



## DECOMMISSIONING PLAN

### **I. Summary**

The decommissioning of the solar photovoltaic Project includes the removal of all components associated with the Project and the restoration of the Site to its condition at the time of commencement of construction. The goal of which is to remove all equipment installed for the purpose of power. The decommission process will include the de-energization of the solar Project, the removal of pv modules, the removal of the pv module steel racking system, the removal of driven steel foundations, the removal of concrete ballasts and pads, the removal of all buried conduit and conductors, the removal of inverters/transformer/vista the removal of security fencing, the removal of access roads and the revegetation of the Site. Many of the components including electrical components, steel structures, pv modules and conductors can be recycled. All aspects of the decommissioning process will be in accordance with local permitting requirements as well as all applicable federal, state and local laws. An on-Site manager will be designated to the decommissioning process. The on-Site manager will be responsible for the successful completion of the decommissioning process as well as the safety of the workers, public health, and environment of the Project Site for the duration of the work. Lodestar Energy will be responsible for the decommissioning of the Project in accordance with this scope.

### **II. Decommissioning and Restoration Process**

Petitioner will remove all associated components of the Project in approximately eight (8) weeks. Debris and recyclable material will be placed in temporary storage locations on-Site pending permanent removal. Approximately 95% of materials are recyclable and will be transported to the appropriate recycling facilities. Any non-recyclable material will be transported to a nearby landfill and properly disposed of in accordance with state and federal law. The total decommissioning process will be comprised of five (5) steps as more thoroughly discussed below:

- 1. Mobilization:** The decommissioning process will require the mobilization of construction equipment, tools, trash containers and material transportation trucks.
- 2. Module and Rack Disassembly:** The first component to address in the decommissioning process is the photovoltaic array and its associated racking

structure. Certified electricians will de-energize the circuits and confirm the array is safe for disassembly. Modules will then be removed individually and temporarily stored on-Site. The modules will be assessed for value at the time of decommissioning and either recycled or transported to an appropriate disposal Project.

The steel racking structure will be unbolted and disassembled. Steel posts embedded in the ground that support the module racking system will be removed using construction equipment. Since the posts in Array 2 have no concrete foundation, associated holes will be small during the removal process. Any resulting holes will be backfilled with local soil to match existing soil conditions. All steel associated with the module racking structure will be transported to a steel recycling Project. Concrete foundations will be either lifted and transported off-site or destroyed on-site with waste also removed.

3. **Electrical Component Removal:** Inverters, transformer and vista are located on a single concrete pad. Certified electricians will de-energize circuits and confirm the components are safe for removal. The transformer contains an environmentally safe mineral oil which will be contained and recycled separately from the equipment. The equipment will be removed, aggregated on-Site and transported to an appropriate electrical recycling Project. Any concrete pads will be demolished using jackhammers and hauled to an appropriate concrete disposal Project.

The electrical conductors/wiring will be removed from above ground and underground locations. Underground conduit is assumed to be excavated to a depth of 3' below grade. All excavated areas will be filled, compacted and regraded. All electrical conductors and associated conduit will be removed and recycled. The overhead interconnection circuit which connects the solar Project to the utility distribution circuit on Greenwoods Road is owned and operated by Eversource Energy. At the time of decommissioning, the circuit consisting of three (3) overhead utility poles may remain in place if the landowner prefers this circuit for future use on the Site. If the circuit is not to be used, the associated poles and conductors will be removed.

4. **Perimeter Fence:** The seven foot (7') steel perimeter security fence will remain in place during the decommissioning process for security and public safety. Once power generation materials have been properly disposed, the security fence will be dismantled. Components will be transported to an appropriate recycling Project.

5. **Civil Site Restoration:** The gravel access road will remain in place during the decommissioning process. Once associated components and materials have been properly disposed, the gravel access road will be removed. The civil Site restoration will target the restoration of the property to pre-Project conditions. Any excavated areas will be backfilled and compacted with local soils to match surrounding topography. Any compacted areas that will inhibit the growth of new vegetation will be aerated to encourage new vegetative cover. Aeration, de-compaction, disking and seeding processes will be utilized as needed to encourage full vegetative coverage.