entity other than Lessee prior to the Effective Date) or (ii) any negligent or intentional act or omission on the part of the Indemnifying Party. This indemnification shall not apply to losses, damages, claims, expenses and liabilities to the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act or omission on the part of the Indemnified Party. Reference to physical damage to property in the preceding sentence does not include losses of rent, business opportunities, profits and similar damage and in no event will it include consequential, indirect, punitive or similar damages. This indemnification shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

### Section 6.2 Crop Damage

(a) Promptly after initial construction, Lessee shall pay Lessor crop damages for all crops that are removed or damaged as a direct result of Lessee’s construction of Solar Facilities on the Premises, in accordance with Section 1.1(c), as calculated below (“**Crop Damages**”). For clarity, crop damage will be paid one time after construction of the Solar Facilities is complete.

Crop damages will be calculated by the following formula:

Price x Yield x Amount of Damaged Acres = Crop Damages.

(i) “**Price**” for damaged or destroyed crops will be based on the average of the last previous March 1st and September 1st Chicago Board of Trade prices for that crop, or if not listed by the Chicago Board of Trade, other publically available data for the particular crop.

(ii) “**Yield**” will be the average of the previous two years’ yield of the same crop as the damaged crop according to Farm Services Administration records for the county in which the Premises is located (or other commonly used yield information available for the area).

(iii) “**Amount of Damaged Acres**” will be the number of acres and partial acres of the Premises that suffered crop damage due to construction of the Solar Facilities.

(b) **Lessor Records**. Promptly after construction activities on the Premises, Lessee shall determine, in its reasonable discretion and using the calculation above, Crop Damages for the Premises and provide such calculation to Lessor. If Lessor believes that the Price, Yield or Amount of Damaged Acres is incorrect, Lessor may submit records and documentation (“**Lessor Records**”) that Lessor believes accurately reflect the Amount of Damaged Acres and Yield. For purposes of the foregoing, “**Lessor’s Records**” shall include, but not be limited to, warehouse/elevator receipts,

applications for crop insurance and scale tickets from grain cart or yield monitors on combines, receipts showing price paid for the same crops in the most recent year and previous year if available. The Parties shall try in good faith to agree to the extent of damage and acreage affected. If the Parties cannot agree, they shall have the area measured and extent of damage assessed by an impartial party such as a crop insurance adjuster or extension agent, at Lessee's sole cost and expense. Lessee shall remit payment for any Crop Damage to Lessor within 30 days following Lessee's receipt of the results of the impartial party's calculation.

## **ARTICLE VII. ASSIGNMENT; ENCUMBRANCE OF LEASE**

### **Section 7.1 Right to Encumber**

(a) Lessee may at any time mortgage, hypothecate, grant or pledge all or any part of its interest in the Agreement and rights under this Agreement and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Agreement or rights under this Agreement to any person or entity ("Lender") as security for the repayment of any indebtedness or the performance of any obligation ("Mortgage") without the consent of Lessor. Lender shall have no obligations under this Agreement until such time as it exercises its rights to acquire Lessee's interests subject to the lien of Lender's Mortgage by foreclosure or otherwise assumes the obligations of Lessee directly.

(b) Lessor agrees that any Lender shall have the right to make any payment and to do any other act or thing required to be performed by Lessee under this Agreement, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent and cure a default under this Agreement and prevent any forfeiture of and restore any of Lessee's rights under this Agreement as if done by Lessee itself.

(c) During the time all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Agreement are Mortgaged or assigned to any Lender, if Lessee defaults under any of its obligations and Lessor is required to give Lessee notice of the default Lessor shall also be required to give Lender notice of the default, *provided, however*, that Lessor shall only be required to give notice to Lender if Lessee has given Lessor contact and notice information for the Lender. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Agreement due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Agreement unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Agreement to the Lender and has given the Lender at least 30 days to cure the default to prevent termination of this Agreement. If within such 30 day period the Lender notifies the Lessor that it must foreclose on Lessee's interest or otherwise take possession of Lessee's interest under this Agreement in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Agreement and shall permit the Lender a reasonable period of time necessary for the Lender, with the exercise of due diligence, to foreclose or acquire Lessee's interest under this Agreement and to perform or cause to be performed all of the covenants and agreements to be performed and observed by Lessee. The time within which Lender must foreclose or acquire Lessee's interest shall be extended to the extent Lender is prohibited by an order or injunction issued by a court or the operation of any bankruptcy or insolvency law from commencing or prosecuting the necessary foreclosure or acquisition.

(d) The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Agreement by any Lender through foreclosure or other judicial or nonjudicial proceedings in the nature of foreclosure, or by any conveyance in lieu of foreclosure, shall not require the consent of Lessor nor constitute a breach or default of this Agreement by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or

conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Agreement upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Agreement prospectively.

(e) In the event this Agreement is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor agrees, upon request by any Lender within 60 days after the rejection or termination, to execute and deliver to Lessee or Lender a new lease for the Premises which (i) shall be effective as of the date of the rejection or termination of this Agreement, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the term of the Agreement before giving effect to such rejection or termination, and (iii) shall contain the same terms, covenants, agreements, provisions, conditions and limitations as are contained in this Agreement (except for any obligations or requirements which have been fulfilled by Lessee or Lender prior to rejection or termination). Prior to the execution and delivery of any such new lease Lessee, or Lender shall (i) pay Lessor any amounts which are due Lessor from Lessee, (ii) pay Lessor any and all amounts which would have been due under this Agreement but for the rejection or termination from the date of the rejection or termination to the date of the new lease and (iii) agree in writing to perform or cause to be performed all of the other covenants and agreements to be performed by Lessee under this Agreement to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

## **Section 7.2 Assignment**

Lessee and any successor or assign of Lessee shall at all times have the right, without need for Lessor's consent, to do any of the following, conditionally or unconditionally, with respect to all or any portion of the Premises for solar energy purposes: grant co-leases, separate leases, subleases, easements, licenses or similar rights (however denominated) to one or more third parties; or sell, convey, lease, assign, mortgage, encumber or transfer to one or more third parties or to any affiliate of Lessee's this Agreement, or any right or interest in this Agreement, or any or all right or interest of Lessee in the Premises or in any or all of the Solar Facilities that Lessee or any other party may now or hereafter install on the Premises provided that (i) any such assignment, transfer or conveyance shall not be for a period beyond the term of this Agreement; (ii) the assignee or transferee shall be subject to all of the obligations, covenants and conditions applicable to the Lessee; and (iii) Lessee shall not be relieved from liability for any of its obligations under this Agreement by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Agreement to the assignee or transferee, in which event Lessee shall have no continuing liability. Upon any assignment or transfer of any or all of Lessee's interests hereunder, Lessee shall provide notice of such assignment or transfer to Lessor, together with contact information for the assignee or transferee (including name, address and phone number), but failure to provide such contact information shall not be considered a default hereunder.

## **Section 7.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations**

(a) The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Agreement to Lessee are easements in gross for the benefit of Lessee, its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements. The easements and other rights granted by Lessor in this Agreement are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the solar easement granted in this Agreement and, as between the Premises and other tracts of

property on which Lessee may locate Solar Facilities, no tract is considered dominant or servient as to the other.

(b) The burdens of the option, lease, and easements and all other rights granted to Lessee in this Agreement shall run with and against the land as to the Premises, shall be a charge and burden on the Premises, and shall be binding upon and enforceable against Lessor and all heirs, legal representatives, successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents of Lessor. This Agreement and the option, lease and easements granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and lessees.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CONDEMNATION/FORCE MAJEURE**

### **Section 8.1 Condemnation**

If eminent domain proceedings are commenced against all or any portion of the Premises, and the taking and proposed use of such property would prevent or adversely affect Lessee's construction, installation or operation of Solar Facilities on the Premises, the Parties shall either amend this Agreement to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities which will preserve the value and benefit of the Agreement to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or, at Lessee's option, this Agreement shall terminate in which event neither Party shall have any further obligations. If Lessee does not elect to amend or terminate the Agreement as set forth herein, the payments hereunder shall continue to be made up to the date of such condemnation.

### **Section 8.2 Proceeds**

All payments made by a condemnor on account of a taking by eminent domain shall be the property of the Lessor, except that Lessee shall be entitled to any award or amount paid for the reasonable costs of removing or relocating any of the Solar Facilities or the loss of any such Solar Facilities or the use of the Premises pursuant to the Agreement. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent.

### **Section 8.3 Force Majeure**

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Agreement, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Agreement to the extent such performance is prevented by a Force Majeure, which shall mean an event beyond the control of the Party affected and which, by exercise of due diligence and foresight, could not reasonably have been avoided; provided, that, such Party has promptly notified the other Party of such event, and uses commercially reasonable efforts to remedy such event.

## **ARTICLE IX. DEFAULT/TERMINATION**

### **Section 9.1 Events of Default**

Each of the following shall constitute an event of default that shall permit the nondefaulting Party to terminate this Agreement or pursue other remedies available at law or equity.

(a) any failure by Lessee to pay any amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for 60 calendar days after written notice from Lessor; or

(b) any other material breach of this Agreement by either Party which continues for 60 days after receipt of written notice of default from the nondefaulting Party or, if the cure will take longer than 60 days, the length of time reasonably necessary to cure as long as the defaulting Party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time.

## **Section 9.2 Surrender**

Upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense except as otherwise agreed upon by Lessor and Lessee in writing. Lessee shall have 12 months from the date the Agreement expires or is terminated to remove the Solar Facilities. For the period between the date of termination or expiration and the date upon which Lessee completes removal of the Solar Facilities as required under Section 4.3 of this Agreement, Lessee shall pay to Lessor on a monthly basis an amount equal to the Annual Rent divided by 12, prorated as applicable for any partial month.

## **Section 9.3 Specific Performance**

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that should Lessor breach any of its obligations hereunder or otherwise fail to permit Lessee to exercise any of the rights and privileges granted herein, damages would be difficult to calculate and money damages would not be sufficient to compensate Lessee for such breach, and therefore, Lessor agrees that Lessee shall have the right to seek specific enforcement of this Agreement. In that event, Lessor agrees that Lessee has no adequate remedy at law, and that an order of specific performance may be granted in favor of Lessee. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as limiting Lessor's right to pursue remedies available at law or equity.

# **ARTICLE X. MISCELLANEOUS**

## **Section 10.1 Notice**

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed given when personally delivered, or in lieu of personal delivery, after five days of the date deposited in the mail sent to the physical address noted below, by certified mail or similar service, or the next business day if sent by reputable overnight courier, provided receipt is obtained and charges prepaid by the delivering Party.

Any notice shall be addressed to those physical addresses below (or at such other address as either Party may designate upon written notice to the other Party in the manner provided in this paragraph):

If to Lessor:

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If to Lessee:

Green River Renewable Energy



211 Tammie Lane  
Greenville, KY 42345

### **Section 10.2 No Third Party Beneficiaries**

Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Agreement is intended to nor shall it in any way inure to the benefit of any third party so as to constitute any such person a third party beneficiary under this Agreement, or of any one or more of the terms of this Agreement, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Agreement.

### **Section 10.3 Entire Agreement**

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Lessor and Lessee and supersedes any and all prior oral or written understandings, representations or statements, and that no understandings, representatives or statements, verbal or written, have been made which modify, amend, qualify or affect the terms of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be amended except in a writing executed by both Parties.

### **Section 10.4 Legal Matters**

(a) This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, neither Party shall be entitled to, and each of Lessor and Lessee hereby waives any and all rights to recover, consequential, incidental, and punitive or exemplary damages, however arising, whether in contract, in tort, or otherwise, under or with respect to any action taken in connection with this Agreement.

(b) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS AGREEMENT, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT. EACH OF THE PARTIES WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS AGREEMENT.

### **Section 10.5 Cooperation**

Each of the Parties, without further consideration, agrees to execute and deliver such additional documents and take such action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this Agreement and to fulfill the obligations of the respective Parties. Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall make any oral or written statement about the other Party which is intended or reasonably likely to disparage the other Party, degrade the other Party's reputation in the community, or interfere with its business relationships or reputation.

## **Section 10.6 Waiver**

Neither Party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Agreement or any remedy available to it unless such waiver is in writing and signed by the Party against whom the waiver would operate. Any waiver at any time by either Party of its rights with respect to any rights arising in connection with this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter.

## **Section 10.7 Relationship of Parties**

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the Parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Agreement shall not be interpreted or construed to create an association, joint venture, fiduciary relationship or partnership between Lessor and Lessee or to impose any partnership obligation or liability or any trust or agency obligation or relationship upon either Party. Lessor and Lessee shall not have any right, power, or authority to enter into any agreement or undertaking for, or act on behalf of, or to act or be an agent or representative of, or to otherwise bind, the other Party.

## **Section 10.8 Confidentiality**

Lessor shall maintain in the strictest confidence, for the benefit of Lessee and any assignee or transferee of Lessee, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Agreement, Lessee's site or product design, methods of operation, methods of construction, power production or availability of the Solar Facilities, and the like, whether disclosed by Lessee, any assignee or transferee, or discovered by Lessor, unless such information either (i) is in the public domain by reason of prior publication through no act or omission of Lessor or its employees or agents; or (ii) was already known to Lessor at the time of disclosure and which Lessor is free to use or disclose without breach of any obligation to any person or entity. Lessor shall not use such information for its own benefit, publish or otherwise disclose it to others, or permit its use by others for their benefit or to the detriment of Lessee, any assignee or transferee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may disclose such information to Lessor's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other personal financial advisors solely for use in connection with their representation of Lessor regarding this Agreement; any prospective purchaser of the Premises who has made a written offer to purchase or otherwise acquire the Premises that Lessor desires to accept; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided Lessor in making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information and obtains the written agreement of said party not to disclose the information, which agreement shall run to the benefit of and be enforceable by Lessee and any assignee or transferee of Lessee. Lessor shall obtain Lessee's written consent before issuing a press release or having any contact with or responding to any requests from the news media regarding the Project or the Agreement. The provisions of this Section 10.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

## **Section 10.9 Counterparts**

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts and by different Parties on separate counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement and each of which shall be deemed an original.

#### **Section 10.10 Memorandum of Lease**

Lessor and Lessee shall execute, in recordable form, and Lessee shall then record, a memorandum of this Agreement ("Memorandum"). During the Option Period, Extended Term and any Renewal Term, Lessee shall have the right, from time to time, to file an amendment to the Memorandum revising the legal description of the Premises with the legal description provided by Lessee's surveyor, as may be modified from time to time by subsequent surveyors, *provided, however*, such amended legal description of the Premises does not materially exceed the boundaries of the Premises as originally described in Exhibit A. Lessor hereby grants Lessee the right to execute such amendment to the Memorandum without obtaining the prior consent of Lessor and without requiring Lessor's signature, if allowable under state law and county recording requirements. Lessee shall provide a copy of each such amendment to Lessor within 60 days after the amendment has been filed in the public records of the county where the Premises is located and the legal description provided shall replace the legal description on the attached Exhibit A. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Agreement, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

#### **Section 10.11 Multiple Owners**

The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible for distributing their respective shares of such payments between themselves. The parties comprising Lessor shall resolve any dispute they might have between themselves under this Agreement or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Agreement or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Agreement and shall not join Lessee in any such dispute or interfere with, delay, limit or otherwise adversely affect any of the rights or remedies of Lessee under this Agreement in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Agreement to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Agreement and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

#### **Section 10.12 Severability**

Whenever possible, each provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted in such manner as to be valid, binding and enforceable under applicable law. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, void (or voidable) or unenforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be ineffective only to the extent held to be invalid, void (or voidable) or unenforceable, and the remainder of such provision or the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in effect.

#### **Section 10.13 State Specific Provisions**

Reserved.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned have caused this Solar Option and Land Lease to be executed as of the Effective Date.

**LESSOR:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned have caused this Solar Option and Land Lease to be executed as of the Effective Date.

**LESSEE:**

**Green River Renewable Energy, LLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**  
**DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES**

**Parcel 1:**

Parcel 1 contains \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Parcel 1 Tax ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deed Book** \_\_\_\_\_, **pages** \_\_\_\_\_ of record in the office of the Muhlenberg County Clerk.

**The Premises contains** \_\_\_\_\_ acres excepting the attached "Carved Out" areas.