

APPENDIX B

**Decommissioning Plan
for a 1.95 +/- MW AC Ground-mounted Solar
Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility Located
on Short Hills Road in Old Lyme, Connecticut**

October 7, 2019

Summary

The Project consists of a 1.95 +/- MW AC ground-mounted solar PV electric generating facility to be located in Old Lyme, Connecticut. The decommissioning of the Project includes the removal of all components associated with the Project and the restoration of the Project Site as close to its condition as possible. This will entail the removal of the equipment that was installed to generate electricity (racking, panels, etc.) as well as associated equipment such as inverters, pads, wires, etc.

The decommissioning will begin with the de-energization of the Project. Next, various components will be removed, including the panels, racking, driven steel foundations, concrete pads, conduit and conductors, inverters and transformers. Finally, the security fence will be removed, and the Site will be revegetated.

The vast majority of the components including electrical components, steel structures, panels and conductors can be recycled, and it is anticipated that all of these components will be recycled as part of decommissioning. All aspects of the decommissioning process will be in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. The Petitioner will be responsible for the decommissioning of the Project in accordance with this scope.

Decommissioning and Restoration Process

Petitioner will remove all associated components of the Project in approximately ninety (90) days. Debris and recyclable material will be placed in temporary storage locations on-Site pending permanent removal. As stated previously, nearly all of these materials are recyclable and will be transported to the appropriate recycling facilities. Any non-recyclable material will be transported 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:

Step 1: The decommissioning process will require the mobilization of construction equipment, tools, trash containers and material transportation trucks.

Step 2: The decommissioning process will begin in earnest with the decommissioning of the photovoltaic array and its associated racking structure. Certified electricians will de-energize the circuits and confirm the array is safe for disassembly. Panels will then be removed individually and temporarily stored on-Site. The Panels will be assessed for value at the time of decommissioning. The panels will either be recycled, reused at another project or transported to an appropriate disposal if they can neither be reused nor recycled.

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 have no concrete foundation, associated holes will be small during the removal process. Any resulting holes will be backfilled with local soil. All steel associated with the module racking structure will be recycled.

Step 3: The electrical components will then be removed from the Project Site. 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 facility. Any concrete at the Site will be demolished using jackhammers and hauled to an appropriate concrete disposal site.

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.

Step 4: The steel perimeter security fence will remain in place during the decommissioning process for security and public safety. Once the Site (other than the steel perimeter fence) has been decommissioned, the security fence will be taken down. Components will be transported to an appropriate recycling facility.

Step 5: 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.