Andy Beshear Governor

Rebecca W. Goodman Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Kent A. Chandler Chairman

Commonwealth of Kentucky Kentucky State Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Siting 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940

January 27, 2023

PARTIES OF RECORD

Re: Case No. CASE NO. 2022-00115

Notice is given to all parties that the attached document has been filed into the record of this proceeding.

If you have any comments you would like to make regarding the contents of the document, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Temple, Staff Attorney, at Heather.Temple@ky.gov.

Sincerely,

sel

Linda C. Bridwell, PE Executive Director *On Behalf of the Siting Board*

Attachment



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 APPROXIMATELY 50 MEGAWATT MERCHANT ELECTRIC SOLAR GENERATING FACILITY IN HART COUNTY, KENTUCKY PURSUANT TO KRS 278.700 AND 807 KAR 5:110

CASE NO. 2022-00115

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT THE HART COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON JANUARY 25, 2023, AT 5:00 P.M.

A public meeting was held at the Hart County Courthouse on January 25, 2023, regarding Thoroughbred Solar, LLC (Thoroughbred Solar) application for a Certificate of Construction for a merchant electric solar generating facility. Linda Bridwell, Executive Director of the Public Service Commission, and Heather Temple, Staff Attorney for the Public Service Commission, conducted the information session. They introduced the Kentucky State Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Siting (Siting Board) and explained the procedure and protocol for the information session. Ms. Bridwell then offered an overview of the legal basis, criteria, and review process for the Siting Board's consideration of the application. The presentation included a general overview of the Thoroughbred Solar project by Ms. Temple. Attendees were also told how to submit a public comment in writing if they wish to do so in addition to or in lieu of a comment at the public meeting. At the conclusion of the information session, Chairman of the Siting Board, Kent Chandler, and Commissioner Mary Pat Regan, initiated the public comments.

Chairman Chandler then invited the public to make comments regarding Thoroughbred Solar. The following individuals spoke at the public meeting.

- Paul Hawkins, Resident of Munfordville, Kentucky. Mr. Hawkins voiced his concerns about the fact that Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (Farmers RECC) not receiving any of the electricity generated from the project. Mr. Hawkins made comments about the unreliability of solar. Mr. Hawkins also voiced concerns about the scenic surroundings of the community being changed.
- Marsha Finley, Resident of Horse Cave, Kentucky. Ms. Finley expressed support for the project. She indicated she is a local hobby farmer and believes there will be support for the farmers by creating livestock farming in the area.
- 3. Mick Lawless, Resident of Munfordville, Kentucky. Mr. Lawless expressed harm that runoff from the project will harm the Green River. Mr. Lawless also stated he is concerned about the potential for sinkholes to be created by the construction.
- 4. Sam Avery, Resident of Upton, Kentucky. Mr. Avery expressed support for the project. Mr. Avery was a solar installer for many years, he stated that he does not understand the concerns of the project because solar is coming. Mr. Avery also stated that he does not believe there is a fire risk from the project.
- 5. Harold Cottrell, Resident of Munfordville, Kentucky. Mr. Cottrell indicated he is a farmer in the area that supports the project. Mr. Cottrell stated he has spoken with hydrologists and the water runoff from the project will not harm the Green River of create additional sinkholes.
- Beverly Burger, Resident of Horse Cave, Kentucky. Ms. Burger stated she bought property in the area of the project eight years ago. Ms. Burger indicated

she is opposed to the project because of the effect on property values, she believes they will decrease. Ms. Burger stated that she believes food should be grown on the land.

- 7. Nancy Givens, Resident of Horse Cave, Kentucky. Ms. Givens lives near the project. She is supportive of the project. Ms. Givens stated she has worked in sustainability in the energy industry and understands that solar will be the future of energy in the United States. Ms. Givens stated that the people complaining about runoff and pollution of the Green River are not complaining about fossil fuel pollution.
- 8. Tracy Gardiner, Resident of Horse, Cave, Kentucky. Ms. Gardiner is a property owner of one of the parcels that will be used in the project. She stated the reason she agreed to the lease is because it is the only way to pass the land down to generations of her family. She stated that solar energy is a new cash crop.
- 9. Mike England, Resident of Munfordville, Kentucky. Mr. England owns a farm near the project site. He believes in property owners rights, but has concerns about the project. Mr. England is concerned about the runoff from the panels. Mr. England stated he believes the question will become do we need energy or food and he will always choose food.
- 10. Tony Gardiner, Resident of Horse, Cave, Kentucky. Mr. Gardiner is a property owner whose property will be used in the project. Mr. Gardiner believes the project will be beneficial for Hart County as a whole. Mr. Gardiner stated that the

company has done all of the environmental research and the site will not be harmed.

The Chairman opened the floor for additional comments. When none were made, he provided the way to file additional comments into the record and the public meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: midwell

Executive Director Public Service Commission on behalf of the Kentucky State Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Siting

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