# LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on <u>february</u> <u>3</u>, 2020 (the "Effective Date") by and between William R. Clift, II and Tobatha Renet Clift, husband and wife; and Sandra C. Haberlock, a single person ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

## RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached Exhibit A (the "Property").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

#### **KEY TERMS**

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

#### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

#### **ARTICLE I. Premises**

# Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 1 of 156 related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article VI. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property (1) for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, 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.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises, and any portion of the Premises not improved with Solar Facilities, provided that such use does not interfere with the rights of Lessee hereunder.

## Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) **Solar Easement.** Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "**Solar Easement**") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, 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 Property through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Property.

(b) Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 2 of 156 "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

#### **ARTICLE II.** Lease Term

Section 2.1 Term

#### Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessee's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "**Term**"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "**Development Period**" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("Construction Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("Construction Period Notice Date"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("Construction Period") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the Premises to give notice of such date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"), provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

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Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

(d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

(e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

# Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

#### **ARTICLE III.** Payments and Taxes

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Section 3.2 Annual Rent During Construction Period, Extended Term and Renewal Term



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Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.



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Section 3.6 Interconnection Payment.

# **ARTICLE IV. Lessee's Covenants**

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

## Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

# 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

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Section 4.3 Lessee's Improvements

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Section 4.4 Insurance



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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

#### Section 4.8 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

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#### Section 4.9 Lessor's Right of First Refusal.

(a) If at any time during the Term of this Lease, including any renewal or extension thereof, Lessee shall receive and desire to accept a bona fide written proposal (the "Proposal") from any person or entity to provide services as a contractor for maintaining the vegetation and fence of the Project (the "Services"), then Lessor shall have a one-time right of first refusal to provide such Services on the terms set out in the Proposal. Lessee shall send a copy of the Proposal to Lessor (the "Offer"). Lessor shall have the right, exercisable by written notice to Lessee given within fourteen (14) days from the date Lessor receives the Offer, to elect to accept the terms of the Offer in its own name, or in the name of a nominee, and on the terms and conditions as specified in the Proposal (the "Right of First Refusal"). Lessee and Lessor agree to execute such other and further instruments and agreements as are usual and customary and may be reasonably necessary to effectuate the Proposal, including, but not limited to, a written contract for the Services. Lessee will notify Lessor of any request for Proposal relating to road maintenance and will accept proposals from Lessor, but Lessee shall now be required to select Lessor to provide such road maintenance.

(b) A failure by Lessor to respond in writing by notice of acceptance of the Offer within such fourteen (14) day period shall be deemed a rejection of the Offer. If Lessor shall not so elect to accept (or is deemed to have rejected) the Offer, then Lessee may hire the person or entity specified in the Offer following delivery of the Offer to Lessor, provided that such Services are on the same terms and conditions as set forth in the Offer as sent to the Lessor.

(c) Lessor's rejection of the initial Right of First Refusal under this Lease shall release Lessee from any obligations to provide Lessor with any additional Right of First Refusal rights.

(d) The provisions of this one-time Right of First Refusal or a reference thereto shall be included in the Memorandum of Lease to be executed by Lessee and Lessor in accordance with the terms of this Lease.

# **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. 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 Lease, 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 or other tenancies

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 10 of 156 affecting the Property except those disclosed by Lessor to Lessee in writing prior to or at the time of execution hereof. Any farm or other tenancies entered into after the date hereof shall be subject and subordinate to this Lease, and immediately terminable upon written notice to the tenant. When signed by Lessor, this Lease constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms.

## Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders.

# Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with the direct sunlight over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

## Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 11 of 156 Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

#### Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

## Section 5.7 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", 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 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.

## **ARTICLE VI.** Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

# Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

(a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) Notice. Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

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Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or (d) any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Lease to the Lender and has given the Lender at least thirty (30) days from receipt of such notice to cure the default to prevent termination of this Lease. If within such thirty (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 Lease in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Lease 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 Lease 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.

(e) **Recognition of Lender as Successor.** The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease 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 an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease 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 Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

# Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 with respect to all or any portion of the Premises for solar energy purposes: grant co-leases, separate leases, subleases, easements, licenses or similar

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 13 of 156 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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 Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease to the assignment or transferee, in which event Lessee shall have no continuing liability. Upon any 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) **Benefits are "In Gross".** The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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) **Burdens Run With and Against the Land.** The burdens of the easements and related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees.

# **ARTICLE VII.** Condemnation

# Section 7.1 Effect of 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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

## Section 7.2 Condemnation Proceeds

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 14 of 156 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 Lease. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent. No termination of this Lease under Section 7.1 shall affect Lessee's right to receive any award to which Lessee is entitled under this Section 7.2.

# **ARTICLE VIII. Default/Termination**

# Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- (i) any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

# Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

## Section 8.3 Damages

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 Lease. 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.

#### **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

Section 9.1 Notice

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 15 of 156 Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	William R. Clift II and Tobatha Rene
	P:
	Sandra C. Haberlock
	P:
To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC
	c/o Geronimo Energy, LLC
	7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
	Edina, MN 55435
	952.988.9000
	Attention: Laura Vaughan
With a copy to:	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
	200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000
	Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425
	Attention: Daniel Yarano

# Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease 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 Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

## Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease constitutes the entire agreement

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 16 of 156 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

# Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Lease, they agree that such dispute shall be resolved in a federal court located in Kentucky.

(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

#### Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

Section 9.6 Waiver

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 17 of 156 Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee shall offset the amount of such overpayments to Lessor against future payments due to Lessor from Lessee hereunder.

## Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

## Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Agreement. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Agreement. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

## Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

## Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 18 of 156 provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

# Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

## Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessce to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease and shall not join Lessee in any such dispute or interfere with, delay, limit or otherwise adversely affect

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 19 of 156 any of the rights or remedies of Lessee under this Lease in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

. .

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

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# LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE Caldwell Solar, LLC

By: Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

) ) ss. )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 3 day of 200, by Jeff Ringblom, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.



Notary Public

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LESSOR SIGNATURE P. -Keni Tobatha Renee Clift

Sandra C. Haberlock

STATE OF KENTUCKY ) ) ss. COUNTY OF <u>Caldwell</u>)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $\frac{7^{+k}}{2019}$ , by William R. Clift, II and Tobatha Renee Clift, husband and wife.

(Signature of person taking acknowledgment) (Title or Rank): <u>Notary</u> Public (Serial number, if any): <u>473022</u>

STATE OF KENTUCKY ) COUNTY OF Caldwell )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 20th day of 2019,2020 by Sandra C. Haberlock <u>An unna Actual person</u> (Insert name of spouse, if any, and marital status)

> (Signature of person taking acknowledgment) (Title or Rank): <u>Not an</u> <u>Pulle</u> (Serial number, if any): <u>473-22</u>

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# EXHIBIT A DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tax Parcel No.: 16-14, 16-15D, 16-21, 16-51, 17-4

Being a portion of the same property conveyed from William Ralph Clift and Judith Bennett Clift, his wife to William R. Clift, II, a married person and Sandra C. Haberlock, a single person by Deed dated April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and recorded on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Book 323 Page 635 in the office of the County Clerk for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

The parcels approximately contain 691.2 acres more or less.

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# EXHIBIT A-1

# SITE PLAN



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### LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on <u>January</u> <u>q</u><u>m</u>. 20<u>20</u>(the "Effective Date") by and between James C. Driskill, a single person ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

## RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached Exhibit A (the "**Property**").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

### **KEY TERMS**

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

#### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

### **ARTICLE I.** Premises

# Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 25 of 156 related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article VI. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property (1) for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, 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.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, Lessee reserves the right to reduce the size of the Premises, at any time during the Term, to that amount of acreage needed for the installation of the Solar Facilities, as described herein, to be selected and further identified with an amended description and site plan, at a future date, all at Lessee's sole discretion. Upon Lessee's exercise of its right to reduce the size of the Premises, all reference to Premises in this Lease shall refer to the Premises as modified by the amended Site Plan, if any.

## Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) **Solar Easement**. Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "**Solar Easement**") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, 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

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 26 of 156 the surface from each point along the exterior boundary of the Property through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Property.

Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any (b) contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

# **ARTICLE II. Lease Term**

# Section 2.1 Term

#### Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessec's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "**Term**"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "**Development Period**" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("Construction Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("Construction Period Notice Date"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("Construction Period") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the Premises to give notice of such date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"),

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 27 of 156 provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date against Lessor's Property to give notice of the Construction Date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

# Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

(d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

(e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

# Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2,

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 28 of 156 and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

# **ARTICLE III.** Payments and Taxes





Section 3.3 Taxes, Assessments and Utilities

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# Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.



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## ARTICLE IV. Lessee's Covenants

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

### Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

#### 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 applicable with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Lease and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities (collectively, "Legal Requirements"). Failure to comply with any such Legal Requirements shall be a default as set forth in Section 8.1. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee, the validity or applicability to the Premises, Solar Facilities, or any Other Approved Facilities of any Legal Requirement now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessee shall not contest any Legal Requirements in the name of Lessor unless Lessor has specifically agreed to join the action. If Lessor agrees to join the action, Lessor shall cooperate in every reasonable way in such contest, provided Lessee reimburses Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 31 of 156 expense directly incurred in connection with such cooperation, to the extent Lessee has approved such expense in advance.

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Section 4.3 Lessee's Improvements

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 32 of 156 Section 4.4 Insurance

## Section 4.5 Hold Harmless.

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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

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## Section 4.6 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 33 of 156 transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

# **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. 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 Lease, 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 or other tenancies affecting the Property except those disclosed by Lessor to Lessee in writing prior to or at the time of execution hereof. Any farm or other tenancies entered into after the date hereof shall be subject and subordinate to this Lease, and immediately terminable upon written notice to the tenant. When signed by Lessor, this Lease constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms.

# Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 34 of 156 assignments, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders.

#### Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with the direct sunlight over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

# Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

#### Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

#### Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

#### Section 5.7 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", 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 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

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 35 of 156 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.

## **ARTICLE VI.** Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

### Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

(a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) **Notice.** Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or (d) any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Lease to the Lender and has given the Lender at least thirty (30) days from receipt of such notice to cure the default to prevent termination of this Lease. If within such thirty (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 Lease in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Lease 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 Lease 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.

(e) **Recognition of Lender as Successor.** The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease by any Lender through foreclosure or other judicial or nonjudicial

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proceedings in the nature of foreclosure, or by any conveyance in lieu of foreclosure, shall not require the consent of Lessor nor constitute an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease 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 Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

### Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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 Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) **Benefits are "In Gross".** The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 37 of 156 rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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) **Burdens Run With and Against the Land.** The burdens of the easements and related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees.

## **ARTICLE VII.** Condemnation

## Section 7.1 Effect of 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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

## Section 7.2 Condemnation 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 Lease. Lessee shall have the right to participate

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## ARTICLE VIII. Default/Termination

## Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

### Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

#### Section 8.3 Damages

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 Lease. 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.

## **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

#### Section 9.1 Notice

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual

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# Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	_James C. Driskill
To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC c/o Geronimo Energy, LLC
	7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
	Edina, MN 55435
	952.988.9000
	Attention: Laura Vaughan
With a copy to:	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
A Province and a Province	200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000
	Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425
	Attention: Daniel Yarano

## Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease 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 Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

#### Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

### Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection

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(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

### Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

## Section 9.6 Waiver

Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 41 of 156 shall offset the amount of such overpayments to Lessor against future payments due to Lessor from Lessee hereunder.

## Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

### Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Agreement. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Agreement. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

## Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

### Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 42 of 156 provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

## Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

### Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessee to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease and shall not join Lessee in any such dispute or interfere with, delay, limit or otherwise adversely affect

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 43 of 156 any of the rights or remedies of Lessee under this Lease in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

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## LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE Caldwell Solar, LLC

By: Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020, by Jeff Ringblom, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.

) ) ss.



when blo unda:

Notary Public

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## LESSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

James C. Anskill James C. Driskill .

STATE OF KENTUCKY ) ss. COUNTY OF Mar (Mall )

x

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $19^{\text{th}}$  day of  $10^{\text{ec.}}$ , 2019, by James C. Driskill, a single person.

Sarah Warnick, Notary Public State At Large, Kentucky My Commission Expires: 7/30/2022 Notary ID: 605778

Vah Namia

(Signature of person taking acknowledgment) (Title or Rank): Notang Public (Serial number, if any): UUS778

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## EXHIBIT A

## **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

## Tax Parcel No.: 16-25A & 17-6

Being a portion of the same property conveyed from William Phelps and Marion J. Phelps, husband and wife to James C. Driskill by Deed of Conveyance dated April 22, 1998 and recorded on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1998 at Deed Book 212 on Page 304 in the office of the County Clerk for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

AND

Being a portion of the same property conveyed from Dr. Robert G. McCrory and Linda L. McCrory, husband and wife to James C. Driskill, single, by Deed dated January 3, 1997 and recorded on January 7, 1997 at Deed Book 206 on Page 557 in the office of the County Clerk for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

The parcels contain <u>629.116</u> acres.

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## **EXHIBIT A-1**

## SITE PLAN



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### LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on <u>*WAY*</u> 12, , 20 <u>A</u>(the "Effective Date") by and between Robert L. Gill and Beverly Ann Gill, husband and wife ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

#### RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached <u>Exhibit A</u> (the "**Property**").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises and in the vicinity of the Property (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

### KEY TERMS

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

### **ARTICLE I.** Premises

## Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 49 of 156 related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article IV. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon Lessor and Lessee and their respective transferces, successors and assigns, and all persons claiming under them.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, Lessee reserves the right to reduce the size of the Premises, at any time and from time to time during the Term, to that amount of acreage needed for the installation of the Solar Facilities, as described herein, to be selected and further identified with a revised Site Plan, at any time and from time to time, all at Lessee's sole discretion. Upon Lessee's exercise of its right to reduce the size of the Premises, all reference to Premises in this Lease shall refer to the Premises as may be modified by Lessee's subsequent revised Site Plan(s), if any, which revised Site Plan(s) shall replace the Site Plan attached to the Lease as <u>Exhibit A-1</u> and may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Upon Lessee's notice to Lessor, Lessee shall promptly execute and Lessor shall accept an amendment to this Lease and to the memorandum of this Lease described in Section 9.12 in recordable form to replace the Site Plan with any such revised Site Plan(s), and any such amendment may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Such amendment shall take effect immediately upon Lessee's notice to Lessor.

## Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) **Solar Easement.** Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 50 of 156 and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "Solar Easement") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, 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 Property.

Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any (b) contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. In the event Lessee determines, in its sole discretion, the need for tree removal, in such an event, and should the trees be considered "marketable timber," Lessee shall, at its sole cost, stack the logs from the tree removal in a location accessible to the Lessor on Lessors Property. The term, "marketable timber," as used herein, shall mean standing trees, by species and product which are, because of size and quality, salable within a reasonable period of time from the property. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

## ARTICLE II. Lease Term

Section 2.1 Term

## Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessee's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "Term"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "Development Period" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("Construction Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("Construction Period Notice Date"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 51 of 156 the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("Construction **Period**") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the Premises to give notice of such date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"), provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty-five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date of the commencement of the Extended Term, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

#### Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 52 of 156 (d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

(e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

### Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

#### **ARTICLE III.** Payments and Taxes

Section 3.1 Development Period Rent

Section 3.2 Annual Rent During Construction Period, Extended Term and Renewal Term

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## Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.

Section 3.5 Crop Damage and Compaction

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## **ARTICLE IV. Lessee's Covenants**

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

### Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

### 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 applicable with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Lease and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities (collectively, "Legal Requirements"). Failure to comply with any such Legal Requirements shall be a default as set forth in Section 8.1. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 55 of 156 legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee, the validity or applicability to the Premises, Solar Facilities, or any Other Approved Facilities of any Legal Requirement now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessee shall not contest any Legal Requirements in the name of Lessor unless Lessor has specifically agreed to join the action. If Lessor agrees to join the action, 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, to the extent Lessee has approved such expense in advance.



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Section 4.4 Insurance

## Section 4.5 Hold Harmless.

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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 57 of 156 the Indemnified Party. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

## Section 4.6 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

## **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. 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 Lease, 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 or other tenancies affecting the Property except those disclosed by Lessor to Lessee in writing prior to or at the time of execution hereof. Any farm or other tenancies entered into after the date hereof shall be subject and subordinate to this Lease, and immediately terminable upon written notice to the tenant. When signed by Lessor, this Lease constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms.

## Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 58 of 156 assignments, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders. The failure of Lessor to execute and deliver any estoppel certificate within fifteen (15) days of written request from Lessee shall constitute Lessor's agreement that all of the statements included in an estoppel certificate provided by Lessee are true and correct, without exception. Lessee shall reimburse Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket expense directly incurred in connection with such cooperation.

## Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

### Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

### Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

#### Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

### Section 5.7 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 59 of 156 substance which is defined as a "hazardous substance", "hazardous material", 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 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 5.8 Mineral Rights/Surface Use.

This Lease does not demise or lease to Lessee any oil, gas or minerals in place underneath the surface of the Premises (the "Mineral Estate") or the right to extract and remove the same, and subject to the following terms and provisions of this Section 5.8, Lessor's rights, if any, in the Mineral Estate are reserved to, and retained by, Lessor. During the Term, Lessor may not use, permit the use of, or otherwise grant any rights or interest in and to the Premises from the surface to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface for the purpose of exploring for, extracting, producing or mining any such oil, gas or minerals. Lessor may explore for, extract or produce oil, gas and minerals from the Mineral Estate in a manner which does not interfere with Lessee's use of the Premises or affect the Solar Facilities and which utilizes a method such as directional drilling from well sites located outside of the Premises, so long as Lessor does not use the Premises to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface. If Lessee determines, in its sole discretion, that Lessee needs any non-interference and waiver of surface rights agreement from any person or entity with any ownership, royalty or leasehold interest in the Mineral Estate, then Lessor shall use best efforts and diligence in cooperating with Lessee's efforts to obtain the same at no out-ofpocket expense to Lessor. As of the Effective Date, there [are] or [are no] active oil, gas or mineral leases pertaining to the Premises or the Mineral Estate.

## ARTICLE VI. Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

### Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

. (a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) Notice. Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 60 of 156 prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

(d) Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Lease to the Lender and has given the Lender at least thirty (30) days from receipt of such notice to cure the default to prevent termination of this Lease. If within such thirty (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 Lease in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Lease 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 Lease 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.

(e) **Recognition of Lender as Successor.** The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease 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 an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 61 of 156 performed all of the other covenants and agreements to be performed by Lessee under this Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

#### Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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 Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) **Benefits are "In Gross".** The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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) **Burdens Run With and Against the Land.** The burdens of the easements and related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees. For the avoidance of doubt and subject to Section 3.4, if Lessor conveys or transfers its fee simple title to the Property, then upon such conveyance or transfer, the Lease shall run with and against the Property, and Lessor's rights and obligations under the Lease shall inure to and be binding upon any purchaser or transfere of any of Lessor's interest in the Property. Upon any conveyance or transfer of an interest in the Property, Lessor shall promptly give written notice thereof to Lessee together with a copy of the deed conveying title to the Property, provided that any such conveyance shall be made expressly subject to the

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 62 of 156 Lease. Lessee may continue to make payments due under the Lease to Lessor unless and until Lessee receives such written notice from Lessor as described in this Section 6.3(b), and Lessee shall not have any liability or obligation to any such purchaser or transferee of Lessor's interest in the Property for any payments made to Lessor prior to Lessee's receipt of any such notice.

### ARTICLE VII. Condemnation

### Section 7.1 Effect of 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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

## Section 7.2 Condemnation 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 Lesse. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent. No termination of this Lease under Section 7.1 shall affect Lessee's right to receive any award to which Lessee is entitled under this Section 7.2.

### **ARTICLE VIII.** Default/Termination

### Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 63 of 156 the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

### Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

## Section 8.3 Damages

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 Lease. 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.

## **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

## Section 9.1 Notice

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	Robert L. Gill and Beverly Ann Gill 1000 Bobby Gill Road Fredonia, KY 42411 P:
To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC c/o National Grid Renewables Development, LLC 8400 Normandale Lake Blvd, Suite 1200 Bloomington, MN 55437 952.988.9000 Attention: Laura Vaughan

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 64 of 156 With a copy to: Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. 200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425 Attention: Daniel Yarano

### Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease 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 Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

#### Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

### Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Lease, they agree that such dispute shall be resolved in a federal court located in Kentucky.

(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 65 of 156 PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

#### Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

### Section 9.6 Waiver

Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee shall offset the amount of such overpayments to Lessor against future payments due to Lessor from Lessee hereunder.

## Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

#### Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Lease. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Lease. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 66 of 156 the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

### Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

#### Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

#### Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

### Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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

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<sup>19</sup> 

bind, the other party.

#### Section 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessee to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease 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 Lease in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

## The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

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## LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE

Caldwell Solar, LLC

By: Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer

NATHAN FRANZEN, NEE PRESIDENT

) ) ss.

)

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this <u>1944</u> day of <u>MAY</u>, 20<u>21</u>, by Jeff Ringblom, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.

LAURA ANN VAUGHAN NOTARY PUBLIC MINNESOTA My Commission Expires Jan. 31, 2025 Notary Public

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Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

## LESSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

A Sill Robert L. Gill

Beverly Ann Gill

STATE OF KENTUCKY	)
COUNTY OF Caldwell	) ss

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 12 day of May = 2021, by Robert L. Gill and Beverly Ann Gill, husband and wife.

(Signature of person taking acknowledgment)

(Title or Rank): Notary (Serial number, if any): 6/201



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# EXHIBIT A

# **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

# Tax Parcel No(s).: 26-15 15A, 26-17A

All the following tracts or parcels of land, situated in the County of Caldwell, State of Kentucky more particularly described as follows:

Tract No. 1: A certain tract, piece or parcel of land situated and lying and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky,

on the waters of Skinframe Creek and bounded as follows:

Beginning at a stone near a black gum, running thence N. 65 W. 80 poles to a stake in Grooms field; thence S. 65 W. 15 poles to a stake on the bank of a branch; thence S. 45 W. 90 poles to a post oak; thence N. 43% E. 103 poles to a stone in Grorge's line, with a post oak and two black oak pointers; thence N. 31% W. 96 1/5 poles to the beginning, containing 127% acres, more or less.

Being the same property conveyed to Nannie Groves by Deed from J. E. Corley and Mrs. Nellie Corley, his wife, dated December 18, 1943, and recorded in Deed Book 73, page 610, in the office of the County Court Clerk of Caldwell County, Kentucky.

Tract No. 2: Beginning at a stone in the original line next to Lee Moore's the third corner of Lot No. 2; thence N. 58½ E. 65 poles to a stake, a second corner of Lot No. 2; thence S. 31/2 E. 93 3/5 poles to a stake in Thompson's line; thence with said line S. 92 W. 67 poles to a stone; thence N. 31/2 W. 79 4/5 poles to the beginning, containing 35% acres, more or less.

Tract No. 3: Beginning at a stake in original Northeast line, second corner to Lot No. 1; thence S. 31% E. 92 1/5 poles to a stake; thence S. 58% W. 65 poles to a stake in original line; thence 74 1/5 poles to a stone and black gum; thence N. 44% E. 67% poles to the beginning, containing 33 3/4 acres.

<u>Source of Title:</u> The above tract was conveyed by Deed dated November 9, 1979 from Claude Groves and Nannie Groves, his wife, to Robert L. Gill and Beverly Ann Gill, his wife, as recorded in the official records of Caldwell County, Kentucky, on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1979, in Book 150, at Page 28.

AND

A certain tract, piece or parcel of land, lying and being in the County of Caldwell and State of Kentucky, about 4-1/2 miles from the town of Princeton on Fredonia Road, and which is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at (1) a black oak and stone on the side of the road, thence S. 47 E. 41 3/4 poles to (2) a stone at mouth of lane; thence S. 18 3/4 W. 91 poles to (3) a stake; thence S. 1 E. 12 poles to (4) <u>poles to</u> a stump of white oak corner, also corner to lands of A. S. Young; thence S. 74 W. 31 3/4 poles to (5) a stake Thompson's corner two post oaks as pointers (down); thence N. 21 3/4 W. 40 1/4 poles to (6) a stake; thence S. 53 3/4 W. 10 poles to (7) a stake; thence N. 39 W. 95 poles to (8) a stake; thence S. 50 W. 23 poles to (9) a stake; thence N. 29 W. 71 1/2 poles to (10) a stone on side of road; thence N. 45 3/4 E. 58 1/2 poles, same course 23 poles to (11) a stake in branch; thence N. 74 1/2 E. 28 3/4 poles to (12) a hickory; thence S. 44 E. 114 poles to (1) the beginning, containing 127 1/4 acres, more or less subject to all off conveyances of record.

EXCEPTED HEREFRON AND NOT CONVEYED HEREIN is that certain tract or parcel of property described below:

A tract of land in Caldwell County, Kentucky, located on the southwesterly side of the Old Fredonia Road and is designated as 4051 Old Fredonia Road, bounded on the southeast, the southwest and the northwest by the remainder of the Doom property and the Old Fredonia Road along the northeast side and is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at 1/2 inch steel concrete reinforcing bar set in concrete (found) being in a fence row on the southwesterly side of the Old Fredonia Road approximately 1,131 feet northwest of the intersection of the northwesterly boundary of the Craig Cemetery Road with the southwesterly boundary of the Old Fredonia Road; thence severing a portion of the Doom Farm

- S 30 degrees 48'54" W 281.28 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar set in concrete (found) in a fence corner; thence generally following an existing fence
- S 49 degrees 42'33" W 76.82 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar set in concrete (found); thence continuing to sever a portion of the Doom farm
- N 46 degrees 58'35" W 252.09 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar set in concrete (found); thence
- 4. N 65 degrees 43'30" E 365.45 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar set in concrete (found) in a fence corner in the apparent southwesterly right-of-way (R/W) line of the Old Fredonia Road; thence following the apparent R/W line of the Old Fredonia Road
- S 60 degrees 03'59" E 62.13 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar set in concrete (found) the True Point of Beginning

<u>Source of Title:</u> The above tract was conveyed by General Warranty Deed dated September 1, 1993 from Charles B. Doom and Elizabeth G. Doom to Robert L. Gill and Beverly Ann Gill, husband and wife, as recorded in the official records of Caldwell County, Kentucky, on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1993, in Book 191, at Page 98.

## The Property contains approximately 324.6 acres, more or less.
# **EXHIBIT A-1**



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# LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on MAU 12 "Effective Date") by and between E. 2021 (the William R. Brown, Husband And wife (insert name of spouse, if any, and marital status) Jones Anp BrenDA R. Brown, ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

#### RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached Exhibit A (the "Property").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises and in the vicinity of the Property (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

## **KEY TERMS**

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

#### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

# **ARTICLE I. Premises**

# Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 74 of 156 solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article IV. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, 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.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, Lessee reserves the right to reduce the size of the Premises, at any time and from time to time during the Term, to that amount of acreage needed for the installation of the Solar Facilities, as described herein, to be selected and further identified with a revised Site Plan, at any time and from time to time, all at Lessee's sole discretion. Upon Lessee's exercise of its right to reduce the size of the Premises, all reference to Premises in this Lease shall refer to the Premises as may be modified by Lessee's subsequent revised Site Plan(s), if any, which revised Site Plan(s) shall replace the Site Plan attached to the Lease as <u>Exhibit A-1</u> and may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Upon Lessee's notice to Lessor, Lessee shall promptly execute and Lessor shall accept an amendment to this Lease and to the memorandum of this Lease described in Section 9.12 in recordable form to replace the Site Plan with any such revised Site Plan(s), and any such amendment may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Such amendment shall take effect immediately upon Lessee's notice to Lessor.

#### Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) Solar Easement. Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 75 of 156 easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "Solar Easement") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, 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 Property through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Property.

Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any (b) contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

# **ARTICLE II.** Lease Term

Section 2.1 Term

# Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessee's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "Term"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "Development Period" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("Construction Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("Construction Period Notice Date"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("Construction Period") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 76 of 156 Premises to give notice of such date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"), provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty-five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date anotice of the commencement of the Extended Term, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

#### Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

(d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 77 of 156 (e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

# Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

# **ARTICLE III.** Payments and Taxes



Section 3.2 Annual Rent During Construction Period, Extended Term and Renewal Term

Section 3.3 Taxes, Assessments and Utilities

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Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.



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# **ARTICLE IV.** Lessee's Covenants

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

# Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

# 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 applicable with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Lease and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities (collectively, "Legal Requirements"). Failure to comply with any such Legal Requirements shall be a default as set forth in Section 8.1. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee, the validity or applicability to the Premises, Solar Facilities, or any Other Approved Facilities of any Legal Requirement now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessee shall not contest any Legal Requirements in the name of Lessor unless Lessor has specifically agreed to join the action. If Lessor agrees to join the action, 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, to the extent Lessee has approved such expense in advance.



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Section 4.4 Insurance

# Section 4.5 Hold Harmless.

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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

#### Section 4.6 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 82 of 156 transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

## **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. 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 Lease, 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 or other tenancies affecting the Property except those disclosed by Lessor to Lessee in writing prior to or at the time of execution hereof. Any farm or other tenancies entered into after the date hereof shall be subject and subordinate to this Lease, and immediately terminable upon written notice to the tenant. When signed by Lessor, this Lease constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms.

#### Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders. The failure of Lessor to execute and deliver any estoppel certificate within fifteen (15) days of written request from Lessee shall constitute Lessor's agreement that all of the statements included in an estoppel certificate provided by Lessee are true and correct, without exception. Lessee shall reimburse Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket expense directly incurred in

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#### Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with the direct sunlight over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

#### Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

# Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

#### Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

#### Section 5.7 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", 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 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.

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# Section 5.8 Mineral Rights/Surface Use.

This Lease does not demise or lease to Lessee any oil, gas or minerals in place underneath the surface of the Premises (the "Mineral Estate") or the right to extract and remove the same, and subject to the following terms and provisions of this Section 5.8, Lessor's rights, if any, in the Mineral Estate are reserved to, and retained by, Lessor. During the Term, Lessor may not use, permit the use of, or otherwise grant any rights or interest in and to the Premises from the surface to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface for the purpose of exploring for, extracting, producing or mining any such oil, gas or minerals. Lessor may explore for, extract or produce oil, gas and minerals from the Mineral Estate in a manner which does not interfere with Lessee's use of the Premises or affect the Solar Facilities and which utilizes a method such as directional drilling from well sites located cutside of the Premises, so long as Lessor does not use the Premises to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface. If Lessee determines, in its sole discretion, that Lessee needs any non-interference and waiver of surface rights agreement from any person or entity with any ownership, royalty or leasehold interest in the Mineral Estate, then Lessor shall use best efforts and diligence in cooperating with Lessee's efforts to obtain the same at no out-ofpocket expense to Lessor. As of the Effective Date, there [are] or [are no] active oil, gas or mineral leases pertaining to the Premises or the Mineral Estate.

# **ARTICLE VI.** Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

#### Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

. (a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) Notice. Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

(d) Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease

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(e) **Recognition of Lender as Successor.** The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease 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 an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease 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 Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

# Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 86 of 156 Term of this Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) Benefits are "In Gross". The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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.

Burdens Run With and Against the Land. The burdens of the easements and (b) related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees. For the avoidance of doubt and subject to Section 3.4, if Lessor conveys or transfers its fee simple title to the Property, then upon such conveyance or transfer, the Lease shall run with and against the Property, and Lessor's rights and obligations under the Lease shall inure to and be binding upon any purchaser or transferee of any of Lessor's interest in the Property. Upon any conveyance or transfer of an interest in the Property, Lessor shall promptly give written notice thereof to Lessee together with a copy of the deed conveying title to the Property, provided that any such conveyance shall be made expressly subject to the Lease. Lessee may continue to make payments due under the Lease to Lessor unless and until Lessee receives such written notice from Lessor as described in this Section 6.3(b), and Lessee shall not have any liability or obligation to any such purchaser or transferee of Lessor's interest in the Property for any payments made to Lessor prior to Lessee's receipt of any such notice.

# **ARTICLE VII.** Condemnation

#### Section 7.1 Effect of Condemnation

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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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 87 of 156 which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

# Section 7.2 Condemnation 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 Lesse. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent. No termination of this Lesse under Section 7.1 shall affect Lessee's right to receive any award to which Lessee is entitled under this Section 7.2.

# **ARTICLE VIII. Default/Termination**

# Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

### Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

# Section 8.3 Damages

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

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 88 of 156 enforcement of this Lease. 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.

#### **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

Section 9.1 Notice

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	William E. Jones
	1655 Harmony Church Road
	Princeton, KY 42445 P:
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To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC
	c/o National Grid Renewables Development, LLC
	8400 Normandale Lake Blvd, Suite 1200
	Bloomington, MN 55437
	952.988.9000
	Attention: Laura Vaughan
With a copy to:	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
	200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000
	Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425
	Attention: Daniel Yarano

# Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease is intended to nor shall it in any way inure to the benefit of any third party so as to constitute any

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such person a third party beneficiary under this Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

#### Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

### Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Lease, they agree that such dispute shall be resolved in a federal court located in Kentucky.

(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

# Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 90 of 156 inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

#### Section 9.6 Waiver

Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee shall offset the amount of such overpayments to Lessor against future payments due to Lessor from Lessee hereunder.

# Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

#### Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Lease. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Lease. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

# Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 91 of 156 instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

# Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

#### Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

# Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessee to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 92 of 156 under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease 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 Lease in any way, provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

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# LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE

Caldwell Solar, LLC

Nech By: Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer

NATHAN FRANZEN, VICE PRESIDENT

) ) ss.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 19th day of <u>MAY</u>, 2021, by Jeff Ringblom, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company. \* NATHAN FRANZEN, THE VICE PRESIDENT



Notary Public

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Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

# LESSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

<u>ψικ</u> Ε. Jones Bron Svinda ure of spouse, if any

Brend R. Brown Printed name of spouse, if any

STATE OF KENTUCKY ) ss. COUNTY OF Caldwell

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The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $1/2^{++}$  day of 20<u>21</u>, by William E. Jones, May (insert name of spouse, if any, and marital status) R. AND BRENDA

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(Signature of person taking acknowledgment)

(Title or Rank): Noticy

(Serial number, if any): 597442

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# EXHIBIT A

# DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

# Tax Parcel No(s) .: 102683, 107387

All the following tracts or parcels of land, situated in the County of Caldwell, State of Kentucky, more particularly described as follows:

Two certain tracts, pieces or parcels of land lying and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky, on the waters of Skinframe Creek, described as follows, to-wit:

FIRST TRACT: Beginning at a stone on a ridge Southwest of the Sills house, and the old, or corner of the George survey, running thence N. 33 W. 80 poles to a stake in the old line; thence N. 72-45 E. 137 1/2 poles to a small hickory with several pointers in Craig's line; thence S. 3 W. 15 1/2 poles to a stone with black oak pointers, and in or near a branch; thence S. 28 E. 20 poles to a stone in Craig's old line; thence S. 53 W. 125 poles to the beginning, containing 45 acres, more or less.

SECOND TRACT: Beginning at a stake in the yard of a cabin out towards Mrs. Thomson's and nearly North from the cabin, thence S. 51 W. 10 poles to a stake in a line of Lot No. 1; thence with said line S. 47 1/2 W. 25 1/2 poles to a stake, the 3rd cormer of Lot No. 1, thence S. 31 1/2 E. 113 3/5 poles to a stake in Thomson's line, the 3rd corner of Lot No. 3; thence with said line N. 72 E. 46 poles to a stake on the South side of a road with two post oak and black oak pointers; thence N. 23 W. 39 2/5 poles to the beginning, containing 32 1/4 acres, more or less,

# Source of Title:

Being the same property conveyed to William E. Jones, by Deed of Conveyance from David Flanary and Louise C. Flanary, husband and wife, dated December 6th, 2007, and recorded on December 06, 2007 in Deed Book 268 and Page 96 in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

AND

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 96 of 156 TRACT I:

A tract of land in Caldwell County, Kentucky, approximately 4 miles northwesterly from Princeton and approximately 2000 feet northerly from West Kentucky Parkway, approximately 4600 feet southerly from Pleasant Grove Church and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a wood tie post, across the road in front of the Corley house, on the east side of a lane, corner to Flanery, at approximate elevation of 610, it's coordinates being approximately X=1,355,300, Y=295,900; thence with same Flanery as follows: North 57° 57' East 2112.00 feet to a wood tie post; North 17° 30' West 330.00 feet to a steel post; North 01° 00' West 284.96 feet to a stake at the corner of a Country Road; thence leaving Flanery and with same road North 13° 50' East 272.25 feet to a stake in the center of a side road lane; corner to subject owner; thence with the center of same lane and severing lands of subject owner South 25° 25' East 208.40 feet to a stake; South 30° 00' East 561.00 feet; South 07° 10' East 178.50 feet; South 25° 55' East 643.50 feet; South )8° 00' East 428.25 feet to a steel post at the end of the lane; thence still severing lands of subject owner South 89° 50' East 330.00 feet to a stone by tobacco barn; South 73° 20' East 346.50 feet to a

steel post, corner to McGowan; thence with same McGowan and a fence as follows; South 77° 30' East 416.50 feet; North 78° 20' East 416.63 feet to a post, corner to Tidus Scott; thence with same Scott, Myrtle McGowan and Hercolese McGowan and an old fence South 05° 45' East 1963.50 feet to a stone corner to Jim Winters; thence with an old fence on the North side of an old woods road and same Winters as follows: South 74° 01' West 252.45 feet to a post; South 70° 42' West 378.18 feet to a post; South 82° 48' West 290.40 feet; South 46° 25' West passing Winters corner and with Lewis 230.18 feet; thence with aforesaid fence on the north side of woods road North 88° 52' West 194.54 feet; North 82° 05' West 148.50 feet; South 70° 31' West 290.40 feet; North 78° 01' West 396.00 feet to a stone; thence crossing Lewise's line and with Don Hancock South 60° 47' West 223.00 feet to a steel post; thence with same Hancock South 75° 05' West 1056.00 feet to a steel pin near a Hickory Tree at the end of a lane; thence with the east side of same lane North 16° 50' West 3139.95 feet to the point of beginning, containing two hundred fifty-five and fifty-four hundredths (255.54) acres, more or less. This description according to survey by Ralph Paris KLS 930 dated August 3, 1982.

LESS AND EXCEPT: 1 acre, more or less, which consists of old Craig family graveyard, said graveyard having been reserved by Margaret J. Craig and S. Elizabeth Dorroh by deed recorded in Deed Book 265, page 414, Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

# **Source of Title:**

Being the same property conveyed to William E. Jones, by Deed of Conveyance from John Fitzgerald and Melissa Fitzgerald, husband and wife, dated July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1996, and recorded on July 17, 1996 in Deed Book 204 and Page 637 in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

The Property contains approximately <u>326.54</u> acres.

# **EXHIBIT A-1**

# SITE PLAN



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# LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 20<u>)</u> (the "Effective Date") by and between Jefferson David Watson (a/k/a Jefferson D. Watson a/k/a Jeff Watson, a/k/a J. D. Watson) and Debra J. Watson (a/k/a Debra Watson a/k/a Debbie Jo Watson, a/k/a Debbie Watson), husband and wife. ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

#### RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached <u>Exhibit A</u> (the "**Property**").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises and in the vicinity of the Property (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

#### **KEY TERMS**

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

#### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

#### **ARTICLE I.** Premises

# Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 100 of 156 solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article IV. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, 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.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, Lessee reserves the right to reduce the size of the Premises, at any time and from time to time during the Term, to that amount of acreage needed for the installation of the Solar Facilities, as described herein, to be selected and further identified with a revised Site Plan, at any time and from time to time, all at Lessee's sole discretion. Upon Lessee's exercise of its right to reduce the size of the Premises, all reference to Premises in this Lease shall refer to the Premises as may be modified by Lessee's subsequent revised Site Plan(s), if any, which revised Site Plan(s) shall replace the Site Plan attached to the Lease as <u>Exhibit A-1</u> and may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Upon Lessee's notice to Lessor, Lessee shall promptly execute and Lessor shall accept an amendment to this Lease and to the memorandum of this Lease described in Section 9.12 in recordable form to replace the Site Plan with any such revised Site Plan(s), and any such amendment may be recorded by Lessee in the real property records of the county in which the Property is located. Such amendment shall take effect immediately upon Lessee's notice to Lessor.

### Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) Solar Easement. Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 101 of 156 easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "Solar Easement") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, 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 Property through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Property.

Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any (b) contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

# ARTICLE II. Lease Term

#### Section 2.1 Term

### Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessee's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "**Term**"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "**Development Period**" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("Construction Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("Construction Period Notice Date"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("Construction Period") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the

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(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"), provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty-five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date anotice of the commencement of the Extended Term, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

# Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

(d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 103 of 156 (e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

# Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

ARTICLE III. Payments and Taxes



Section 3.2 Annual Rent During Construction Period, Extended Term and Renewal Term

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Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.



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ARTICLE IV. Lessee's Covenants

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

# Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

# 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 applicable with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Lease and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities (collectively, "Legal Requirements"). Failure to comply with any such Legal Requirements shall be a default as set forth in Section 8.1. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee, the validity or applicability to the Premises, Solar Facilities, or any Other Approved Facilities of any Legal Requirement now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessee shall not contest any Legal Requirements in the name of Lessor unless Lessor has specifically agreed to join the action. If Lessor agrees to join the action, 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, to the extent Lessee has approved such expense in advance.

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Section 4.4 Insurance



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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

#### Section 4.6 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric

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transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

### **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. 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 Lease, 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 or other tenancies affecting the Property except those disclosed by Lessor to Lessee in writing prior to or at the time of execution hereof. Any farm or other tenancies entered into after the date hereof shall be subject and subordinate to this Lease, and immediately terminable upon written notice to the tenant. When signed by Lessor, this Lease constitutes a valid and binding agreement enforceable against Lessor in accordance with its terms.

#### Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders. The failure of Lessor to execute and deliver any estoppel certificate within fifteen (15) days of written request from Lessee shall constitute Lessor's agreement that all of the statements included in an estoppel certificate provided by Lessee are true and correct, without exception. Lessee shall reimburse Lessor for its reasonable and actual out-of-pocket expense directly incurred in

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### Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with the direct sunlight over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

# Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

#### Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

# Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

### Section 5.7 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", 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 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.

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## Section 5.8 Mineral Rights/Surface Use.

This Lease does not demise or lease to Lessee any oil, gas or minerals in place underneath the surface of the Premises (the "Mineral Estate") or the right to extract and remove the same, and subject to the following terms and provisions of this Section 5.8, Lessor's rights, if any, in the Mineral Estate are reserved to, and retained by, Lessor. During the Term, Lessor may not use, permit the use of, or otherwise grant any rights or interest in and to the Premises from the surface to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface for the purpose of exploring for, extracting, producing or mining any such oil, gas or minerals. Lessor may explore for, extract or produce oil, gas and minerals from the Mineral Estate in a manner which does not interfere with Lessee's use of the Premises or affect the Solar Facilities and which utilizes a method such as directional drilling from well sites located outside of the Premises, so long as Lessor does not use the Premises to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface. If Lessee determines, in its sole discretion, that Lessee needs any non-interference and waiver of surface rights agreement from any person or entity with any ownership, royalty or leasehold interest in the Mineral Estate, then Lessor shall use best efforts and diligence in cooperating with Lessee's efforts to obtain the same at no out-ofpocket expense to Lessor. As of the Effective Date, there [are] or [are no] active oil, gas or mineral leases pertaining to the Premises or the Mineral Estate.

#### **ARTICLE VI.** Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

### Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

(a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) Notice. Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

(d) Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 111 of 156 unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Lease to the Lender and has given the Lender at least thirty (30) days from receipt of such notice to cure the default to prevent termination of this Lease. If within such thirty (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 Lease in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Lease 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 Lease 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.

(e) **Recognition of Lender as Successor.** The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease 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 an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease 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 Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

#### Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 112 of 156 Term of this Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) Benefits are "In Gross". The casements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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.

Burdens Run With and Against the Land. The burdens of the easements and (b) related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees. For the avoidance of doubt and subject to Section 3.4, if Lessor conveys or transfers its fee simple title to the Property, then upon such conveyance or transfer, the Lease shall run with and against the Property, and Lessor's rights and obligations under the Lease shall inure to and be binding upon any purchaser or transferee of any of Lessor's interest in the Property. Upon any conveyance or transfer of an interest in the Property, Lessor shall promptly give written notice thereof to Lessee together with a copy of the deed conveying title to the Property, provided that any such conveyance shall be made expressly subject to the Lease. Lessee may continue to make payments due under the Lease to Lessor unless and until Lessee receives such written notice from Lessor as described in this Section 6.3(b), and Lessee shall not have any liability or obligation to any such purchaser or transferee of Lessor's interest in the Property for any payments made to Lessor prior to Lessee's receipt of any such notice.

### **ARTICLE VII.** Condemnation

# Section 7.1 Effect of 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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 113 of 156 which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

#### Section 7.2 Condemnation 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 Lesse. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent. No termination of this Lesse under Section 7.1 shall affect Lessee's right to receive any award to which Lessee is entitled under this Section 7.2.

#### **ARTICLE VIII.** Default/Termination

### Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

#### Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

# Section 8.3 Damages

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

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 114 of 156 enforcement of this Lease. 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.

## **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

# Section 9.1 Notice

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	Jefferson David Watson and Debra Jo Watson 2044 Coleman Crider Rd Princeton, KY 42445 P:
To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC
	c/o National Grid Renewables Development, LLC
	8400 Normandale Lake Blvd, Suite 1200
	Bloomington, MN 55437
	952.988.9000
	Attention: Laura Vaughan
With a copy to:	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
	200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000
	Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425
	Attention: Daniel Yarano

# Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease is intended to nor shall it in any way inure to the benefit of any third party so as to constitute any

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 115 of 156 such person a third party beneficiary under this Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

# Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

# Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Lease, they agree that such dispute shall be resolved in a federal court located in Kentucky.

(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

#### Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 116 of 156 inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

# Section 9.6 Waiver

Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee shall offset the amount of such overpayments to Lessor against future payments due to Lessor from Lessee hereunder.

#### Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

#### Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Lease. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Lease. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

#### Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 117 of 156 instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

# Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

# Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

#### Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessee to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 118 of 156 under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease 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 Lease in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

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# LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE Caldwell Solar, LLC

By

Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer NATHAN ERANZEN, VICE PRESIDENT

) ss.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $\underline{194}$  day of  $\underline{MAY}$ ,  $20\underline{2}I$ , by Jeff Ringblow, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.  $\underline{\times}$  NATHAN FRANZEN, the VICE PRESIDEN



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Notary Public

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Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

LESSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

Jufferson David Watson

Debra Jo Watson 10 tation

STATE OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF Caldwell ) ss.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 10 day of <u>May</u> 20 21 , by Jefferson David Watson (a/k/a Jefferson D. Watson a/k/a Jeff Watson, a/k/a J. D. Watson) and Debra J. Watson (a/k/a Debra Watson a/k/a Debbie Jo Watson, a/k/a Debbie Watson), husband and wife,

grad K (Iwater) ignature of person taking acknowledgment) (Title or Rank): <u>Motary</u> <u>Public</u> (Serial number, if any): 03





### EXHIBIT A

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tax Parcel No(s).: 16-34A 34B 17-5, 26-1A, 26-3, 25-11A, 17-14, 24-3D, 35-60 and 35-65

#### PARCEL ONE:

Four certain Tracts of real estate located in Caldwell County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows:

### Tract I:

Beginning at a stake in the south line of Kentucky Highway #91, same being corner of residential lot and running thence N 51° 23' a 820.36 feet to a stake; thence S 37° 35' E 203.78 feet to a stake; thence N 52° 09' E 211.70 feet to a stake; thence N 37° 55' E 105.87 feet to a stake; thence N 51° 47' E 215.20 feet to a stake in the west line of the Illinois Central Railroad; thence with said right of ways 38° 09' E 197.76 feet, S 51° 04' W 12.84 feet, S 42° 29' E 1154.70 feet, N 50° 19' E 179.53 feet, S 42°041 E 1301.05 feet to a stake in the right of way; thence leaving the right of way S 53° 35' W 1550.69 feet to a stone in an old road; thence with said road S 59° 37' E 185.71 feet to a stake, S 74° 31' E 846.27 feet, and N 89° 17' E 160.21 feet to a locust tree; thence with another old road S 17° 17 1 W 1492.53 feet to a fence post; thence S 73° 38' W 30.35 feet; thence S 66° 30 W 2027,99 feet to a stake; thence N 14° 31' W 820.75 feet, thence N 20° 52' W 52.10 feet; thence N 62° 08' w 176.72 feet to a stake in a creek; thence with said creek N 70° 48 1 W 335.05 feet, N 29° 52' E 104.58 feet, N 23° 20' W 69.89 feet, N 38° 58' W 78.65 feet, N 82° 05' W 80.48 feet, S 44° 32' W 229.15 feet, N 89° 44' W 259.84 feet, N 71° 03' W 152.39 feet, N 45° 16' W 63.05 feet, N 8° 10 1 E 81.25 feet, N 52° 34' W 37,89 feet, N 80° 28' W 79.03 feet to a stake in said creek; thence with the division line N 59° 51' E 1680.00 feet to a stake; thence N 31° 00' W 1000.00; thence N 31° 40' E 670.00 feet, thence N 44° 21' E 335.00 feet; thence N 42° 42' W 365.27 feet to a spike in an old road; thence N 52° 42' W 547.80 feet to a stake; thence N 38° 58' W 124.70 feet to a stake; thence N 38° 55' W 310.23 feet to the point of beginning, containing 249.40 acres more or less.

There is excepted from the above described property two tracts of land located on the Old Princeton-Fredonia Road, containing 3.82 acres and .01 acres, and being the same property conveyed by H.J. Watson, et ux, to Johnson c. Myers and Emily G. Myers, his wife, by deed dated August 3, 1962 and recorded in Deed Book 1 08, page 144, Caldwell County Court Clerk's Office.

## Tract II:

Beginning at a stone on the west bank of the Old Princeton and Fredonia Road, thence with the west side of road N. 40 W. 70 poles 6 feet to a stone, Spickards corner; thence with Spickard's line S. 58 1/2 W. 7 poles to a stone; thence s. 64 1/2 w. 66 poles 7 feet to a stake in fence line continuing with same S. 27 1/2 W. 40 poles to the center of road, thence along same S. 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> E. 39 poles, s. 14 1/2 W. 22 poles, S, 25 W. 5 poles to a black oak Swishers corner; thence with his lines. 39 1/2 E,

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 122 of 156 177 poles to a stake in North line of road; thence with same N. 46 E. 119 1/4 poles to an ash; thence N. 45 W. 56 feet to a stake; thence S. 89 3/4 W. 128 1/ poles to a stake in lieu of elm now down; thence N. 9 w. crossing pond 65 1/2 poles to a stone; thence N. 65 1/4 E. 107 1/2 poles to the beginning and containing 115.6 acres.

There is excepted from and not included in the above description the following tract of land conveyed by Georgia D. Price to Roy G. Rogers by deed dated November 27, 1974 and recorded in Deed Book 138, page 335, Caldwell County Court Clerk's office, as follows: Beginning at an iron pipe in the west line of the Old Fredonia Road, corner to Myrtle Rogers, thence S. 66° 00' W. 426 feet to a stake; thence N. 21° 32' W. 52 feet to a stake: thence N. 66° 39' E. 185 feet to a stake; thence N. 26° 31 1 W. 56 feet; N. 65° 29' E. 47 feet; N. 30° 31' W. 95 feet to a stake; thence N. 58° 44' E. 146 feet to a stake in the west line of said Old Fredonia Road; thence with line of said roads. 38° 53' E. 229 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.15 acres. This description according to plat and survey by James T. Boren, #1523, dated November 24, 1974.

### Tract III:

Beginning at a stone in the Old Eddyville Road, near a gate post, Hewletts corner, thence s. 31 E, 49 rods and 7 links to a stone on bank of creek, Hewlett's corners. 45 W. 42 rods and 13 links to a stone near an apple tree; S 46<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> E. 41 rods to a gate post, Hollowells corner, S. 50 E. 29 rods and 10 links with Hollowells line, to a sassafras, Tosh's corner N. 45 E, 45 rods to a stake on bank of creek, N. 66 E. 12 poles to a stake, S. 65 E. 89 rods to a stone and black gurn at mouth of Tosh's lane, N. 45 E. 26 poles to a stone, N. 40 w. 180 rods to a stone in center of road, near a black jack, s. 41 W. 73 rods to the beginning, containing 109 acres, more or less.

# Tract IV:

The following described real estate located on Grooms Lane in Caldwell County, Kentucky, which is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a stake on the south side of a road running thence with same North 81 West 83-1/4 poles to a stake; thence South 65-1/2 west 11 poles to a stake; thence North 61-3/4 west 13-1/4 poles to a stake; thence South 83 West 74-1/4 poles to a stake on side of road; thence leaving road south 28-1/2 East 159 poles to a stake; thence North 53-1/4 East 103-3/4 poles to a stake; thence North 54 West 9-1/4 poles to a stake; thence North 21 East 70 poles to the beginning, containing 97 acres more or less according to survey of Hughlett McDowell, dated in the year 1933.

All of the above (Tracts I - IV) being the same property conveyed to J. D. Watson and Debbie Jo Watson, husband and wife, by Deed dated October 13, 1987, of record in Deed Book 169, Page 160, in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

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# PARCEL TWO:

Beginning at a point approximately 500 ft. southwest of the intersection of Old Fredonia **Rd**. and Gill Rd. at the intersection of the center of a ditch with the northwest R/W of Gill Rd.; thence-N 82° 58' 08" W-1788.00 ft.; thence-N 83° 49' 08" W-172.00 ft.; thence-N 81° 03' 08" W-245.00 ft.; thence-N 02° 25' 52" E-1015.83 ft.; thence-N 71° 44' 52" E-1775.94 ft. to the west R/W of Old Fredonia Rd.; thence-southerly approximately 300 ft. along said R/W to the center of a ditch; thence-along the center of said ditch as follows: s 08° 37' 24" W-69.97 ft.; S 06° 58' 51" E-72.28 ft.; S 05° 24' 05" W-123.38 ft.; S 79° 48' 02" W-106.21 ft.; S 10° 17' 04" E-102.05 ft.; S 58° 03' 43" W-162.25 ft.; S 25° 11' 34" E-145.13 ft.; S 21° 47' 09" E-158.80 ft.; N 78° 46' 40" E-12.14 ft.; S 33° 35' 46" E-75.15 ft.; S 07° 21' 41" E-105.18 ft.; S 81° 13' 29" E-57.34 ft.; S 41° 55' 21" E-155.79 ft.; S 34° 49' 05" E-115.47 ft.; S 22° 38' 12" E-100.86 ft.; s 26° 03' 38" E-353.73 ft. to the intersection of the northwest R/W of Gill Rd.; thence-southwesterly along said R/W approximately 75 ft. to the point of beginning and containing 62 acres more or less.

Being the same property conveyed to Jefferson David Watson and Debra Jo Watson, husband and wife, by Deed dated May 14, 1999, of record in Deed Book 218, Page 385, in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

#### PARCEL THREE:

FIRST TRACT: Beginning at a stone with a forked willow and two sycamores marked as pointers, thence with the center of the Princeton and Fredonia road S. 53 E. 6 poles, thence S. 73 ½ E. 52 poles, S. 83 ½ E. 14 poles and 15 links to a stone in the center of the road said Williamson's line, thence with his line N. 19 ½ E. 19 ½ poles to an oak stump comer to same, with same N. 4 ½ W. 11 poles and 17 links lo a stone corner to same, with same N. 25 W. 37 poles and 5 links to a stone, thence S. 54 W. 72 poles and 20 links to the beginning containing 16 acres and 8 poles.

SECOND TRACT: Beginning at a double dogwood in the Blue line, running thence S. 78  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. 33 poles to a stone in what was formerly W. D. Tinsley line, thence N. 27 W. 54 poles to a hickory with a dog wood and red oak pointers, thence S. 75 W. 104 poles to a stake standing in the center of the old Bethleham road, thence S. 25  $\frac{3}{4}$  E. 115 poles and 3 links to a stone, thence S. 2  $\frac{1}{3}$  E. 12 poles lo a sugar tree, thence S. 15  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. 116 poles to a small red oak bush former comer of Z. J. Crider and L. S. Thompson Now Criders line, thence N. 70 E. 47 poles to a maple, thence N. 62  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. 153 poles to a stone, thence N. 25 W. 122 V2 poles to the beginning. There is excepted from this last named 180 tract 75 acres, more or less, conveyed by Said Williamson to G. W. Gleen by deed dated Dec. 11<sup>1</sup> 1896, as of record in D. B. 16, Page 156, Caldwell County Clerk's Office. there is also excepted from this deed and the last named tract therein 4 acres 1 rood and 24 poles sold to Z. J. Crider by deed dated April 20, 1899, of record in D. B. 18, page 22, Caldwell Co. Clerk's Office. There is also excepted and not conveyed hereby an easement conveyed lo Kentucky Utilities Co., dated May 11, 1926.

There is reserved and not conveyed by Minnie Dunn, et al, in deed lo W.P. Spickard, dated November 5, 1945, recorded in Deed Book 76, page 569, Caldwell County Court Clerk's office, 4

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 124 of 156 acres, more or less, which lies North of the LC. Rail road tracks, being all of the land across the said rail road on the North.

Being the same property conveyed to Jeff Watson and Debbie Watson, husband and wife, by Deed dated April 3, 2003, of record in Deed Book 238, Page 670, in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

# PARCEL IV:

# TRACT I:

A certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky, on road leading from Varmint Trace Road to Crider, containing 22 acres, more or less, and described as follows: Beginning at a black oak stump, Phil Hollowell now Winters corner, thence N. 42 E. 50 poles to sassafras; thence N. 48 W. 27 poles to stone; thence S. 46 W. 98 poles to stone; thence S. 32 E. 11 poles to stake; thence S. 42 W. 46 poles to stake in road; thence with road S. 52 E. 19 poles, N. 42 E. 102 poles to beginning.

### TRACT II:

Two certain tracts, pieces or parcels of land lying and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky, described as follows:

First Tract: Beginning at a stone in center of Eddyville Road, near the creek, thence S. 40 W. 111 rods with sa.id road; thence S. 4S E. 142 rods with the Dulaney and Crider Road to Phill Holloway's s comer; thence N. 45 E. 46 rods with Holloway's line, to stone; thence N. 30 W. 11 rods to stone; thence N. 45 E. 101 Rods to a gatepost, in Francis line; thence N. 48 W. 34 rods to stone with apple tree pointer; thence N. 43 E. 40 rods to stone, on bank of creek; thence N. 40 W 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  rods to stone; thence N. 89 W. 60 rods with Young's line to stone; thence N. 35 W. 10 rods to sassafras in Young's line; thence N. 88  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. 63 rods to beginning, containing 135 acres, more or less.

Second Tract: A second tract of land situated in Caldwell County, Kentucky, on waters of Skinframe Creek and bounded as follows: Beginning at a rock situated in the Henry Allen and D. L. Bowers line, running thence in a West course to what is known as the James Smart comer where there is an old post oak stump and where it comers with Sarah Tinsley land; thence with Sarah Tinsley line in Northeast course to post oak tree in Henry Allen and D. L. Bowers line; thence in Southeast direction to beginning, containing 20 acres, more or less.

Being the same property conveyed to Jeff Watson and Debbie Watson, husband and wife, by Deed dated September 4, 2007, of record in Deed Book 266, Page 518, in the Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

AND

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 125 of 156 A tract of land in Caldwell County, Kentucky, lying 1.2 plus or minus miles southerly of Flynn's Ferry Road and Enon Road, and lying 8.0 plus or minus miles easterly of the City of Fredonia, Kentucky and better described as follows:

Note: Any monument described herein as a "5/8" iron pin set" is a 5/8" diameter rebar two feet in length with an orange plastic cap stamped JL Knoth PLS 3585. All bearings stated herein are based on unadjusted Kentucky Single zone state plane coordinates as taken from GPS observations onsite and is used for orientation and calculation purposes only.

Beginning at the southwest corner, an existing 1/2" iron pin found in the center of a 40' easement (Plat Cabinet 2 Slide 427), said pin being a common corner of the J. Todd and Karen Phelps property (Deed Book 310 Page 213) and the Jeff and Debbie Watson and Jessica M. Watson property (Deed Book 309 Page 614);

Thence, and with the center of the 40' easement and the Phelps line, N 05° 10' 56" E 351.70 feet to a 5/8" iron pin set in the center of a 40' easement;

Thence, and severing the property with a new line this day made, S  $75^{\circ}$  07" E 1343.33 feet to a 5/8" iron pin set in the west line of the Lucy Chandler Estate property (No Source Deed found, PVA Parcel # 24-12A); Thence, and with her line, S  $16^{\circ}$  50' 41" W 478.83 feet to a 5/8" iron pin set, said pin being in the north line of the Jeff and Debbie Watson and Charles W. and Jessica M. Watson property (Deed Book 309 Page 614);

Thence, and with their line, N 69° 10' 47" W 1274.51 feet to the point of beginning containing 12.3336 acres and being a portion of Deed Book 309 Page 621 as surveyed by James L. Knoth Professional Land Surveyor No. 3585 on October 22, 2019.

But the property is subject to that portion of the 40' ingress and egress easement lying along the westerly line of the above described tract as shown on Plat Cabinet 2 Slide 427.

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# SOURCE OF TITLE:

Being a part of the same property conveyed to Jennifer Hyslop, by Deed of Conveyance from Nannette K. Morris, a single person, dated June 13, 2016 and recorded in Deed Book 309, Page 621, Caldwell County Clerk's Office.

AND

Property located in Caldwell County, Ky., on the North side of Otis-Sheridan Road, approximately 1.0 mile West of Ky. Hwy. 139.

Beginning at an Iron pin (Set), in the North right of way of Otis-Sheridan Road, Iron pin being a common corner between Jeff Watson and P. L. Perkins Property; Thence North 40 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds West leaving said right of way with Jeff Watson Property 1,122.00 feet to an Iron pin (Set); Thence South 88 degrees 20 minutes 45 seconds East with another line of Watson Property and a line of Boyce Crowder Property 660.00 feet to an Iron pin (Set); Thence South 42 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East with another line of Boyce Crowder Property 775.50 feet to an Iron pin (Set) in the North right of way of Otis-Sheridan Road; Thence South 60 degrees 00 minute 00 seconds West with said right of way 528.00 feet to the beginning.

Being the same property conveyed from The Heirs at Law of P. L. Perkins, now deceased, to J. D. Watson and Debra Watson, husband and wife by Deed of Conveyance dated January 18, 2005, which was filed in Deed Book 251 at Page 58 on January 18, 2005, in the Office of the County Recorder of Caldwell County, Kentucky;

# AND

TRACT I - A certain tract of land situated and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky, on waters of Donaldson Greek containing 76 acres, more or less, and is same land conveyed to said J. H. Brown by W. M. Brown & wife by deed dated July 18, 1895, recorded in Caldwell County Court Clerk's office in D. B. #14 page 378, which deed is made a part hereof and to which reference is here made for further information on particulars concerning said land by metes, bounds or otherwise. (Description copied from old deed and draftsman assumes no responsibility for accuracy of same.)

#### AND

TRACT II - A certain tract, piece or parcel of land lying and being in Caldwell County, Kentucky, on waters of Donaldson Greek and known and bounded as follows -On South by lands of T. M. Nelson, on East by J. W. McNeely, on North by Urie

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# Williamson, on West by Elliott Jones and containing 15 acres, more or less. (Description copied from old deed and draftsman assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of same.)

Being the same property conveyed from the Last Will and Testament of H. J. Watson to J. D. Watson, which was recorded on September 19, 1989 in Will Book O at Pages 687-692, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

The Property contains approximately 1.038.01 acres.

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# **EXHIBIT A-1**

# SITE PLAN



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# LAND LEASE AND SOLAR EASEMENT

This Land Lease and Solar Easement ("Lease") is made on <u>December</u> 18<sup>Th</sup>, 2019(the "Effective Date") by and between Brenda Vinson Bugg, a single person ("Lessor") and Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its successors and assigns ("Lessee").

### RECITALS

A. Lessor owns that certain real property located in Caldwell County, Kentucky and legally described on the attached <u>Exhibit A</u> (the **"Property**").

B. Lessee is desirous of developing a solar energy project on the Premises (the "**Project**"), and Lessor desires to lease a portion of the Property (as more fully described herein, the "**Premises**") to Lessee for that purpose.

C. Lessor is willing to lease and grant certain easement rights in the Premises to Lessee, and Lessee is willing to lease and obtain certain easement rights in the Premises from Lessor, all as more fully described below.

#### **KEY TERMS**

Development Period	5 years
Construction Period	2 years
Extended Term	25 years
Renewal Terms (3, each)	10 years

#### AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree that the above recitals are true and correct in all material respects and are incorporated herein by reference, and further agree as follows:

#### **ARTICLE I.** Premises

# Section 1.1 General

(a) Lease of Premises for Solar Energy Purposes. Lessor leases to Lessee, and Lessee leases from Lessor, the Premises, as identified on the site plan attached hereto as Exhibit <u>A-1</u> (the "Site Plan"), for the purpose of development and use of a solar facility, including but not limited to monitoring, testing and evaluating the Premises for solar energy generation; activities related to the production of solar energy including constructing, installing, using, maintaining, operating, replacing, relocating and removing solar panels, overhead and underground electrical transmission and communications lines, electric transformers, energy storage facilities, telecommunications equipment, power generation facilities to be operated in conjunction with solar panel installations, including roads, and solar energy measurement equipment, fencing, and

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 132 of 156 related facilities and equipment (hereinafter "Solar Facilities"). Such Solar Facilities shall be installed in compliance with Article VI. Such activities may be conducted by Lessee, its employees, agents, licensees or permittees. Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "solar energy purposes" means converting solar energy into electrical energy, and collecting and transmitting the electrical energy so converted, together with any and all activities related thereto.

(b) Lessee shall use the Premises only for the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, replacement, and removal of Solar Facilities. Lessee shall consult with Lessor on Lessee's site development plan prior to construction on the Premises, showing Lessor the proposed locations of Solar Facilities before making its final decisions as to locations of Solar Facilities on the Premises; provided, however, that Lessee shall make all such final siting decisions in Lessee's sole discretion. Lessee has the right to relocate existing Solar Facilities upon the Premises during the term of this Lease.

(c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee, for the Term (as defined below), easements over, under, upon and across and on the Property (1) for ingress to and egress from Solar Facilities (whether located on the Premises, on adjacent property or elsewhere) by means of roads and lanes thereon if existing, or otherwise by such route or routes as Lessee may construct from time to time (the "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 Property, 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.

(d) Lessor shall retain the right to use the portion of the Property not included within the Premises.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, Lessee reserves the right to reduce the size of the Premises, at any time during the Term, to that amount of acreage needed for the installation of the Solar Facilities, as described herein, to be selected and further identified with an amended description and site plan, at a future date, all at Lessee's sole discretion. Upon Lessee's exercise of its right to reduce the size of the Premises, all reference to Premises in this Lease shall refer to the Premises as modified by the amended Site Plan, if any. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that Lessee constructs any Solar Facilities on the Premises, in no event shall the Premises consist of less than <u>320.25</u> acres.

### Section 1.2 Solar Easement

(a) Solar Easement. Lessor hereby grants and conveys to Lessee an exclusive easement on, over and across the Property for direct sunlight to any solar panels on the Premises and an exclusive easement prohibiting any obstruction of direct sunlight (collectively, the "Solar Easement") throughout the entire Property to and for the benefit of the area existing horizontally three hundred and sixty degrees (360°) from any point where any solar panel 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 Property, together vertically through all space located above the surface of the Property, that is, one hundred eighty degrees (180°) or such greater number or

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 133 of 156 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 Property through each Site to each point and on and along such line to the opposite exterior boundary of the Property.

Lessor Improvements. Trees, buildings and other improvements located on any (b) contiguous, non-tillable land containing an existing home site on the Property (the "Existing Homestead"), as of the date of this Lease shall be allowed to remain, and Lessee may not require their removal. Lessee may require the removal of trees, buildings, and other improvements (an "Improvement") located on the Property outside of the Existing Homestead. Lessor may not place or plant any Improvement on the Property after the date of this Lease which may, in Lessee's sole judgment, impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities, unless Lessor has received written approval from Lessee for any such trees, structure or improvement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessor may replace any structure or improvement located in the Property as of the Effective Date (the "Original Structure or Improvement") with a new structure or improvement in the exact same location that does not exceed the size and dimensions in any direction as the Original Structure or Improvement (the "New Structure or Improvement"), provided that such New Structure or Improvement does not impede or interfere with direct sunlight to any Solar Facilities in any way that is more detrimental to the Property than the Original Structure or Improvement. If at any time during the duration of this Lease, Lessor would like a variance of the preceding requirements, Lessor may submit a letter of request to Lessee for approval, and approval or denial of such request shall be in Lessee's sole discretion.

# ARTICLE II. Lease Term

Section 2.1 Term

# Development Period; Construction Period; Extended Term; Renewal Terms

(a) Lessee's rights under this Lease continue throughout the term of this Lease (the "Term"). Initially, the Term shall be for the Development Period. The "Development Period" commences on the Effective Date and expires on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date.

(b) The Lease shall automatically be extended for the Construction Period, as defined below, upon the earlier of (i) the date when construction of Solar Facilities commences in connection with the Project ("**Construction Date**"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's election to extend the term of the Lease for the Construction Period ("**Construction Period Notice Date**"), provided that the Construction Period commences prior to the expiration of the Development Period. The Construction Period of the Lease ("**Construction Period**") is two (2) years from the earlier of either of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms of the Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Construction Date or the Construction Period Notice Date against the Premises to give notice of such date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

(c) The Term shall automatically be extended for the Extended Term (as defined below) upon the date when the Project begins commercial operation, which shall be defined as the date of the first commercial deliveries of electrical energy to the local utility grid ("Commercial Operation Date"); or (ii) the date when Lessor receives written notice from Lessee of Lessee's

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 134 of 156 election to extend the term of the Lease for the Extended Term ("Extended Term Notice Date"), provided that the commencement of the Extended Term occurs prior to the expiration of the Construction Period. The Extended Term of this Lease ("Extended Term") is twenty five (25) years from the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Lease. Lessee may record a notice of the Commercial Operation Date or the Extended Term Notice Date against Lessor's Property to give notice of the Construction Date, and upon the request of Lessor shall record such notice, but a failure to record such notice shall not affect the validity of this Lease.

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# Section 2.2 Termination of Lease

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

- (a) The expiration of this Lease as set forth in Section 2.1; or
- (b) The written agreement of both parties to terminate this Lease; or

(c) An uncured material breach of this Lease by either party and the election of the non-defaulting party to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VIII; or

(d) At the option of Lessee, thirty (30) days after Lessee's execution and delivery of written notice of termination to Lessor (as to the entire Property, or any part thereof at Lessee's option), in Lessee's sole and absolute discretion; or

(e) A condemnation of all or a portion of the Premises and the election of the Lessee to terminate the Lease pursuant to Article VII; or

(f) Pursuant to applicable law.

# Section 2.3 Part of a Larger Project

The parties acknowledge that the covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions in favor of Lessee pursuant to this Lease including, but not limited to, the easement described in Section 1.2, and Lessee's use of and benefit from those covenants, conditions, rights and restrictions, may constitute a portion of a larger solar energy 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.

# **ARTICLE III.** Payments and Taxes

Section 3.1 Development Period Rent and Signing Payment

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Section 3.2 Annual Rent During Construction Period, Extended Term and Renewal Term

Section 3.3 Taxes, Assessments and Utilities

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# Section 3.4 Severance of Lease Payments

Lessor acknowledges and agrees that it shall not be permitted to sever the payments under the Lease, and shall not be permitted to assign payments due to Lessor under the Lease to a third party without the consent of Lessee. Upon the transfer of an interest in the Premises to an heir, legal representative, successor or assign, the payments hereunder (or the proportionate share thereof) shall inure to the benefit of such party.

Section 3.5 Crop Damage and Compaction

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### **ARTICLE IV.** Lessee's Covenants

Lessee covenants, represents and warrants to Lessor as follows:

#### Section 4.1 Mechanic's Liens

Lessee shall keep the Premises free and clear of all liens and claims of liens for labor, materials, services, supplies and equipment performed for or furnished to Lessee or, at the request of Lessee, any Solar Facility on the Premises in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises. Lessee may contest any such lien if Lessee provides Lessor with a bond or other reasonable security to protect Lessor's interest in the Premises against any such lien, in which case Lessee shall not be required to remove the lien during the period of the contested proceeding, but will be required to remove the lien prior to Lessor's interest in the Premises being forfeited. Lessee agrees to provide for ultimate removal before it affects Lessor's rights on the Premises.

#### 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 applicable with respect to Lessee's activities pursuant to this Lease and shall obtain all permits, licenses and orders required to conduct any and all such activities (collectively, "Legal Requirements"). Failure to comply with any such Legal Requirements shall be a default as set forth in Section 8.1. Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to contest by appropriate legal proceedings brought in the name of Lessee, the validity or applicability to the Premises, Solar Facilities, or any Other Approved Facilities of any Legal Requirement now or hereafter made or issued by any federal, state, county, local or other governmental agency or entity. Lessee shall not contest any Legal Requirements in the name of Lessor unless Lessor has specifically agreed to join the action. If Lessor agrees to join the action, 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, to the extent Lessee has approved such expense in advance.

# Section 4.3 Lessee's Improvements

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Section 4.4 Insurance

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relating to the Premises, to the extent that such increase is directly caused by the installation of the Solar Facilities or Lessee's operations on the Premises.

#### Section 4.5 Hold Harmless.

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 Property (including, as to Lessor, any operations or activities conducted on the Property 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. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease.

#### Section 4.6 Essential Services.

Except for any competing developers of solar energy projects, Lessee shall accommodate the reasonable development of essential services on the Property, including any electric transmission and distribution lines and associated facilities, telecommunications facilities, and rural water systems, provided that such services do not interfere with the Solar Facilities.

#### Section 4.7 Hazardous Materials

Lessee 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 Lessee's operations, any substance which is defined as a "hazardous substance", "hazardous material", 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 is in full compliance with all applicable laws.

#### **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 Lease, Lessor is the sole owner of the Property in fee simple and each person or entity signing this Lease on behalf of Lessor has the full and unrestricted authority to execute and deliver this Lease and to grant the leaseholds, easements and other rights granted to Lessee herein. There are no encumbrances or liens against the Property except: (a) those currently of record in the county where the Property are located, or (b) those which are reflected in a title report for the Property provided to Lessee prior to execution of the Lease. To the extent that any such encumbrances or other title defects could interfere with the

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# Section 5.2 Cooperation to Eliminate Lien Interference

Lessor shall cooperate with Lessee to obtain non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or such other necessary agreements, from any person or entity with a lien, encumbrance, mortgage, lease (including, but not limited to a crop lease) or other exception to Lessor's fee title to the Property to the extent necessary to eliminate any actual or potential interference by any such lienholder with any rights granted to Lessee under this Lease. Lessor shall also cooperate with Lessee to obtain and maintain any permits or approvals needed for the Solar Facilities at no cost or expense to Lessor. 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 Property 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 Property 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, non-disturbance and subordination agreements, or additional documents that may be reasonably necessary for recording purposes or requested by Lessee or any of its lenders.

# Section 5.3 Quiet Enjoyment

As long as Lessee is not in default of this Lease beyond any applicable cure period (or if no cure period is expressly set forth, a reasonable time), Lessee shall have the quiet use and enjoyment of the Premises in accordance with the terms of this Lease 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 be only as permitted under this Lease and shall not interfere with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with any of Lessee's rights or activities pursuant to this Lease, and Lessor shall not interfere or allow interference with the direct sunlight over the Premises or otherwise engage in activities or allow any activities which might impede or decrease the output or efficiency of the Solar Facilities.

# Section 5.4 Exclusivity

Lessee shall have the exclusive right to use the Premises for commercial solar energy purposes. For purposes of this Lease, "commercial solar energy purposes" means converting solar

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# Section 5.5 Operation of the Solar Facilities

Lessor acknowledges and understands that the Solar Facilities to be located on the Premises may impact the view on the Property, and will cause or emit electromagnetic and frequency interference. Lessor covenants and agrees that the Lessor shall not assert that the Solar Facilities constitute a nuisance.

# Section 5.6 Maintenance of the Premises

Lessor will maintain the Premises to the extent not occupied by Solar Facilities. Lessee shall be responsible for maintaining the Premises which are occupied by the Solar Facilities as set forth in the Site Plan. Lessee will maintain any roads or trails constructed by Lessee, and Lessor will maintain all other roads or trails on the Premises.

# Section 5.7 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", 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 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.

### **ARTICLE VI.** Assignment; Encumbrance of Lease

# Section 6.1 Right to Encumber

(a) Lessee Right to Mortgage Leasehold Interest. Lessee may at any time mortgage all or any part of its interest in the Lease and rights under this Lease and/or enter into a collateral assignment of all or any part of its interest in the Lease or rights under this Lease to any entity ("Lender"). No Lender shall have any obligations under this Lease 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) Notice. Lessee shall notify Lessor of the identity and notice address for any Lender. Lessor and Lessee agree that, once all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease are mortgaged

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 143 of 156 or assigned to a Lender, they will not modify or terminate this Lease without the prior written consent of the Lender.

(c) Lender Right to Cure Lessee Default. 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 Lease, and any such payment, act or thing performed by Lender shall be effective to prevent an Event of Default by Lessee and any forfeiture of any of Lessee's rights under this Lease as if done by Lessee itself.

Notice from Lessor to Lender in Case of Lessee Default. During the time all or (d) any part of Lessee's interests in this Lease 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. If Lessor becomes entitled to terminate this Lease due to an uncured default by Lessee, Lessor will not terminate this Lease unless it has first given written notice of the uncured default and of its intent to terminate this Lease to the Lender and has given the Lender at least thirty (30) days from receipt of such notice to cure the default to prevent termination of this Lease. If within such thirty (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 Lease in order to cure the default, Lessor shall not terminate this Lease 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 Lease 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.

(e) Recognition of Lender as Successor. The acquisition of all or any part of Lessee's interests in the Lease 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 an Event of Default or default of this Lease by Lessee, and upon the completion of the acquisition or conveyance Lessor shall acknowledge and recognize Lender as Lessee's proper successor under this Lease upon Lender's cure of any existing Lessee defaults and assumption of the obligations of Lessee under this Lease prospectively.

(f) New Lease. If this Lease is rejected by a trustee or a debtor-in-possession in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding Lessor may agree, upon request by any Lender within sixty (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 Lease, (ii) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Term 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 Lease (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 Lease but for the rejection or termination from the date of the rejection

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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 Lease to the extent Lessee failed to perform them prior to the execution and delivery of the new lease.

#### Section 6.2 Assignment of Lessee's Interest

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 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 Lease, or any right or interest in this Lease, 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 Lease; (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 Lease by virtue of the assignment or conveyance unless Lessee assigns or conveys all of its interests under the Lease to the assignee or transferce, 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 6.3 Continuing Nature of Obligations

(a) Benefits are "In Gross". The easements and related rights granted by Lessor in this Lease to Lessee are easements "in gross", which means, among other things, that they are interests personal to and for the benefit of Lessee, and its successors and assigns, as owner of the rights created by the easements granted herein. Such easements and other rights granted Lessee by Lessor in this Lease are independent of any lands or estates or interest in lands, there is no other real property benefiting from the easements and related rights 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) Burdens Run With and Against the Land. The burdens of the easements and related rights granted to Lessee in this Lease shall run with and against the Property and shall be a charge and burden on the Property and shall be binding upon and against Lessor and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees, lessees, employees and agents. The Lease and the easements and

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KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 145 of 156 related rights granted herein shall inure to the benefit of Lessee and its successors, assigns, permittees, licensees and Project lessees.

### **ARTICLE VII.** Condemnation

#### Section 7.1 Effect of 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, at Lessee's option, the parties shall either amend this Lease to reflect any necessary relocation of the Solar Facilities which will preserve the value and benefit of the Lease to Lessee, together with any corresponding payments, or this Lease shall terminate in which event neither party shall have any further obligations.

### Section 7.2 Condemnation 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 Lease. Lessee shall have the right to participate in any condemnation proceedings to this extent. No termination of this Lease under Section 7.1 shall affect Lessee's right to receive any award to which Lessee is entitled under this Section 7.2.

### **ARTICLE VIII.** Default/Termination

### Section 8.1 Events of Default

Each of the following shall constitute a "Event of Default" that shall permit the nondefaulting party to terminate this Lease or pursue other remedies available at law or equity, subject to the terms and conditions of Article VI.

- any failure by Lessee to pay any undisputed amounts due under Article III if the failure to pay continues for thirty (30) days after written notice from Lessor;
- (ii) any other breach of this Lease by either party which continues for thirty (30) days after written notice of default from the nondefaulting party or, if the cure will take longer than thirty (30) days, the length of time necessary to effect cure as long as

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 146 of 156 the defaulting party is making diligent efforts to cure during that time, but not more than ninety (90) days.

#### Section 8.2 Surrender

Upon the termination or expiration of this Lease, Lessee shall peaceably surrender the Premises to Lessor and remove all Solar Facilities from the Premises at Lessee's expense within twelve (12) months after the date the Lease expires or is terminated as required pursuant to Section 4.3 of this Lease. Lessee shall pay Annual Rent to Lessor for the period until the Solar Facilities are removed from the Premises, which obligation shall survive the expiration or earlier termination hereof.

### Section 8.3 Damages

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 Lease. 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.

#### **ARTICLE IX.** Miscellaneous

## Section 9.1 Notice

Notices, consents or other documents required or permitted by this Lease must be given by personal delivery, reputable overnight courier or certified U.S. mail postage prepaid and shall be sent to the respective parties as follows (or at such other address as either party may designate upon written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this paragraph) and shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal, if personally delivered, upon the date of actual

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# Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

delivery or refusal shown on the courier's delivery receipt if sent by overnight courier and on the fourth business day after deposit in the U.S. mail if sent by certified mail:

To Lessor:	Brenda Vinson Bugg
To Lessee:	Caldwell Solar, LLC c/o Geronimo Energy, LLC 7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725 Edina, MN 55435 952.988.9000 Attention: Laura Vaughan
With a copy to:	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. 200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-1425 Attention: Daniel Yarano

#### Section 9.2 Relationship of the Parties; No Third Party Beneficiaries

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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. Except for the rights of Lenders set forth above, no provision of this Lease 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 Lease, or of any one or more of the terms of this Lease, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party to this Lease.

#### Section 9.3 Entire Agreement

It is mutually understood and agreed that this Lease 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 Lease. This Lease may not be amended except in a writing executed by both parties.

#### Section 9.4 Legal Matters.

(a) This Lease is made in Kentucky and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Kentucky. If the parties are unable to resolve amicably any dispute arising out of or in connection

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(b) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease, 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 Lease.

(c) EACH OF THE PARTIES KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVES THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION BASED ON THIS LEASE, OR ARISING OUT OF, UNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS LEASE AND ANY AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED TO BE EXECUTED IN CONJUNCTION HEREWITH, OR ANY COURSE OF CONDUCT, COURSE OF DEALING, STATEMENTS (WHETHER VERBAL OR WRITTEN) OR ACTIONS OF ANY PARTY HERETO. EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THIS LEASE WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE ANY ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL HAS BEEN WAIVED WITH ANY OTHER ACTION IN WHICH A JURY TRIAL CANNOT OR HAS NOT BEEN WAIVED. THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO EACH OF THE PARTIES FOR ENTERING INTO THIS LEASE.

#### Section 9.5 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 Lease and to fulfill the obligations of the respective parties. If, at any time during the Term, Lessee deems it to be necessary or desirable to meet legal or regulatory requirements, Lessee may request that Lessor re-execute a new lease substantially in the form of this Lease with a term equal to the Term remaining as of the date of execution of the new lease, and Lessor shall execute and enter into the new lease with Lessee or its designee. In the event of inaccuracies or insufficiencies in the legal description of the Property, this Lease shall be amended to correct the inaccuracies or insufficiencies. Furthermore, Lessor agrees to negotiate in good faith to grant an easement to a utility over the Premises if needed in connection with the transmission of electricity generated by the Project.

#### Section 9.6 Waiver

Neither party shall be deemed to have waived any provision of this Lease 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 Lease shall not be deemed a waiver with respect to any subsequent or other matter. In the event that Lessee makes any overpayments to Lessor hereunder, Lessee

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### Section 9.7 Force Majeure

Neither Lessor nor Lessee shall be liable to each other, or be permitted to terminate this Lease, for any failure to perform an obligation of this Lease 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. Unanticipated Project costs do not constitute a Force Majeure event.

#### Section 9.8 Confidentiality

The parties acknowledge that prior to the execution of this Lease, neither party may require the other party to maintain the confidentiality of any negotiations or the terms of the Agreement. After the Effective Date, however, both parties shall maintain in confidence, for the benefit of the other party, all information pertaining to the financial terms of or payments under this Agreement. Neither party will 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 the other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each party may disclose such information to such party's lenders, attorneys, accountants and other advisors; any prospective purchaser or lessee of such party's interests in Premises; or pursuant to lawful process, subpoena or court order requiring such disclosure, provided the party making such disclosure advises the party receiving the information of the confidentiality of the information. The provisions of this Section 9.8 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Lease.

### Section 9.9 Tax Credits

If under Legal Requirements the holder of a leasehold interest in the nature of that held by Lessee under this Lease becomes ineligible for any tax credit, benefit or incentive for alternative energy expenditure established by any local, state or federal governmental authority, then, at Lessee and Lessor's option, Lessor and Lessee may amend this Lease or replace it with a different instrument so as to convert Lessee's interest in the Premises to a substantially similar interest that makes Lessee eligible for such tax credit, benefit or incentive.

#### Section 9.10 Severability

Each provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforceable to the extent not prohibited by law. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 150 of 156 provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby.

#### Section 9.11 Counterparts

This Lease 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 9.12 Memorandum of Lease

Lessor and Lessee shall execute in recordable form and Lessee shall have the right to record a memorandum of this Lease in a form provided by Lessee. Lessor hereby consents to the recordation of the interest of an assignee in the Premises. Upon the termination of the Lease, at the request of Lessor, Lessee agrees to provide a recordable acknowledgement of such termination to Lessor.

#### Section 9.13 Relationship of Parties

The duties, obligations and liabilities of each of the parties are intended to be several and not joint or collective. This Lease 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 9.14 Multiple Owners

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Lease or elsewhere, any obligation under this Lease for Lessee to pay Lessor any amount will be completely and unconditionally satisfied by payment of such amount by Lessee to the party named for Lessor in Section 9.1 at the address for such party given in Section 9.1, or such other single address designated by not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Lessee signed by all parties comprising Lessor. At Lessee's election such payment may be by joint check or checks payable to the Lessor parties known to Lessee. The parties comprising Lessor shall be solely responsible to notify Lessee in writing of any change in ownership of the Property or any portion thereof. Each of the parties comprising Lessor hereby irrevocably directs and authorizes Lessee to make all payments payable to Lessor under this Lease and to provide all notices to Lessor under this Lease directly to the party named in Section 9.1 as agent for all parties comprising Lessor, or to such other single person that all parties comprising Lessor shall direct by written notice to Lessee. 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 Lease or any other agreement regarding any amount paid or payable to Lessor under this Lease or the performance of any obligation owed to Lessor under this Lease and shall not join Lessee in any such dispute or interfere with, delay, limit or otherwise adversely affect

KYPSC Case No. 2020-00244 1 ESB 01 (unredacted) Page 151 of 156 any of the rights or remedies of Lessee under this Lease in any way; provided, this will not limit the rights of Lessor under this Lease to enforce the obligations of Lessee under this Lease and so long as all parties comprising Lessor agree on pursuing such right or remedy and so notify Lessee in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have caused this instrument to be executed as of the Effective Date.

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

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### LESSEE SIGNATURE PAGE

LESSEE Caldwell Solar, LLC

By: Jeff Ringblom, Chief Financial Officer

STATE OF MINNESOTA)) ss.) ss.COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $\frac{18^{44}}{2000}$  day of <u>December</u>, 2019, by Jeff Ringblom, the Chief Financial Officer of Caldwell Solar, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.



mana Sieluchte Notary Public

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Filed per 3-30-2022 ESB Order Response to 1 ESB 01

LESSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

Brenda Dirison Bugg

STATE OF KENTUCKY ) COUNTY OF <u>Coldwell</u>) ss.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  $\frac{44}{2019}$  day of  $\frac{2019}{2019}$  (year), by Brenda Vinson Bugg, a single person.

witan thomas

(Signature of person taking acknowledgment) (Title or Rank): <u>10t any Public</u> (Serial number, if any): <u>557167</u>

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### EXHIBIT A

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

#### Tax Parcel No.: 9-3C

Being a portion of the same property conveyed from Charles Thomas Vinson and Marlene B. Vinson, his wife, to Brenda Vinson Bug and John Dan Bugg, Jr., her husband, by Deed dated January 16, 1973 and recorded on January 17, 1973 at Deed Book 133/Page Number 210 in the office of the County Clerk for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

AND

Tax Parcel No.: 9-2

Being a portion of the same property conveyed from Lemuel D. Wilson and Charles A. Wilson, Jr., her husband, to Brenda Vinson Bugg, by Deed dated September 29, 1964 and recorded on September 30, 1964 at Deed Book 113/Page Number 62 in the office of the County Clerk for Caldwell County, Kentucky.

The parcel contains <u>428.3</u> acres.

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# **EXHIBIT A-1**

# SITE PLAN



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