

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION  
AND TRANSMISSION SITING

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF AEUG	)	
FLEMING SOLAR, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE	)	
OF CONSTRUCTION FOR AN	)	
APPROXIMATELY 188 MEGAWATT	)	CASE NO.
MERCHANT ELECTRIC SOLAR	)	2020-00206
GENERATING FACILITY IN FLEMING	)	
COUNTY, KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO	)	
KRS 278.700 AND 807 KAR 5:110	)	

SITING BOARD STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
ON REHEARING TO AEUG FLEMING SOLAR, LLC

AEUG Fleming Solar, LLC (AEUG Fleming), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Siting Board an electronic version of the following information. The information requested herein is due on January 22, 2021. The Siting Board directs AEUG Fleming to the March 16, 2020 and March 24, 2020 Orders in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>1</sup> regarding filings with the Siting Board. The Siting Board expects the original documents to be filed with the Commission within 30 days of the lifting of the current state of emergency. All responses in paper medium shall be appropriately bound, tabbed, and indexed. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

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<sup>1</sup> Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC Mar. 16, 2020), Order at 5–6. Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC Mar. 24, 2020), Order at 1–3.

Each response shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided. Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

AEUG Fleming shall make timely amendment to any prior response if AEUG Fleming obtains information that indicates the response was incorrect when made or, though correct when made, is now incorrect in any material respect. For any request to which AEUG Fleming fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, AEUG Fleming shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

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

1. Refer to the Application Volume 1, Appendix B – Proof of Notice of Application. Explain why some of the property owners listed are highlighted in red.
2. Refer to the Application Volume 1, Appendix C – Public Involvement Documents.

a. Regarding the ACCIONA cover letter, explain how the statement that the proposed solar project will create up to 300 jobs during peak construction is consistent with the construction-related labor figures set forth in the Application, Volume I, page 6, Section 10 – Effect on Local and Regional Economies and in the Application, Appendix G – Economic Impact Report.

b. Regarding the ACCIONA CEO letter, provide further details on the statement setting forth the company's commitment to support local education, environmental, and wellness efforts.

c. Regarding the Fleming County Solar Public Meeting August 7, 2020 PowerPoint presentation, slide 12 titled "Why Fleming County?", explain what is meant by "strong local solar resource."

d. Regarding the Fleming County Solar Public Meeting August 7, 2020 PowerPoint presentation, slides 15–16, provide the responses or answers to the questions posed on these two pages.

e. State whether AEUG Fleming received any questions, feedback, complaints, or concerns regarding the proposed solar project, either before, during or after the public meeting, and state how AEUG Fleming addressed to questions, feedback, complaints, or concerns.

3. Refer to the Application, Volume 2, Site Assessment Report, Appendix F – Visual Assessment.

a. Regarding the Visual Simulation for 2 – Old Convict Road and 3 – Flemingsburg Baptist Church, state whether there will be any measures put in place to mitigate the visual impact of the proposed solar facility at these two locations.

b. Identify all other locations where there currently exists no visual buffer from the proposed solar facility, and state how AEUG Fleming will mitigate this visual impact.

c. Refer to Attachment C – Photo Log. Provide a simulated photograph showing the view of the proposed solar facility for each of the nine viewpoints.

4. State whether there have been any glare studies conducted to assess the potential for glare issues associated with the proposed solar facility. If yes, provide a copy of the study or studies. If not, explain why no study has been performed.

5. State whether mitigation measures other than fencing around the perimeter of the proposed property were considered. Identify those measures and explain why they were not selected for the proposed solar facility.

6. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 5, Figure 3. Provide a copy of the Solar Market Insight Report 2019 Year in Review.

7. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 4 Figure 2.

a. Provide a copy of Tracking the Sun: Pricing and Design Trends for Distributed Photovoltaic Systems in the United States, 2019 Edition.

b. Explain whether the installed price is an “all in price.”

c. Explain how the estimated cost of the current Fleming county project compares to the prices in Figure 2.

8. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 6. Of the states with similar irradiation to Kentucky, identify the states that have renewable energy portfolio standards or mandates and those states that do not have such renewable requirements.

9. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 8. Provide an explanation of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Jobs and Economic Development Impacts (JEDI) modeling methodology, including a discussion of whether and how it differs from the IMPLAN modeling methodology.

10. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, pages 8–9. Regarding the literature review, explain whether the touted economic benefits of the various hypothesized solar projects are net benefits and take into account the negative economic consequences of environmental or market forces upon the local electric utility and energy sectors.

11. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 12, Table 1. Provide the data sources behind the table and explain how IMPLAN was used to populate the table.

12. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 20. Provide a copy of the articles by Paul Gottlieb, Francis et al., and Dwight Lee referenced in the first two paragraphs.

13. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 21. Provide a copy of the Gottlieb 2015 article referenced in the first paragraph.

14. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, pages 29–32, and Figure 15 on page 29. Based on the Monte Carlo study and specific agriculture product study results, explain why farming should not be expected to disappear in Fleming County.

15. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, pages 33 and 35.

a. Explain the degree to which the JEDI model has been calibrated to Fleming County, the regional economy (including how “regional” is defined), and the state economy.

b. Explain whether the degree to which the various elements of the solar project are manufactured locally, regionally, in Kentucky or imported from outside Kentucky or the region.

c. Explain how the JEDI model calibration parameters came from the Minnesota IMPLAN Group. If not, explain the source of the other calibration parameters.

16. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, page 35. Provide a listing of cost estimated and other project related assumptions provided by Acciona Energy.

17. Refer to the Application, Volume 1, Appendix G, pages 36–37.

a. Explain how the model distinguishes between the construction and operational phases of the project.

b. Explain whether the correct interpretation of the Construction results in Table 6 are that Fleming County will have an estimated increase of \$17,024,880 over the long-term life of the solar project as a result of the short-term construction and installation activity. If the interpretation is incorrect, provide a correct interpretation of the results.

18. There are four different amounts of acreage in the Application for the Project Area: (1) approximately 1,590 acres (Volume 1, pdf page 8); (2) about 1,500 acres (Volume 1, pdf pages 9, 24, 28, 32, 50, and 309); (3) 2,350 acres in an assemblage of tracts (Volume 2, pdf pages 18 and 20); and (4) 2,420 acres for Subject Property in the

Environmental Site Assessment (Volume 2, pdf page 204). State why the acreages are different, and provide the correct amount of acres in the project area.

19. There are different versions of the Project Area in this Application: the boundaries presented to the public with the Map of the Preliminary Site Plan (Volume 1, pdf page 52); the boundaries composed of parcels (Volume 2, pdf page 22); and the boundaries in the Environmental Site Assessment (Volume 2, pdf pages 204 and 233).

- a. Explain why there are three different versions of the Project Area.
- b. State which Project Area is before the Siting Board for construction and operation of the proposed solar utility.
- c. If the parcels that compose the Project Area are leased, provide copies of the leases.
- d. Will the subdivision of any parcels that are leased be recorded with the Fleming County PVA?

20. Identify and describe the location of any nursing home facilities within 2,000 feet of the proposed electric structure or facility.

21. Revise the Overview Map (Volume 1, pdf page 18) with these additional schools: Flemingsburg Elementary School, Simons Middle School, and Ewing Elementary School.

22. Proposed structures are different on the map of the Preliminary Site Plan (Volume 1, pdf page 52) compared to the map of the Preliminary Site Layout (Volume 2, pdf page 434). Explain the differences and state which layout of structures the Siting Board should consider.

23. Road layout within and access to the Project Area needs to be clarified. Access to the proposed Substation and O&M building is not clear. The most direct route appears from the map (Volume 1, pdf page 52) to be an unpaved road extending from Cassidy Pike to that area. However, according to the Kentucky Department of Transportation, the county road (CR-1099) only extends to the Baptist Church driveway and not as far as the Project Area. State who will operate the substation and how they will get direct access to it.

24. Submit a new map (similar to Volume 1, pdf page 52) with access roads within and to the Project Area clearly defined and the best layout of structures, project boundaries, boundary of SWAPP Zone 1, and aerial imagery.

25. The project area is in two electric service territories: Fleming-Mason Energy Cooperative and Kentucky Utilities Company. State how you propose to construct and operate the proposed solar utility in each territory. Discuss any need to have the electric service territory boundaries revised by the Public Service Commission.

26. The New Flemingsburg Reservoir (a/k/a Flemingsburg Lake) is adjacent to the boundary of the project. Refer to Kentucky Water Mapping web page <https://kygeonet.ky.gov/kia/dw/index.html>, then type in Flemingsburg, KY, to search for that area, and then zoom in on the lake adjacent to the Project Area. Click on the symbol at the dam to describe the surface water intake for Flemingsburg Water. Refer to the Source Water Protection Viewer <https://kygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c2324b998e78433aaf9e6a3d7ad9f86a>, go to Flemingsburg, KY, and click on the orange area that defines the Source Water Protection Area for the Flemingsburg Utility System as SWAPP Zone 1. This area includes the proposed substation and O&M

building. (Shape files for SWAPP zones can be downloaded from the Kentucky Geoportal <https://kygeoportal.ky.gov/geoportal/catalog/main/home.page>.) The Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAPP) is designed to provide proactive planning and protection of public drinking water supplies. Zone 1 (Critical Zone) begins at one-fourth mile below the intake site and extends five miles upstream of the intake. According to the Source Water Protection web page, <https://eec.ky.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water/Protection/Pages/SWP.aspx>, every public water supplier in Kentucky that uses surface water as a source has completed a SWAPP plan.

- a. Submit a copy of the SWAPP plan for Flemingsburg Water.
- b. Explain whether the proposed solar installation conforms to the SWAPP plan.
- c. Describe how storm water runoff from the proposed solar installation will affect the amount and quality of water entering the New Flemingsburg Reservoir.
- d. State the percentage of the acreage of the total SWAPP Zone that is in the Project Area.
- e. Describe any overlap of the Application of the KPDES permit with the SWAPP Zone.

27. Appendix C of the Application, Volume 1, The Noise and Traffic Study, notes that construction will take approximately 11 months and will produce an increase in traffic from construction workers and delivery of equipment and material. In Appendix C, the Site Assessment Report provides a chart of the number of vehicle trips during construction, but does not provide any information regarding the anticipated workers.

Please provide the following answers regarding the workers to the requests for information below.

a. Please indicate the number of anticipated workers, average, and peak numbers.

b. Please indicate the hours of the day the workers will arrive and vacate the site.

c. Please provide an approximate percentage breakdown of where the construction workers will commute from each day if possible.

d. Are all workers anticipated to commute from their homes daily, or will any temporary housing be developed on site?

28. What is the expected maximum weight of the largest vehicles (including any materials or equipment that the truck is hauling)?

29. Can you provide an approximate breakdown by point of origin for the construction truck traffic?

30. Where will the construction crew, supervisors, and others park on-site?

31. Regarding the Fugitive Dust Impact reference in the Application, Volume 2, Appendix C, pages 11–12, additional information is needed beyond what is provided in the Noise and Traffic Study. Please provide answers to the questions below.

a. Are there any plans for paving (or putting down gravel) for roads associated with the project?

b. Are there any improvement plans for the roads?

c. What will be the protocol or frequency spraying down dirt roads?

d. Will the site be irrigated to promote vegetation or will that be needed?

32. Revise the following maps and tables to associate landowners with parcel maps.

a. There are two parcel maps in this application and the boundaries are different (Volume 2, pdf page 22, and Volume 2, pdf page 233). Name the source and date of the parcels for each map.

b. Using a parcel map from the Fleming County PVA ([www.flemingpva.com](http://www.flemingpva.com)) and the list of landowners (Volume 1, pdf pages 22 and 23), plot a map with an ID that appears on that list or a revised list of landowners.

c. Put the names of landowners with the Tract Numbers that comprise the project area (Volume 2, Appendix B) on a map of parcel boundaries obtained from the Fleming County PVA.

33. Refer to the questions propounded by Harvey Economics Consulting, which are attached as an Appendix to this information request, and provide responses to those questions.



\_\_\_\_\_ for

Linda C. Bridwell, PE  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission *on behalf*  
of the Kentucky State Board on  
Generation and Transmission Siting  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

DATED JAN 07 2021

cc: Parties of Record

Case No. 2020-00206

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OF THE KENTUCKY STATE  
BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING IN CASE  
NO. 2020-00206 DATED JAN 07 2021

TEN PAGES TO FOLLOW

**FIRST SET OF INQUIRIES ABOUT THE AEUG FLEMING SOLAR, LLC  
APPLICATION FOR A CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE**

The following set of questions are pursuant to our review of the Site Assessment Report (SAR) provided by AEUG Fleming Solar, LLC's as part of the application submitted to the Kentucky State Board of Electric Generation and Transmission under KRS 278.706. Harvey Economics (HE) has been retained by the Kentucky Public Service Commission to perform the review and evaluation of the SAR. These questions are intended to gain a more complete understanding of the materials provided about the proposed AEUG Fleming Solar Project, to be located in Fleming County, KY, west of Flemingsburg, and to request information that was not found in the Application. HE requests that responses to these questions be provided in writing, supplemented by attachments as needed. HE will clarify any questions which are unclear to the Applicant. Along with Staff, HE will review the Applicant responses and seek a follow-up discussion confirming our understanding with the appropriate AEUG Fleming Solar personnel as needed.

**I Construction phase activities—Generally, much more information was provided about the operational phase compared with the construction phase. HE is requesting more information about construction, summarized below and detailed in subsequent inquiry categories.**

- A. Please provide a detailed description of construction activities, including a schedule and description of activities, peak activity periods, number of commuting workers (average by quarter and peak period), personal and construction vehicle traffic volumes (see detailed question below), construction access points to the site and staging area, local roads, State Routes and highways that will carry construction traffic.
- B. Approximately what percentage of construction workers are expected to come from within Fleming County?

**II Site development plan—We need to better understand certain elements of the site development plan.**

- A. Preliminary site layout graphic (Appendix E):
  - 1. Please add/overlay local roads onto this graphic for geographic context.
  - 2. Nine potential access points into the site are identified on the provided map. Will all of those access points actually be utilized during construction? How about during operations? Or will the total number of final access points be limited at a later time? Which access point(s) should HE assume will be used during construction and operations?

3. It appears that the Project boundary does not abut nearby roads in many places (i.e. Highway 57 / 32 to the south, Old Convict Road to the north) and that at least several of the potential access points indicated on the graphic would require development of new roads and / or acquisition of rights-of ways to access the property. Is that correct? If so, please describe that process, how many feet or miles of road would be constructed and what the surface material of those roads would be.
4. Will a construction staging area be developed on-site to support construction activities? If so:
  - a. How large will the staging area be and where will it be located? Please identify that area on the map.
  - b. What is the most likely route for trucks and workers to access the staging area?
  - c. Will worker parking also be located in the construction staging area? Will workers be transported to the Project site via shuttle buses from Flemingsburg or another location?
5. Please confirm there is only one transformer, to be located within the planned substation.
6. We understand that each of the Block A parcels include 2 inverters and that each of the Block B and Block C parcels include 1 inverter (for a total of 73 inverters).
  - a. Where will the inverters be located within each block? The center? Near the boundary line of each block?
  - b. What is the difference between the three Block B parcels and the one Block C parcel?
7. What is the significance of the four different colors of parcels in the graphic?
8. In the legend, we are interpreting the term “structures” associated with the colored lines to mean solar panels – is that correct? How many solar panels will be installed on-site, in total?
9. Does each parcel include its own power station? Are those the small black rectangles located generally in the middle of each parcel?
10. It appears that the perimeter fencing will be placed directly around the panels and not along the larger Project boundary. Is that correct?

11. It appears that roads will be constructed all the way around the Project perimeter, adjacent to the fencing, in addition to internal roads. Is that correct? If so, how many feet or miles of roadway will be created on the Project site and what will the surface material be for those roads (dirt, gravel, paved)?
  12. The Project Area indicated in the Preliminary Site Layout graphic appears to be somewhat different from the Project Boundary indicated in the Overview Map included in Volume 1 and the general boundary map provided as part of the Public Meeting Materials, also included in Volume 1. Does the Preliminary Site Layout graphic provide an up to date, accurate Project area and boundary?
- B. The Application states that the Project perimeter would be secured using a 6-foot high chain link fence topped with barbed wire.
1. What other specific security measures will be in place during construction and during operation – i.e. will all entrance gates be locked with a standard keypad or combination lock during certain hours? Will any security cameras be used? Will any security personnel be hired? How will AEUG coordinate security with local law enforcement agencies, if at all?
  2. Will the fence have a permeable sight barrier, such as a burlap type cloth, or impermeable sight barrier, such as plywood or siding?
- C. What electrical, water or other utilities will be needed to service the facility during construction or operations? Who will provide those, or where will they come from?
- D. The Application states that “the power generated by the Project will be linked to the electrical transmission grid via the Flemingsburg-Spurlock 138-kilovolt (kV) line. AEUG would be responsible for building a new interconnection to this line.”
1. Please describe the activities involved in building a new interconnection to the existing Flemingsburg-Spurlock line.
  2. How long will that construction take? What will the peak and average number of construction workers be during that period? Is this data included in the construction phase activity data requested in Section I above, or is it in addition to that data?
  3. Please provide a map identifying the existing Flemingsburg-Spurlock line and the new interconnection to that line.

- E. Appendix B of the SAR provides a legal description of the Project site in text form (20 pages) –
1. Please provide a map/ graphic indicating the locations of individual tracts and associated acreages included in the Project site.
  2. Please confirm that the legal description of the Project site is consistent with the information provided about the adjoining parcels as part of the Kirkland report – i.e. does the boundary of the Project site indicated by the legal description match up with the data describing specific adjacent parcels?

**III Setback Deviation Request—The Application requests a deviation of the statutory setback provisions. HE will need a full understanding of why that deviation is justified.**

- A. The Application states that AEUG Fleming Solar will apply for a deviation from the existing setback requirements. What is the justification for requesting such a deviation, i.e. loss of generation capacity, cost, etc.? Could the solar panels and other structures be re-configured within the site boundaries to meet the setback requirements? How will the Project meet the goals of the indicated statutes required for a deviation?
- B. When will the request for the deviation be filed? Please provide any materials prepared in support of that request.
- C. Application materials state that several residential neighborhoods and the Flemingsburg County High School are within 2,000 feet of the Project boundary. How far from the Project boundary is the Flemingsburg County Hospital? How far from the Project boundary is the Pioneer Trace Healthcare and Rehabilitation center (local nursing home)?

**IV Property values and land use—Local landowners are often concerned about the effects on their property values during construction and operation. HE requests information about current property values in the area surrounding the site and property value impacts during the construction phase. We also need clarification on certain aspects of the Kirkland report.**

- A. What are the current property values of the properties adjacent to the Project site? Property values of raw land or residential structure values per square foot of developed property in Fleming County in the vicinity of the Project site?
- B. Pages 6 and 7 of the Kirkland report provide information on parcels adjacent to the Project area. What is the source of that data?

1. Please confirm the stated distances between residential homes on adjacent properties and the closest solar panels. Are these data up to date and currently accurate?
  2. For those parcels where the distance between the home and the nearest solar panel is stated as N / A, what is the reasoning for that N / A designation? Is that because there is no home or other structure on the property?
  3. What is the commercial activity or business that occurs on the one identified commercial property adjacent to the Project site?
  4. Please explain the relevance of “Adjoin Acres” and “Adjoin Parcels” columns of the table.
  5. For each adjacent parcel, please provide the number of feet that border the Project site.
- C. The Kirkland report provides a matched pair analysis for 38 solar farms ranging from 0.22 MW up to 80 MW, which encompasses properties ranging from 24 acres up to 2,034 acres. The report also provides an analysis of a sub-set of that data, focusing on 11 solar farms larger than 20 MW – that dataset includes five solar farms between 70 MW and 80 MW, two of which are located on properties over 1,000 acres in size. However, at 188 MW covering about 1,600 acres, the AEUG Fleming Solar Project is much larger in size than the solar farms included in the reported analyses. What are the potential impacts to property values adjacent to or in the vicinity of projects that presumably include more panels or other infrastructure over a larger number of acres than are found in the Kirkland data set?
- D. What role does visibility of solar panels or other infrastructure play in determining potential impacts to property values? For instance, if solar panels are more visible, are impacts to property values greater than if the panels were hidden (by vegetation or other barriers)?
- E. Please provide any additional photos looking into or out from the Project property at different vantage points. We are especially interested in photos that clearly show the topography and existing vegetation at different points along the Project perimeter.

**V Traffic—Increased traffic from construction and operation can be an issue for local residents. HE is seeking information about construction phase traffic which was not provided in the Application.**

- A. Construction phase

1. Please provide an approximate percentage breakdown of where the construction workers will commute from each day, if possible.
2. Are all workers anticipated to commute from their homes daily, or will any temporary housing be developed on-site or nearby such as in Flemingsburg?
3. Can you provide an approximate breakdown by point of origin for the construction of truck traffic?
4. Where will the construction crew, supervisors and others park on-site?
5. Please provide data regarding the weight of each vehicle category (i.e. passenger vehicles, heavy-duty delivery trucks, etc. by weight class).
6. What is the maximum weight of the largest vehicles (including any materials or equipment that the truck is hauling)?
7. The Fleming County High School is located along KY-57, just west of the intersection with KY-32. Will the intersection of KY-57 and KY-32 be utilized by commuting workers, trucks or other equipment during construction? If so, what precautions will be adopted to ensure this area can be safely navigated by teenage drivers?
8. What time is the expected work schedule for the construction crew? The application says the loading and unloading of equipment is not anticipated to occur between 10pm – 7am, and the operational schedule is expected to occur from 7am – 3:30pm. Will the construction crew work weekends, or only Monday - Friday?
9. Though the Project will not use railways for any construction or operational activities, the Project site appears to cross a set of railroad tracks. What impacts, if any, would Project construction (or operations) have on railroad use or train activity? Will there be extra safety precautions for construction equipment traveling across this railroad?

B. Operational phase

1. Please provide data regarding the weight and frequency of each vehicle category that will be traveling to the site during operations over the life of the Project. We understand no “major equipment” is anticipated to be required for maintenance of the facility; however, will heavy trucks periodically be required to bring replacement panels/equipment to the site?

**VI Dust—Dust especially during the construction phase can be an issue for local residents.**

A. Construction phase

1. If a staging area is to be constructed, will that area be dirt, gravel or paved?
2. What is the protocol or schedule regarding the frequency of spraying down dirt/gravel roads with water?
3. Will there be any odorous effects generated by the construction of the solar panels? What would the sources of those odors be?
4. Will there be odor impacts from diesel fumes or other sources from construction vehicles that will be noticeable by nearby residents?
5. Will any hazardous materials be required in the construction of the solar panels at the Project site?

B. Operational phase

1. Will the site be irrigated to promote vegetation growth and reduce potential wind erosion?

**VII Noise—Similar to dust and traffic, noise especially during construction can be an issue for local residents.**

A. Construction phase

1. How will noise be mitigated to minimize disturbances at the nearby high school, including students in classrooms and those participating in outside activities?
2. On page 170, the application states “the highest noise levels would not be expected to be experienced at a single receptor for more than one day while construction equipment (e.g. piling drill rig) is at the closest point to the receptor.” How many consecutive days might a single receptor experience noise from a piling drill rig? From what time in the morning to what time in the afternoon/ evening are piling drill rigs expected to work?
  - a. Will the Applicant make any effort to mitigate against noise from piling drill rigs affecting the high school, hospital, nursing home, and church in the area?

B. Operational phase

1. The Project Description provided on Page 1 of the Noise and Traffic Study notes that the Project will include 510,300 “modules” - are those modules the solar panels? Are the 4,725 “trackers” the 24-volt brushless DC motors used to tilt the solar panels? If our assumptions are incorrect, how many panels and motors will exist at the site during operations?

2. Please confirm the distance between the nearest sensitive noise receptor and the nearest noise emitter. Table 2.1-1 of the Noise and Traffic Study (Appendix C of the SAR) suggests that the nearest sensitive noise receptor will be 212 feet away from the nearest solar panel; however, Page 8 of that same study states the nearest sensitive noise receptor is 139 feet away from the nearest solar panel.
3. For the “maximum worst-case scenario value” for noise (described on page 9 of the Noise and Traffic Study, page 171 of the SAR), why was 985 feet used, when the nearest sensitive noise receptor is listed to be 739 feet away?
4. Regarding the “average sound level, predicted to be 9.9 dBA higher than the current estimated ambient noise levels for the area” (page 9 of the Noise and Traffic Study, page 171 of the SAR) - how many sensitive noise receptors does that statement apply to and which ones?
5. We request an Excel spreadsheet of the data presented in Appendix B “Noise Impact Calculations,” on pages 187-197 of the SAR. The data in the PDF gets distorted when zooming in to specific figures, which makes it difficult to understand the underlying data.
6. We request a simple table providing the number of structures by type (ie residential, commercial, other) every 300 feet from the fence / property perimeter, and separately, from the nearest solar panel, and separately, from the nearest noise emitter during operations, up to a distance of 2,400 feet.
7. Is there a cumulative noise effect for the transformer, inverters, and motors during daytime hours? If so, what is the likely range of that cumulative noise?

**VIII Topography/ Scenery—Visual impacts can be important for some projects, depending on the topography, surrounding land uses, and the nature of the project. Computer generated imaging is an effective way to demonstrate these effects.**

A. Operational phase

1. The SAR states that naturally occurring vegetation around the Project boundary would remain in place. Will any additional vegetation (shrubs, trees, other) be planted along the boundary, or in specific areas, to provide cover to the panels or other infrastructure?
2. Should we assume that the 6-foot-high chain link fence surrounding the Project perimeter would be transparent, and unless blocked by topography or natural vegetation, the Facility would be visible to receptors? Is that

correct? To what extent is the Facility blocked from sight or noise receptors, in approximate percentage terms?

3. We will need to know whether there will be any glare as the panels rotate over the course of the day and during different times of the year. Has AEUG performed any analyses related to potential glare impacts to traffic, rail, residences, businesses, schools, or other glare-sensitive structures? We would request a copy and interpretation of such a study.
4. Are there any additional computer-generated images of what the solar panels, fencing, and other structures will look like immediately after construction is complete, other than the photos provided in Appendix F (Visual Assessment, pages 439 – 442)? If yes, HE would like to see those from different viewpoints of the property. Also, please provide as many photos to or from the property at other vantage points of the property as are available.

**IX Public meeting materials—We want to make sure that the information in the Application is consistent with the information provided to the public thus far.**

- A. We are aware of the Public Involvement Documents provided in Appendix C. Please provide any additional documents/ maps/ other materials that have been presented to the community/ other groups as part of outreach efforts, if applicable.
- B. What issues or concerns have been brought up by the public or others as the result of public meetings or through other avenues? We request any written or oral comments offered by the public or government agencies. Are transcripts available for the public meetings?

**X Other permitting activities—HE wants to make sure information provided by the Applicant is consistent with information provided in other permitting processes.**

- A. Please list any other permit applications or information which AEUG Fleming Solar LLC has submitted to any public agency for the AEUG Fleming Solar Project. For instance, the application notes that AEUG Fleming Solar will pursue a KPDES permit associated with construction activity and an Approved Jurisdictional Determination from the USACE. Please provide copies of any submittals that address any of the specific topics addressed in this inquiry.

**XI Economic Impact Report (Appendix G)—This topic is not specifically called for in these applications, but the Board will have an interest in Project benefits.**

- A. Regarding Tables 5 through 7, please confirm that the data included in the columns labeled “Commonwealth of Kentucky” are inclusive of the data in the columns labeled “Fleming County”.

- B. Table 6 provides data on earnings impacts and the associated text notes that the average earnings for a full-time worker (Project development and onsite labor) during the construction phase amounts to over \$86,000. What is the range of hourly wages for those workers? What is the average number of hours per construction worker (i.e. the average worker will spend X hours on site)? What will the average on-site construction worker earn over the course of the year?
- C. Estimates of sales tax revenue from construction or operational period activities are not included in the report. We understand that Fleming County does not charge a county level sales tax, but that any purchases made would be subject to the state-level sales tax. Have any estimates of sales or use tax revenue generated by the Project been developed? That is benefit to the State.
- D. How are property taxes distributed in Fleming County- amount going to the County, schools, other taxing entities, etc.?

## **XII City of Flemingsburg Water Supply**

- A. One of the water bodies in the southeastern area of the Project site is a drinking water reservoir with an intake operated by the City of Flemingsburg. This is part of a critical protection area addressed in a local Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAPP).
  - 1. Will this Project comply with the guidelines in the local SWAPP plan?
  - 2. How will the Project impact the quantity and quality of water stored in that reservoir?

## **XIII Decommissioning**

- A. The application package indicates that the life of the Project will be 30+ years and that at the end of the Project, the land will likely return to farmland.
  - 1. Please provide a description of decommissioning plan, including what will happen to the facilities / structures on site and how the area will be restored for agricultural use.
  - 2. What commitments regarding land restoration are included in the landowner lease agreements?

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