COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING

Electronic Application of Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC for a Construction Certificate for an Approximately 60 Megawatt Merchant Electric Generating Facility in Russell County, Kentucky Pursuant to KRS 278.700 and 807 KAR 5:110

Case No. 2020-00226

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NOTICE OF FILING

Comes Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC (hereinafter, the "Applicant"), by counsel, and pursuant to ordering paragraphs 2 and 3 on page 4 of the Siting Board's September 28, 2020, Order approving form of notice, hereby files the relevant documents. Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2 to this Notice are a tearsheet and copy of the Notice of the Public Meeting as published in the *The Times Journal* on September 24, 2020. Exhibit 3 to this Notice is a copy of the information sent to adjacent property owners that was mailed on September 22, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

STURGILL, TURNER, BARKER & MOLONEY, PLLC JAMES W. GARDNER M. TODD OSTERLOH 333 W. Vine Street, Suite 1500 Lexington, Kentucky 40507 Telephone No.: (859) 255-8581 Fax No. (859) 231-0851 tosterloh@sturgillturner.com jgardner@sturgillturner.com

ATTORNEYS FOR MT OLIVE CREEK SOLAR, LLC

Exhibit 1



Exhibit 2

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC, is proposing to construct and operate a solar energy project in Russell County, Kentucky. The proposed Mt Olive Creek Solar Project will be located on approximately 500 acres to the North and South of Sano Road, West of Mt Olive Creek Road, approximately 5 miles north of Russell Springs. A public meeting to inform the community about the project will take place on Thursday, October 8th, 2020 at 5:30PM Central (6:30PM EDT). Please note, this meeting is a repeat of a public meeting held on August 6th, 2020 for the same project, and includes 1 additional new parcel of land that has been added to the project.

In order to comply with current guidelines for social distancing, the public meeting and information about the project will be accessible as follows:

- (1) All representatives and experts from Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC making presentations at the public meeting will do so via a Zoom online meeting.
- (2) Members of the public will be able to view the public meeting live, on-line on Zoom, without cost, by registering with a valid email address at <u>http://solar-projects.net/russellcountysolar2</u>. Participants will be able to ask questions either orally or in writing at the end of the presentation.
- (3) Members of the public are strongly encouraged to participate via the online meeting. There is no scheduled in-person screening of the meeting, however, a local screening of the meeting will be set up if it is requested by at least 1 community member. The physical meeting, if held, will be projected for viewing at a site in Russell Springs at which a representative of Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC will be present and a mechanism will be provided for any in-person attendees to ask questions. In-person attendance at the public meeting will be consistent with guidelines and directives from the CDC and the Office of the Governor in effect at the time of the meeting, including, but not limited to, social distancing and the requirement that masks be properly worn at all times. In order to allow for social distancing, the number of attendees at the in-person meeting will be limited. To request an in-person meeting, please email info@carolinasolarenergy.com or call (984) 260-8038 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting time.
- (4) Information about the proposed project, including the layout map, is available online at https://www.carolinasolarenergy.com/projects-in-development-source/mt-olive-creek

The proposed photovoltaic solar project will consist of solar panels installed on racks with an approximate maximum height of 15 feet, inverters, transformers, an energy storage system, associated wiring and balance of system, and a substation. The power generated by the project will be linked to the electric transmission grid via the existing transmission easement that crosses the property. The project will install a visual vegetative buffer along portions of the perimeter of the project that will be comprised of two staggered rows of native, evergreen plantings.

Anyone with questions about the October 8th public meeting or the Mt Olive Creek Solar Project may request information by emailing info@carolinasolarenergy.com or calling (984) 260-8038.



Exhibit 3

400 West Main, Suite 503 Durham, NC 27701 919-682-6822 www.carolinasolarenergy.com

ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNER RUSSELL SPRINGS, KY 42642

September 21, 2020

Re: Mt Olive Creek Solar Project - Invitation to Public Meeting

Dear DANIEL JOHNNY,

I'm writing to invite you to a public meeting that our company is hosting for a solar project we are developing on parcels adjacent to a parcel you own in Russell County. We are hosting the public meeting to meet the neighbors of the project and members of the public, share information about the solar project, and provide you with an opportunity to ask us questions and share comments. The proposed solar project is located to the North and South of Sano Road, and North and South of Kentucky Hwy 76, West of Mt Olive Creek Road, approximately 5 miles north of Russell Springs. Please note, this meeting is a repeat of a public meeting held on August 6th, 2020 for the same project, and includes 1 additional new parcel of land that has been added to the project.

The meeting will be held at <u>5:30pm Central (6:30pm EDT) on Thursday, October 8, 2020</u>. There is no scheduled in-person screening of the meeting, however, a local screening of the meeting will be set up if it is requested by at least 1 community member. The physical meeting, if held, will be projected for viewing at a site in Russell Springs at which a representative of Mt Olive Creek Solar, LLC will be present and a mechanism will be provided for any in-person attendees to ask questions. The physical portion of the meeting, if held, will be subject to CDC guidelines on the wearing of masks and social distancing. If you would like to attend in person, please sign up by contacting Tyler Caron at the contact information on the next page. All of our presenters will participate remotely.

During the public meeting we will show a video with information on the project, our company, solar energy technology, real estate property values, and health and safety. You can also watch the video any time by accessing it from our website at https://www.carolinasolarenergy.com/projects-in-development-source/mt-olive-creek.¹ There you will see a link to watch the video, as well as the layout map and additional information about the project.

¹ (You can also access the page by visiting <u>www.carolinasolarenergy.com</u>, clicking on our "Projects" page, scrolling down to the bottom, and clicking on the Mt Olive Creek project.)



If you would like to speak with us about the project, please call Project Developer Tyler Caron at (984) 260-8038 or email us at info@carolinasolarenergy.com.

We look forward to seeing you virtually at the public meeting!

Sincerely,

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Carson Harkrader CEO

To attend the October 8th online Zoom public meeting, please register at:

http://solar-projects.net/russellcountysolar2

<u>To attend the October 8th in-person broadcast of the public meeting</u> <u>In Russell County (held by RVSP ONLY):</u>

Please call Tyler Caron at (984) 260-8038 or email info@carolinasolarenergy.com.



Mt Olive Creek Solar Fact Sheet

Mt Olive Creek Solar is a new proposed solar energy facility planned to the North and South of Sano Road, West of Mt Olive Creek Road, approximately 5 miles north of Russell Springs, in Russell County Kentucky. This 60MW facility will generate enough electricity to power approximately 15,000 homes.

The solar technology used is photovoltaic, and the solar panels sit on racks that are up to 15 feet tall that rotate once per day on a North-South axis to track the sun throughout the day. The project will not generate any emissions, and there is no noise audible outside of the project boundary. A battery storage system will be connected to the facility to store electricity generated during the day for delivery to the grid at other times. The solar farm will be set back from property lines and a vegetative buffer will be planted in areas to help screen the facility from sight. The footprint of the facility is approximately 500 acres. Grass will be maintained under the panels with minimal amounts of concrete or gravel used throughout the facility. The facility will be surrounded by a locked security fence.

The solar farm will pay significant county taxes over the course of the project lifetime, with little to no expenditure from the county. The project will generate hundreds of construction jobs for approximately 1 year, as well as a handful of long-term maintenance and landscaping positions. The solar farm will not impact local electricity rates.

Mt Olive Creek Solar will include a strip of native pollinator plantings and pollinator trees in sections of the vegetative buffer.

Real estate appraisers have completed many matched-pair analyses on residential homes adjacent to solar farms. These matched-pair analyses compare the value of homes before and after the construction of a solar farm, and show that the construction of a solar farm has no discernable impact on the sales price of surrounding homes. A report from a Kentucky licensed professional appraiser detailing this analysis for Mt Olive Creek Solar is available on our website and on request.