COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF STMO BN, LLC (STARFIRE) FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR AN APPROXIMATELY 200 MEGAWATT MERCHANT SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY AND NONREGULATED ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE IN KNOTT AND PERRY COUNTIES, KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO KRS 278.700 AND 807 KAR 5:110.	)	CASE NO. 2026-00180

SITING BOARD STAFF'S SECOND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO STMO BN, LLC

STMO BN, LLC (Starfire), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, shall file with the Commission an electronic version of the following information. The information requested is due on November 25, 2026. The Siting Board directs Starfire to the Kentucky Public Service Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085[1] regarding filings with the Commission. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

Each response shall include the question to which the response is made and shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided. Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a

[1] Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Starfire shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Starfire obtains information that indicates the response was incorrect or incomplete when made or, though correct or complete when made, is now incorrect or incomplete in any material respect.

For any request to which Starfire fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Starfire shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention shall be given to copied or scanned material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. When applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations. When filing a paper containing personal information, Starfire shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. Confirm that all former coal mining areas within the Starfire 2 boundaries have been fully reclaimed. If unable to confirm, provide a map showing the reclamation status of all former coal mining areas within the proposed Project Area for Starfire 2.

2. Provide an expected timeline for the full site reclamation of any former coal mining areas within the proposed Project Area for Starfire 2 to be achieved.

3. Provide copies of all former coal mining area reclamation documents that exist for the proposed site.

4. Provide a description of any rights that will have to be secured or legal requirements the Project will have to satisfy to gain full ownership of the site as well as full reclamation of the site.

5. Provide a description of any ongoing mining activities taking place on the proposed Project site. Include in the response when those activities are expected to cease.

6. Provide information on all electric transmission lines that intersect the project. Include in the response the owner, voltage, status, and right-of-way (ROW) setbacks.

7. Refer to the Kentucky Geological Survey, Oil and Gas Wells Search (https://kgs.uky.edu/kygeode/services/oilgas/).

a. File a map identifying all active and inactive oil or gas wells on the proposed site. Also include any gas-gathering pipelines associated with the wells.

b. Explain whether the existence of oil and gas wells and pipelines will require adjustments to the proposed location of solar panels.

8. Provide any communication that has occurred with users of the Stacy Church/Cemetery. If no communication has occurred, provide what efforts have been made to open communication. Include in the response a summary of all correspondence that has occurred.

9. Explain how Starfire 2 will accommodate visitors to the Stacy Church/Cemetery during the construction and operation phases of the Project.

10. Provide a detailed list of all structures that will be relocated or demolished prior to or during the construction phase of the Project.

11. Explain whether a two-acre pollinator area will be included in the Project.

12. Explain whether the wildlife corridor proposed in Starfire 1 will be incorporated into the Starfire 2 Project.

13. Describe Starfire's position on including a battery energy storage system (BESS) facility as part of the Project.

14. Explain what factors need to be considered in order to determine whether this project will include a BESS as part of the Project.

15. Refer to Staff's First Request for Information, Item 52. Provide any security concerns with the proposed fencing to be used, specifically the height and the possibility of ascending the fence.

16. Refer to Staff's First Request for Information, Item 54. Provide details of the conversations that have occurred with the Starfire Community Coalition.

17. Refer to Staff's First Request for Information, Item 54. Provide what community priorities with which Bright Night believes it is aligned and any updates that have occurred relating to discussions with the Starfire Community Coalition.

18. Explain whether, and how, vegetative clearing was considered in planning the transmission line routes.

19. Describe any vegetative clearing that will be required for the gen-tie.

20. Provide the total acreage of vegetative clearing that will be required for the construction of the proposed transmission line.

21. Provide a map depicting all planned areas of vegetative clearing required for the construction of the proposed transmission line. Include on the map the proposed transmission line route, parcels and parcel numbers, right of way (ROW)s, and colored imagery.

22. Provide the anticipated process for constructing the gen-tie across 5.5 miles.

23. For the transmission line route, provide any leases that have been executed for the route or ROW for the transmission line.

24. For the transmission line route, provide the number of property owners that the right of way and transmission line route will cross.

25. For the transmission line route, explain how the transmission route was determined.

26. Describe how construction of the proposed nonregulated transmission line and the proposed route for the transmission line will minimize adverse impacts on the scenic assets of Knott and Perry counties.

27. Explain whether any portion of the proposed transmission line will be underground. If underground, provide a map depicting which portions of the line will be above ground and which portions will be underground.

28. For the proposed transmission line, provide a detailed table listing all residential structures located within 1,000 feet of the proposed transmission line. For each structure, provide:

a. The distance to proposed transmission line.

b. The distance to the centerline of the ROW.

c. The distance to the closest ROW line.

d. Whether the parcel owner has signed an easement or lease agreement for the proposed transmission line.

29. Explain whether a helicopter will be utilized in installing any proposed transmission line structures.

30. Detail what material will be used for proposed transmission line poles, i.e., wood, steel, etc.

31. For the proposed transmission line, provide the distance from the centerline to the closest structure, if not a residence. Provide a map(s) that identifies the location of the structure.

32. Provide a description of the height, type, location and number of supporting structures (towers) for the transmission line.

33. Provide an illustration of the type of towers that would be used to support the transmission line and identify what measures, if any, would be used to reduce the visual impact from the towers.

34. Provide a map showing alternative transmission line routes that were considered.

35. Provide an elevation map that shows the different elevations the proposed transmission line will cover. Include in the map, elevation contours, peak heights, and color imagery.

36. Provide slope angles, in degrees, at each anticipated pole location along the proposed transmission line route.

37. Provide a map showing the proposed transmission line route and all existing transmission lines that cross the proposed line or fall within 2,000 feet of the proposed ROW.

38. Provide the owner, voltage, ROW, and setbacks for all existing transmission lines that cross or fall within the proposed transmission line ROW.

39. Confirm that the proposed transmission line will comply with American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) standards. If not confirmed, explain why not.

40. Refer to Staff's First Request for Information, Item 73, Stream and Wetland Delineation Study at 10. Provide what mitigation measures will be put in place to avoid potential impacts to the Kentucky Arrow Darter critical habitat.

41. Explain whether an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) firm has been selected for the project. Provide the request for proposal for the EPC contractor.

42. Explain whether Starfire intends to hire as many local workers for the construction and operations phases of the project as possible, all other qualifications for the positions being equal. If confirmed, explain how Starfire will ensure this occurs. If not confirmed, explain why not.

43. Provide a parcel map for the proposed site. Include all residences within 2,000 feet of the proposed project site and whether the residences are participating or non-participating homes.

44. Identify and provide a map showing any neighborhoods that will be located within one mile of the proposed transmission line route for the Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 solar generating facilities and illustrating the proximity of each of the neighborhoods to the transmission route.

45. Explain whether a motion for deviation will be sought. If not, please explain.

46. Explain whether there are any residential neighborhoods as defined under KRS 278.700(6). If so, provide the following for each neighborhood:

a. Distance to the panel.

b. Distance to the inverter.

c. Distance to the substation.

47. Provide the corporate structure for Starfire and any entities that have ownership interest, whether directly or indirectly, in this project.

48. Provide the name of the company that will employ the individuals that are or will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the statements in the application, as well as any conditions imposed by the Siting Board during construction and operation of the project.

49. Provide any interconnection reports that involve this project that have yet to be submitted to the Siting Board.

50. Detail any communications with members of the public, including neighboring landowners, regarding construction noise.

51. Explain any commitments regarding infrastructure removal or land restoration during decommissioning, including in the landowner lease agreements.

52. Provide a parcel map for the proposed site. Include all residences within 500 feet of the proposed project site. Include whether the residences are participating or non-participating homes.

53. Describe the cumulative effects on noise from the construction activities of constructing Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 and describe any steps to minimize these effects.

54. Refer to the Application, Site Assessment Report, Property Value Impact Report at pages 61-108. Confirm that there have been no recent home sales in Kentucky for residences that are adjacent to solar facilities.

55. Confirm that the proposed electric transmission line and appurtenances that will serve the Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 solar electric generating facilities will be constructed and maintained in accordance with accepted engineering practices and the National Electric Safety Code.

56. Identify and describe any interstate benefits expected to be realized by construction and operation of the transmission line that will be used by the Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 solar electric generating facilities.

57. Refer to Starfire's response to Staff's First Request for Information, Items 6 and 7.

a. Confirm that that there is one non-participating residence and 12 non-participating non-residential structures within the project boundary.

b. Confirm that the latter include a lodge, a hunting cabin, two barns, and eight hunting trailers.

c. Describe any communications that Starfire has had with the owners of these structures and Starfire's plans and anticipated schedule for removing these structures.

58. Explain why Bright Night has chosen to permit Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 separately.

59. See Application, Exhibit I. Exhibit I provides estimates of the local economic stimulus from construction and operation of Starfire 2. See Exhibit I from Case No. 2024-00255,[2] Starfire 1 provided similar estimates. For example, during construction Starfire 1 was reported to support approximately 85 direct and 114 direct and indirect jobs – or 199 total jobs. Exhibit I of the Starfire 2 application states that during construction of Starfire 2, the project is projected to support approximately 83 direct construction jobs and 96 indirect and induced jobs – or 179 total jobs. Explain whether it is correct to conclude that simultaneous construction of Starfire 1 and Starfire 2 would be expected to support approximately 378 total jobs including direct, indirect and induced employment.

Justin McNeil RP

Justin McNeil
Executive Director
Public Service Commission *on behalf of* the Kentucky State Board on Generation and Transmission Siting
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601-8294

DATED NOV 10 2026

cc: Parties of Record

[2] Case No. 2024-00255, *Electronic Application of STMO BN, LLC (Starfire) for a Certificate of Construction for an Approximately 210 Megawatt Merchant Solar Electric Generating Facility in Knott, Breathitt, and Perry Counties, Kentucky Pursuant to KRS 278.700 and 807 KAR 5:110* (filed Feb. 4, 2025), Application, Exhibit I.

Service List for Case 2026-00180

* Gregory T Dutton
FBT Gibbons LLP
400 West Market Street
Suite 3200
Louisville, KY 40202

* Kathryn A Eckert
FBT Gibbons LLP
400 West Market Street
Suite 3200
Louisville, KY 40202

* Pierce T. Stevenson
FBT Gibbons LLP
400 West Market Street
Suite 3200
Louisville, KY 40202

* Denotes served by Email