

**STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of MHG Solar LLC for a certificate )  
of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 8010 )  
and 248, to install and operate a 500 kW group )  
net-metered solar electric generation facility ) Case No. 20-\_\_\_\_-NMP  
located off Richville Road in Manchester, )  
Vermont, to be known as the “Richville Road )  
Solar Project” )

**AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL LEW-SMITH**

1. My name is Michael Lew-Smith. I am an ecologist and botanist. I specialize in conducting surveys for RTE plants and significant natural communities. I am an owner and one of the managing partners of Arrowwood Environmental (“AE”), a firm that provides environmental services, including ecological assessments, mapping, and natural history interpretation. Our primary office is located at 950 Bert White Road, Huntington, Vermont, 05462.

2. I received a Bachelor’s Degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Michigan and a Master’s Degree in Plant Biology from the University of Minnesota. I am one of the founding partners of AE. Over the past 16 years, I have conducted numerous environmental assessments for proposed developments and also worked with many towns in mapping and assessing natural communities.

3. AE was retained by MHG Solar LLC (“MHG”) to perform a natural resources assessment for MHG’s proposed 500 kW (AC) photovoltaic electric generation facility located off Richville Road in Manchester, Vermont.


4. On September 26 and October 29, 2019, Arrowwood Environmental visited the Project site in order to conduct natural resources assessments of the site and surrounding vicinity.

5. In addition to the field investigations, I reviewed various digital databases related to natural resources in and around the Project site.

6. Based on the results of the assessment, I conclude that the Project will not have an undue adverse impact under the following section 248 environmental criteria: outstanding resource waters, headwaters, streams, shorelines, wetlands, rare and irreplaceable natural areas, necessary wildlife habitat, or rare, threatened and endangered species.

7. My findings and conclusions are documented in my Natural Resources Report, submitted in this proceeding as *Exhibit MHG-MLS-1*.

I declare that the above statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if the above statement is false, I may be subject to sanctions by the Commission for contempt.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Lew-Smith