

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION
AND TRANSMISSION SITING

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF)	
THOROUGHbred SOLAR, LLC FOR)	
CERTIFICATE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR AN)	CASE NO.
APPROXIMATELY 50 MEGAWATT MERCHANT)	2022-00115
ELECTRIC SOLAR GENERATING FACILITY IN)	
HART COUNTY, KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO)	
KRS 278.700 AND 807 KAR 5:110)	

SITING BOARD STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
TO THOROUGHbred SOLAR, LLC

Thoroughbred Solar, LLC (Thoroughbred Solar), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Commission an electronic version of the following information. The information requested is due on December 5, 2022. The Siting Board directs Thoroughbred Solar to the Kentucky Public Service Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085¹ regarding filings with the Commission. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

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

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

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.

Thoroughbred Solar shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Thoroughbred Solar 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 Thoroughbred Solar fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Thoroughbred Solar 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 applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations. When filing a paper containing personal information, Thoroughbred Solar shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. Submit a copy of the leases or purchase agreements, including options, separate agreements, or deeds which Thoroughbred Solar has entered into in connection with the proposed solar facility, including the agreements for each of the parcels of the project.

2. Detail any contracts by which Thoroughbred Solar has paid, has negotiated to pay, or any compensation paid to non-participating landowners, whether cash or otherwise, near the project. Include the terms of the agreements and which properties are involved in terms of distance to the project boundaries.

3. Provide a schedule for the project, starting from the receipt of the proposed certificate for construction to the completion of the project. Include the length of each construction phase.

4. Verify whether a power purchase agreement has been made. If so, provide.

5. Provide information regarding the gen-tie into the East Kentucky Power Corporation's (EKPC) 69 kV transmission line. Include any requirements EKPC has placed on the project.

6. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 12, Site Assessment Report (SAR), Section 6. Explain whether Thoroughbred Solar will be limiting construction activity to between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday as noted for deliveries of construction materials.

7. Provide a site map that includes all site entrances, substation, panel locations, laydown areas, gen-tie to the EKPC transmission line, and the existing EKPC 69 kV transmission line. Include in the site map a notation regarding entrances to the project that will be used for construction but not operations of the project.

8. Explain any communication with local emergency management regarding security and emergency protocols for the site.

9. Refer to the SAR, Figure 4. For each of the numbered properties in the map key provide a table listing each of the following.

- a. The distance to the boundary line.
- b. The distance to the closest solar panel.
- c. The distance to the nearest inverter.
- d. The distance to the substation.

10. For any residential structures within 2,000 feet of the project boundary provide a table listing each of the following.

- a. The distance to the boundary line.
- b. The distance to the closest solar panel.
- c. The distance to the nearest inverter.
- d. The distance to the nearest inverter.

11. Refer to the SAR, Section 2.4.1.

- a. Identify the cemetery on the site plan.
- b. Explain who owns the cemetery and is responsible for its maintenance.
- c. Explain how access will be provided to the public for the cemetery.

12. Refer to the Application, Paragraph 2. Also refer to SAR, Attachment B. Explain the difference between the approximately 626 acres listed in the legal descriptions of the property and the 530-acre site description listed in the Application.

13. Provide a map identifying each project property and adjacent property by its APN.

14. State the number of years it will take for planted trees and shrubs to reach mature height.

15. Describe any other forms of visual barrier that will be implemented between the time of vegetation planting and the time when trees and shrubs will reach mature height.

16. Describe the plan for maintaining the planted vegetation and replacing dead trees or shrubs throughout project operations.

17. State whether construction traffic will use US 31W to access smaller roads leading to the Project site.

18. Provide the weight limit ratings for each local roadway to be used by Project construction traffic.

19. Provide the location and weight limit ratings for any bridges on local roadways to be used by Project construction traffic.

20. Provide the maximum expected weights for each type of delivery truck, including water trucks.

21. Explain whether any oversize or overweight deliveries will require special permits from the Kentucky Department of Transportation or the Hart County Road Department.

22. Identify the specific roadways that will be used by heavy trucks, including for delivery of the transformer.

23. Refer to the SAR, Attachment K, Appendix, Figures 1 and 1a. Explain what the numbers in red represent for each roadway.

24. Refer to the SAR, Attachment K, Appendix, Figure 2. Explain whether the numbers in red represent the total number of project-related vehicles traveling on each road segment during the construction period on an average day during the peak hour. If

so, provide a map containing the number of vehicles on a peak day during the construction phase.

25. Refer to the SAR, Attachment K, Appendix, Figure 2. Explain why no vehicles are indicated on the Rowletts Cave Springs Road when there is a construction entrance proposed in that northwestern portion of the project site.

26. Explain whether construction vehicles or large trucks will need to cross the CSXT railroad line to access the project site during construction. If so, explain whether a crossing agreement with CSXT will be required.

27. Explain the traffic management strategies to be employed during construction.

28. Refer to the SAR, Attachment H. Explain how the six observation points (OP) were chosen for the glare analysis.

29. Refer to the Application, Exhibit 3. Also refer to the Application, Exhibit 6. Provide any other materials that were distributed to the public during project outreach.

30. Provide any written communication between project representatives and the public.

31. Describe any issues or concerns noted by the public and the response of Thoroughbred Solar.

32. Explain any plans to coordinate with local landowners with issues during construction of the project or operations.

33. Provide a list of permits from other local, state, or federal agencies that have been or will be obtained prior to construction or operations.

34. Describe the different sources of ambient noise at different locations surrounding the Project site.

35. Provide estimates of ambient noise levels, during the daytime and during nighttime at different locations surrounding the project site.

36. Refer to the SAR, Attachment G, Table 3, page 11.

a. Explain whether the small pile driver listed in the table is the size that Thoroughbred Solar will use during construction. If not, provide sound pressure levels of the type of pile drivers Thoroughbred Solar intends to use during construction.

b. Explain the meaning of "HDD."

37. Refer to the SAR, Attachment G, Table 4, page 12. Provide an update to Table 4 with estimated sound pressure levels at 1,500 feet (dBA).

38. Refer to the SAR, Attachment G, Appendix C, Figure 6, page 21 and Figure 7, page 22.

a. Provide updates to Figures 6 and 7 with a contour line illustrating noise receptors experiencing maximum sound pressure levels greater than 55 dBA within 1,500 feet of the nearest construction activity.

b. For noise receptors experiencing maximum sound pressure levels greater than 55 dBA during construction activity, explain the sound mitigation measures that Thoroughbred Solar will employ.

39. Refer to the SAR, Attachment G, page 13. Confirm that the statements, "Modeled sound levels at the worst-case residence are 41 dBA for both the daytime and nighttime," and, "Modeled sound levels were at least 4 to 9 dB below design goal sound

level thresholds at all homes surrounding the Project,” refer to the operational phase of the project and not the construction phase.

40. The proposed project borders the Green River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). State whether the properties to be used for the project currently participate in the Green River CREP. If the properties are not participating in the Green River CREP, provide information regarding why the project area does not qualify to be part of the Green River CREP.

41. Provide any communication Thoroughbred Solar has engaged in with the National Park Service and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding the project and its proximity to the Green River CREP.

42. Provide a hydrological survey related to the drainage within and surrounding the project area.

43. Refer to the SAR, Attachment D, Appendix A, Terracon Geophysical Exploration Report, page 2. The report recommended, “direct exploration at the geophysical anomaly locations to better characterize the risk.” Provide an update on when this exploration will be completed.

44. Refer to the Application, Attachment A, Sheet C300. Also refer to the Application, Exhibit 12, Attachment E, Figures 1-4. Explain why the study area of the wetland delineation report does not match the project layout in Sheet C300.

45. Refer to the SAR, Attachment D, Attachment B, Preliminary Karst Evaluation, Summary. It was recommended that Thoroughbred Solar, “avoid placing

foundations within karst or sinkhole areas, to the extent possible, and/or to plan for appropriate remediation.”

- a. Explain the proposed setbacks from karst formations or sinkholes.
- b. Explain the proposed remediation for karst formations.
- c. Explain whether Thoroughbred Solar has contingency plans for the

substation location if karst remediation is necessary in the proposed location.

46. Refer to the SAR, Attachment D, Appendix A, Geological Survey Plan created by Terracon. Explain what the dark blue circular features signify that are within the Public LiDAR Closed Depressions.

47. Provide the stormwater management plan for construction and operations.

48. There are existing cave systems near the project; Mammoth Cave National Park, 5 miles west of the project boundary; Mammoth Onyx Cave, 1.5 miles south of the project boundary; and, Hidden River Cave, 3.5 miles south. Explain how hydrological drainage into the existing cave systems will be prevented.

49. Provide information about existing or proposed utilities that will be necessary for construction or operation of the project.

50. Provide the estimated total capital cost of the Thoroughbred Solar project.

51. Refer to Exhibit 10, Table 3, page 10. Confirm that the total project construction related spending in Kentucky is \$12.5 million, including labor.

52. Refer to Exhibit 10, Table 3, page 10. Confirm that the total project construction-related spending on materials, supplies and other items in Kentucky is approximately \$1.4 million.

53. Refer to Exhibit 10, Table 3, page 10. Clarify whether the 141 jobs generated during the construction phase are full-time jobs.

54. Refer to Exhibit 10, Table 3, page 10. Identify how many of the 141 jobs generated in Kentucky during construction would be filled by Hart County residents.

55. Provide the approximate salary or wages for full-time jobs during the construction phase of the project.

56. Describe the jobs that will be necessary during the operations phase of the project.

57. Refer to Exhibit 10, Table 4, page 4. Confirm that the total project operations spending in Kentucky would be approximately \$393,000 per year.

58. Explain whether Thoroughbred Solar intends to pursue an Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB) and a Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with Hardin County. If yes, explain whether the IRB and PILOT Agreement will change the government revenue impact.

59. Explain any commitments for land restoration included in the landowner lease agreements.



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 NOV 21 2022

cc: Parties of Record

Case No. 2022-00115

*Robert Sims
189 Redwood Way
Mumfordsville, KENTUCKY 42765

*Dylan F. Borchers
Bricker & Eckler
100 South Third Street
Columbus, OHIO 43215

*Greg Nichols
Administrative Officer
PO Box 490
Munfordsville, KENTUCKY 42765

*Sommer L. Sheely
Bricker & Eckler
100 South Third Street
Columbus, OHIO 43215