

Decommissioning Plan

Durham Manufacturing Photovoltaic Facility

1. Introduction

This Decommissioning Plan establishes the approach to conduct decommissioning activities for the permanent closure of the solar panels and appurtenant equipment (Project or Facility) at the end of the Facility's useful life or the permanent cessation of the Facility's operation, whichever comes first. This Plan also describes the approach for removal and/or abandonment of facilities and equipment associated with the Facility's and describes anticipated land-restoration activities.

Durham Manufacturing Company ("Petitioner") submits this plan in conjunction with its Petition for a 1.42 MW Solar Facility before the Connecticut Siting Council ("CSC") regarding the Durham Manufacturing Photovoltaic Facility. All recyclable materials will be transported to the appropriate nearby recycling facilities. Any non-recyclable materials will be properly disposed of at a nearby landfill. 95% or greater of the Facility's components will be recyclable.

2. Decommissioning Activities

- Decommissioning Preparation

The first step in the decommissioning process will be to prepare the site for decommissioning. Site decommissioning and equipment removal can take up to one month to complete for a project of this size. Therefore, access roads, fencing, and electrical power will temporarily remain in place for use by the decommissioning and site restoration workers until no longer needed. Demolition debris will be placed in temporary on-site storage areas pending final transportation and disposal/recycling according to the procedures listed below.

- PV Equipment Removal and Recycling

During decommissioning, all Facility components that will not be used by the site owner will be removed from the site. Equipment removal will include all pad-mounted cabinets, wiring, solar modules, solar module racking, inverters, batteries, and panel boards. Steel posts that supported the module racking will be removed and any resulting holes will be backfilled with locally imported soil to match existing site soil conditions. The equipment pads and supports will be broken up and removed.

The demolition debris and removed equipment may be cut or dismantled into pieces that can be safely lifted or carried with the on-site equipment being used. The majority of copper, steel and aluminum will be processed for transportation and delivery to a licensed off-site recycling center. The solar modules will be transported to and recycled at the nearest facility that will accept them. Minimal non-recyclable materials are anticipated; these will be properly disposed of at the nearest qualified disposal facility.

- Internal Power Collection System

The DC and AC power collection system will be dismantled and removed. All conduit and cabling that is removed will be recycled.

- Access Roads

The onsite access driveway will remain in place to accomplish decommissioning at the end of the Facility's life. At the time of decommissioning, if the landowner determines that this road will be beneficial for the future use of the site, the access road may remain after decommissioning. The future use of the site is undetermined at this time. Roads that will not be used will be restored to pre-construction conditions by removal of the aggregate base material, fill of the compacted base section with locally imported soil to match existing onsite soils, and hydroseeding with a seed mix to match existing onsite groundcover.

- Security Fence

The 6-foot high chain link perimeter security fence will remain in place during decommissioning activities for site safety and security purposes. At the time of decommissioning, if the landowner determines that this fence will be beneficial for the future use of the site, the fence may remain after decommissioning. The future use of the site is undetermined at this time. If the fence will not be used, it will be removed and transported to the nearest recycling facility. Holes left behind by the fence support posts will be backfilled with locally imported soil to match existing onsite soils, and hydroseeded with a seed mix to match existing onsite groundcover.

- Interconnection Line

The underground interconnection cabling that connects the Project to the Durham Manufacturing facility will remain in place during decommissioning activities to provide electric service onsite during decommissioning. At the time of decommissioning, if the landowner determines that this electric service line will be beneficial for the future use of the site, the line may remain after decommissioning. If the line is not used, the conductors will be removed and transported offsite to the nearest recycling facility.

- Site Reclamation

After the Project is completely decommissioned, and all Project equipment has been removed from the Site, additional activities will be performed to return the property back to its preconstruction conditions, excepting ordinary wear and tear.

- Restoration Process

The decommissioning process will remove Project-related structures and infrastructure as described in the previous sections. Following decommissioning, site reclamation activities will occur. Reclamation will restore landform features, vegetative cover, and hydrologic function after the closure of the facility. The process will involve (where needed) the replacement of topsoil and vegetation, as well as modification of site topography where necessary to bring the Site back to substantially pre-construction conditions compatible with the adjacent surroundings.

Any excavated areas remain after removal of equipment pads or access road base material, will be backfilled and compacted with locally imported soil to match existing onsite soils, and hydroseeded with a seed mix to match existing onsite groundcover. Any other areas of lower than average ground surface level will receive similar treatment.

If any soils are compacted at levels that would affect successful re-vegetation, they will be decompacted. The method of de-compaction will depend on how compacted the soil has become over the life of the Project. Following de-compaction, re-contouring of the site will be conducted, if necessary, to return the Site to approximately match the pre-construction surface conditions and the surrounding area conditions. Original site drainage characteristics will be restored if they have not been maintained. It is unlikely that a significant amount of earthwork will be required, because the Project construction plan calls for minimal disturbance of the Site during Project construction. Efforts will be made to disturb as little of the natural drainages and existing natural vegetation that remain post-decommissioning as possible.



Any remaining bare earth areas will be hydroseeded with a seed mix to match existing onsite groundcover. Site restoration activities are anticipated to be limited, because the pre-construction conditions of the site are not planned to be significantly altered during Project construction. Also, any other activities that become necessary, will be performed to return the Site to a preconstruction condition.

- Monitoring Activities

The Site will be monitored by Durham Manufacturing after site restoration activities are complete to confirm that any earthwork and re-vegetation were performed correctly. The Site will be periodically inspected (at least quarterly) to check for any eroded earthwork or failed vegetation. Any deficiencies will be promptly corrected. This monitoring will continue for a period of one year, or until the Site is re-developed for another future purpose, whichever comes first.

3. Cost of Decommissioning

The Estimated Cost of Decommissioning the Project is \$82,000, as reflected in the attached document. The Estimated Cost of Decommissioning shall be adjusted annually to account for inflation, based upon the current Consumer Price Index ("CPI") as maintained by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (the Revised Estimated Cost of Decommissioning). Petitioner shall file annual reports with the Board and the Department of Public Service on the status of the Decommissioning Fund after each annual adjustment.



Decommissioning Cost Estimate
Durham Manufacturing Photovoltaic Facility 1.42 MW DC

Removal

Remove modules \$21,000
Package & ship modules \$12,000
Disassemble rack \$15,000
Pull posts \$16,000
Package & ship rack & posts \$5,000
Remove & ship inverter sheds \$5,000
Remove electrical equipment & wiring \$4,000
Dispose of material with salvage value \$UNK
Dispose of material with no salvage value \$2,000
Site restoration – harrow & seed \$2,000

Total Decommission Cost \$82,000 w/out recyclable material value