

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

In the Matter of:

Electronic Application of Caldwell Solar, LLC for a)	
Certificate of Construction for an Approximately)	
200 Megawatt Merchant Electric Solar Generating)	Case No.
Facility in Caldwell County, Kentucky)	2020-00244

Motion to Approve Form of Public Meeting

Comes now Caldwell Solar, LLC (hereinafter, “Caldwell” or the “Applicant”) pursuant to KRS 278.706(2)(f) and the Public Service Commission’s Order dated March 16, 2020 (the “Order”) in the case entitled “Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19,” No. 2020-00085, and for its Motion to approve the format for its Public Meeting, states as follows:

1. Caldwell will be an Applicant for approval of a Siting Board Application for a Certificate to Construct a solar merchant electric generating facility, the Notice of Intent for which was filed pursuant to 807 KAR 5:110, Section 2 on July 28, 2020.
2. Pursuant to KRS 278.706(2)(f)(1) for the merchant electric generating facility, a public meeting must be scheduled and conducted in the county where the proposed facility will be constructed at least ninety (90) days prior to filing an application.
3. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Public Service Commission in its Order limited in-person activities at the Commission and encouraged teleconferences instead.

4. In the Order, the PSC relied on the Executive Order 2020-215 declaring a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Subsequent Executive Orders have reinforced the importance of social distancing and limited public gatherings. These limitations affect the ability of Caldwell to conduct traditional, in-person public meetings.

5. In subsequent Orders, the Siting Board has approved non-traditional public meeting formats that satisfy requirements of KRS 278.706(2)(f) while protecting public health and safety.

6. In Case No. 2020-00208 the Board approved a hybrid virtual/in-person format for a public meeting involving a detailed website with contact information, in-person “office hours,” and a virtual “live” public information meeting with opportunities for questions and answers.

7. Applicant proposes an identical process and protocols to provide the public in Caldwell County with information about its project. Specifically:

A. Project Website: Caldwell Solar has launched a website accessible to the public which contains the following key information on the solar project:

- i. PowerPoint presentation of the project;
- ii. Date, time, and other details of a subsequent public information meeting, which will be listed once this information is finalized;
- iii. Date time, and location of an in-person office hours for dissemination of relevant information to the public regarding the solar project, which will be listed once this information is finalized;
- iv. A map showing the project area, aerial imagery, and parcel information for all participating properties in Caldwell County;

v. Contact information and instructions for submitting questions and comments regarding the project;

vi. Summary of frequently asked questions and responses; and,

vii. Instructions on how to request more information, including paper copies of the PowerPoint presentation.

B. In-Person Office Hours: Caldwell Solar will publish notice, include on the website, and send to neighboring landowners at least two (2) weeks prior information about specific hours for in-person discussion for the public in Caldwell County. Any member of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions about the project and obtain information. The in-person “Office Hours” will comport with any social distancing and public gathering requirements. The “Office Hours” will take place prior to the Public Information Meeting.

C. Virtual Public Information Meeting: At a date and time to be published locally and sent to neighboring landowners at least two (2) weeks prior, Caldwell and its subject matter experts will host a live presentation with a question and answer session which would be accessible to the public either by the internet or by telephone. The virtual public information meeting will be capable of hosting up to 1,000 participants, will allow the public to view a presentation from Caldwell representatives, and will allow the public to ask any questions related to the project.

8. In order to meet the two (2) week public notice requirement of KRS 278.706(2)(f)(2), Applicant respectfully requests that the Board approve this proposed method of public meeting by August 6, 2020.

WHEREFORE, Caldwell Solar respectfully requests an Order declaring that the methods described above satisfy the statutory requirements of informing the public of the project being considered and receiving comment on it in the counties in which the facility will be constructed.

Respectfully submitted,

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