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NEWS RELEASE

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Siting Board Approves 60-Megawatt Solar Project Proposed for Green County

FRANKFORT Ky (June 14, 2021)—The Kentucky Electric Generation and Transmission Siting Board has approved, with modifications and conditions, an application from Horseshoe Bend Soar, LLC, (Horseshoe Bend), to construct a 60-megawatt (MW) solar facility in Green County, Kentucky. The proposed 550-acre site is near the community of Exie on land that has been in agricultural use.

Horseshoe Bend is a limited liability company, incorporated in Delaware, with a principal place of business in Durham, NC. The project will sell power into the regional wholesale electricity market operated by PJM Interconnection, LLC, interconnecting to the grid via an existing East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc., transmission line that crosses the property. System upgrade costs are borne entirely by the project developer.

The Siting Board, created in 2002 by the Kentucky General Assembly, reviews applications for the construction of electric generating facilities of 10MW or greater proposed by merchant generators. Merchant generators sell the electricity they produce in the wholesale market at rates not regulated by the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Horseshoe Bend submitted its application, including the required Site Assessment Report, on December 14, 2020. As required by statute, Horseshoe Bend conducted public outreach prior to filing its application, including a public meeting on July 16, 2020, and published notice of the proposed facility in the local newspaper. Horseshoe Bend notified all landowners whose property borders the proposed facility. There were no requests for intervention and no requests for a public meeting or local public hearing. A formal evidentiary hearing was conducted on April 22, 2021.

As authorized by statute, the Siting Board retained a consultant to review Horseshoe Bend's Site Assessment Report and proposed mitigation measures. The Site Assessment Report, per statute, must contain a detailed site description of the proposed facility, as well as potential impacts to surrounding property both during construction and operation post-construction. In addition to evaluation of the factors contained in the Site Assessment Report, KRS 278.710(1) directs the Siting Board to consider the following criteria in making a decision:

- Economic impact on the affected region and state;
- Existence of other generation facilities;
- Local planning and zoning requirements;
- Potential impact on the electricity transmission system;
- Compliance with statutory setback requirements; and
- History of environmental compliance.

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Horseshoe Bend estimates approximately 150 full-time employees will be hired during the construction phase of the project. Most of these positions will be craft workers and contractors. Based on the review of the evidence provided in the case, the Siting Board has determined the solar project will have a positive economic impact in the region.

The Siting Board conditions its approval upon the full implementation of mitigation measures and conditions, including:

- Leaving existing vegetation in place, as practicable, and planting native evergreen species to provide visual screen and cultivating at least 2 acres of native pollinator-friendly species onsite;
- Submitting a revised site development plan upon completion of a field survey and before constructions begins;
- Providing a water resource protection plan that address erosion mitigation measures, submitted ten days prior to when construction is expected to begin;
- Providing a construction phase control plan for fugitive dust and particulate matter, also to be submitted ten days before construction is to begin;
- Developing a traffic management plan to minimize impacts and ensure safety and compliance with state and local road permit, truck weight, and other requirements;
- Establishing a regular construction schedule, with hours between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday;
- At least one month before constructions begins, providing notification to residences and businesses within 500 feet of the project boundary about the construction plan, noise potential, and mitigation plans;
- Implementing noise control measures during construction, as applicable, and following specific noise control measures during the operational phase;
- Implementing a Customer Resolution Program to address any complaints from surrounding landowners;
- Maintaining setback requirements specified in the Order during both construction and operational phases; and
- Developing a decommissioning plan and filing a bond to cover the cost of decommissioning. The bond must be reviewed every five years, with updates filed with the Siting Board and the Green County Fiscal Court.

More details on mitigation measures and conditions are contained in an appendix to the Order.

The Siting Board consists of the three members of the PSC, the secretary of Kentucky Energy and Environmental Cabinet (EEC) or a designee, the secretary of the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet (CED) or a designee and two local members appointed by the governor to serve for a specific case. The chairman of the PSC serves as chairman of the Siting Board. The local members in this case are John Frank, Green County Judge Executive, and Paul Jim Sidebottom.

The Siting Board is headquartered at the PSC and PSC staff also serves as staff to the Siting Board. The Siting Board's operations are funded through fees paid by applicants. For a complete description of the review process, mitigation measures and conditions, public comments, and other case filings, please visit the Siting Board at <https://psc.ky.gov/Case/ViewCaseFilings/2020-00190>. The Case No. is 2020-00190.

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