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October 14, 2020

Ronald L. Brand
Director of Development
Town of Farmington
1000 County Road 8
Farmington, New York 14425

RE: Delaware River Solar, LLC Solar Energy Facility 466 Yellow Mills Road Response to Town Staff Comments

Attached, please find a PDF of the revised plan set.

This comment response letter was drafted in coordination with Delaware River Solar, in response to comments received from Town Staff and dated October 7, 2020. The plans have been revised as follows:

# Drawing P-1:

- 1. The Lot numbers have been revised allow the Lot number to correspond with PV Plant number and the LLC. With Lot 4 now being the remaining lands of Rodger and Carol Smith.
- 2. A Project Approvals block has been added which will track the approvals as they are given. This block includes the 90-day extension granted by the Planning Board.
- 3. The Lot labels have been revised to include "leased by Farmington LLC". Subdivision Note #2 has been added referencing that Rodger and Carol Smith own the property and are leasing Lots 1, 2 and 3 to the LLC's.

# Drawing S-1:

- 1. The solar fence line-type in the Legend block has been updated to match the plan on all sheets.
- 2. The Lot labels have been revised to include "leased by Farmington LLC" on all plan sheets.
- 3. A Project Approvals block has been added which will track the approvals as they are given.
- 4. The label on sheet S-1 and the RG&E Interconnection Poles Diagram on Sheet S-2 represent the proposed number of utility poles and configuration based on the initial site consultation with the utility company. The label and note have been revised to include this information.
- 5. The labels for the Temporary Stone Construction Access have been revised to include additional information. Such as: they are to be removed at the end of construction, soil de-compacted, and replaced with either topsoil or the Limited Use Impervious Access

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- Road. The intent is to install a temporary construction access road which is then removed at the end of the construction period. The east-west access road will be replaced with topsoil and the north-south access will be replaced with the Limited Use Impervious Access Road. This will allow for all weather access to all 3 of the transformer/inverter pads.
- 6. The label for the construction material lay down area now references General Note #8 on sheet S-2 which explains that this area is to be constructed to the standards of the construction access road, is to be removed at the end of construction and restored to topsoil. It describes that the area will be used for the temporary staging of materials between the time that they are delivered and the time that they are installed. Materials will include, but are not limited to, pallets of solar panels, module components, conduit and reels of cable.
- 7. Reference to the sheep barn has been removed from the plan at this time. As it has not been confirmed that sheep will definitely be utilized at this site. If the operator chooses that this wish to pursue this in the future they will submit amended drawings, SWPPP and operations plan to the town for review and approval.
- 8. Proposed landscaping has been added to the northwest corner of Lot 1 to augment the existing screening. Street view images have been submitted to show that the existing vegetation significantly screens the central portion of the system from Fox Road.
- 9. A Project Approvals block has been added which will track the approvals as they are given.
- 10. The arrow has been added to connect this label to the converter pad it is describing.
- 11. The riser poles are labeled at the roadside connection point. Note that the riser pole is the southernmost pole of each interconnection. The label on the site also includes a reference to the RG&E Interconnection Poles diagram on Sheet S-2. The references to riser poles on the cable labels throughout the plans have been removed to avoid confusion.
- 12. The waste and construction trailer has been relocated to the construction material lay down area inside the security fence. Construction waste generated at the site is described within the previously submitted Project Memorandum Section 2.15.1 (September 5, 2018). A proposed 40 c.y. construction waste container is now shown and labeled on the plans. Operational waste generated at the site during operations (facility maintenance) is described within Section 2.15.2. This temporary waste storage, if needed during maintenance work, will be located within the designated temporary storage location shown on the site plan and will be removed from the site that same day. If the maintenance work will create a large amount of waste a local waste hauler will be contacted to provide covered waste containers which would be removed from the site at the conclusion of the maintenance. There will be no permanent on-site dumpsters located at the project site.
- 13. The temporary construction facilities have been relabeled as the construction trailer to be removed at the end of construction.
- 14. The proposed cattle pass through gates are 4-way crossings of cattle pasture and areas that a maintenance crew may need to access. The north-south cattle pass through

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gates near the site entrance can remain open allowing for maintenance access to the site. When the landowner needs to transfer his cattle from the northeast pasture into the central pasture area the north-south gates can be closed and the east-west gates opened, allow the cattle to cross the access road. See the Fencing Plan on sheet D-1 for pasture layouts and labels.

- 15. The required signature blocks have been added to sheets S-1, S-2, L-1, ES-1 and D-1.
- 16. The revision blocks on each sheet are updated with each revision date if the revisions had an impact on that sheet.
- 17. The weather station is a small collection of instruments attached to the transformer pad. Details were provided within the submitted July 2018 Project Memorandum and have now been added to sheet D-1.

# **Drawing S-2:**

- 1. The solar fence line-type in the Legend block has been updated to match the plan on all sheets. The type of solar fence being used to encompass the facility is a woven knot deer fence as shown on the detail provided within the submitted July 2018 Project Memorandum and is located sheet D-1.
- 2. The labels for the Temporary Stone Construction Access have been revised to include additional information. Such as: they are to be removed at the end of construction, soil de-compacted, and replaced with either topsoil or the Limited Use Impervious Access Road. Stormwater Note #4 has been revised to be more descriptive.
- 3. Stormwater Note #4 has been revised to be more descriptive. This includes describing the portion of the access roads that will become limited use pervious access roads throughout the operational life of the system, which are required to be maintained for continuous access for emergency vehicles.
- 4. The labels have been revised to read, 100' buffer from the NYSDEC regulated Freshwater Wetland MC-12.
- 5. The required signature blocks have been added to sheets S-1, S-2, L-1, ES-1 and D-1.

#### Drawing L-1:

- 1. In areas where the proposed landscaping is outside the property lines of Lots 1, 2 or 3 there shall be a Landscaping Maintenance easement to allow the project company to maintain the landscaping. There are 3 such easements now shown on the drawings.
- 2. The Plant Schedule and Planting Notes have been updated to reflect the October 5, 2020 MRB Group recommendations. Additional information has been added to the Plant Schedule, including double and single row offset and spacing and pruning height. The plans currently call for 394 arborvitae (2 varieties) and 114 coniferous trees (3 varieties).
- 3. Fencing Note #10 on sheet D-1 has been added to state that the cattle fence installation and the selection of materials will be determined by the landowner. The operation and maintenance needs of the landowner in regards to the cattle fence should remain at their discretion.
- 4. See the Fencing Plan on sheet D-1 for pasture layouts and labels. This cattle pass through is necessary to allow maintenance workers to access the easternmost portion of the facility. The north-south gates should remain open to allow the cattle passage to the

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- "Hill Pasture". When necessary, the north-south gates can be closed and the east-west gates opened to allow the maintenance crew into the southeast portion of PV #3 without disturbing the cattle.
- 5. The strip of land between Farmington LLC II and Farmington LLC III is the proposed cattle pass through which is the main route for the cattle to gain access to the western pasture lands from the barn as discussed at the early Planning Board meetings. Solar fence is proposed in this area to maintain the security of the facility.
- 6. The maintenance material lay down area is now located at the southwestern end of the first hammerhead turnaround. This area is sufficiently screened by the perimeter landscaping.
- 7. The proposed plantings have been updated to reflect the October 5, 2020 MRB Group recommendations. The proposed planting heights are now shown as 6'-8' with the intention of the selected species to be 10'-12' in height after 2-3 years.

### Drawing D-1:

- 1. The driveway entrance has been increased to 20' in width at the right-of-way line with 28' radii to better accommodate construction traffic. As per the Town Highway Superintendent, a culvert is now proposed to channel runoff from the west side to the east side of the driveway entrance.
- 2. Labels throughout the plan set have been revised as needed to include where to find additional details or notes if they are located on other sheets.
- 3. There will be no commercial signage as part of this project. The only proposed signs will be the required safety signs as described in the July 2018 Project Memorandum. A detail of the proposed facility signage has been added to sheet D-1.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding this project.

Sincerely,

David Matt

Project Engineer

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