Margo Avery Trust
297 Tucker Hill Rd
Norwich, VT 05055

TO: Persons and Entities Entitled to Notice Pursuant to Public Utility Commission Rule 5.107(B) (See Enclosed List)

RE: Margo Avery Trust Proposed Net-Metered Solar Project in Norwich, VT
45-Day Notice of Application to be filed with Vermont Public Utility Commission

DATE: June 25, 2020

Dear Interested Persons and Entities,

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 8010 and 248 and Public Utility Commission Rule 5.107(B), O'Meara Solar(installer), on behalf of Margo Avery Trust(owner), is submitting the following pre-application notice concerning its proposed 29.4 kilowatt (kW) net-metered solar project ("the Project"), to be sited on a parcel of land located off Tucker Hill Road, Norwich, Vermont.

I. Introduction

We are preparing to file an application for a Certificate of Public Good ("CPG") with the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), requesting approval to install and operate a 29.4 kW (alternating current or "AC") solar electric generation facility in Norwich, Vermont (the "Project"). We are developing this net-metering project as a "Preferred Site" (item 9) under Commission Rule 5.103.

The Project will be a net-metered facility interconnected to the Green Mountain Power ("GMP") electric distribution system, and will produce power to offset the electricity requirements of the property .

The remainder of this letter briefly describes: (1) plans for construction and operation of the Project, including how equipment and materials will be transported to the site; (2) expected benefits of the Project; (3) a preliminary assessment of impacts; (4) the expected date an application will be filed with the Commission; and (5) the rights of persons and entities receiving this notice to comment on the Project in accordance with Commission Rule 5.107(B).

II. Project Description and Construction Plans

The Project will be located on a portion of their approximately 111 acre parcel of land off Tucker Hill Road, Norwich, Vermont, and owned by Margo Avery Trust. See Location Map and Site Plan, Attachment A.

The 29.4 kW solar electric generation facility will consist of approximately 96 solar modules (315 Watt) each mounted on fixed metal racks, string inverters, electrical collector system components consisting of underground conduit, wire, AC combiner panel, and AC disconnects. The Project proposes to install the system disconnect, upgraded service equipment and inverters on a pedestal near the secondary transformer located on the west side of the driveway, northeast of the main residence.

The site was chosen based upon its solar exposure, accessibility to existing roads and distribution lines, aesthetics, and its minimal impacts on natural resources and the character of the area. The proposed project site is uneven, rocky land not suitable for tilling, and is other wise unusable for agriculture.

The project parcel is not subject to any Act 250 permits.

The attached site plan represents the current preferred layout. The final layout to be applied for may vary somewhat based upon further engineering, environmental, and other siting considerations. However, the final layout will fall within the overall site area where environmental and other impacts have been evaluated for the purposes of this 45-day notice.

The basic parameters of the site plan include the following working assumptions:

- The parcel on which the solar site will be located can be accessed from the existing driveway.
- Construction will be performed in accordance with the Vermont Standards & Specifications for Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (2006).
- Year-round daily access to the array is not required. No on-site septic or water supply systems will be constructed. The solar project's energy production will be monitored remotely and, if any abnormal conditions are detected, technicians will be dispatched as required.

Site Access & Equipment Delivery

Standardized trucking methods will be used to transport the panels and other project components (e.g. racking, wire, conduit, and construction materials) to the site. Typical tractor trailer/box truck vehicles and/or pick-up trucks will be used to transport materials to the site for construction. The Project will not require any oversized loads. The existing driveway coming off Tucker Hill Road will be used for bringing in all construction-related equipment and machinery. Construction equipment will likely include a post-drilling machine, a rough terrain forklift or similar equipment to lift the panels in place and to move material around the site. An excavator will be used to install underground electrical wiring.

Solar Panels and Electrical Collection System

The Project will utilize (96) 315-watt solar panels, or the equivalent, mounted at a fixed angle of 30 (±) degrees to maximize solar collection. The bottom of the solar panels will be at approximately three feet above existing grade and the top at approximately 12 feet above grade.

The array will be arranged in approximately 3 rows running east-west. The rows will be connected via underground electrical cable in conduit to string inverters at the array, which convert the electricity from DC to AC. The AC outputs from the six individual inverters will combine in a 200A service panel, and from there connect to a meter/disconnect near the existing 400A service secondary transformer. The interconnection will happen at the existing customer owned secondary transformer on the west side of the existing driveway.

The modules are Hanwha QCELL G5 315W Black modules, the inverters are 3 x SMA SB 6.0, and 3 x SMA SB 3.8. The racking is still being determined, but will be pile based, and have 5-6 piles per row.

III. Project Benefits

The Project will provide a number of benefits to Norwich and the state, including but not be limited to:

- Energy, and energy cost, savings for property.
- Payment of state educational and municipal property taxes.
- Purchasing equipment from Vermont businesses, when commercially feasible.
- Employing Vermont businesses for pre-application, construction, and operation and maintenance work, when commercially feasible.

In addition to these economic benefits, the proposed solar electric facility will also result in important environmental benefits. The 2016 Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan set a goal for the State to receive 90% of its energy from renewable resources by the year 2050, and solar power is needed to meet that goal. The solar energy produced by this Project will result in less electricity needed in the New England region from plants that likely use fossil fuel or nuclear energy. It will emit no air pollutants (including CO2) in generating electricity, and thus could help in a small but measurable way to reduce global climate change, acid rain, and the negative public health effects associated with the use of fossil fuel and the waste storage challenges presented by nuclear energy production.

IV. Preliminary Impact Assessment

Based upon our initial review including the use of the State's environmental databases, the Project will either avoid or not cause undue adverse impacts to environmental resources, and will not create public health or safety concerns. Key elements include the following:

- The Project will not impact any wetlands, streams, or other sensitive environmental resources.
- The Project will be designed to meet electric safety and utility interconnection standards for safe and reliable operation of solar electric facilities.
- The Project will require no new municipal services and will not pose undue burdens on town fire, police, or water/sewer services. The Project will not impact the ability of the town to provide educational services.
- The project will be located on marginal, uneven land that is non-tillable due to the land's slope, and bedrock content.

With respect to aesthetic impacts, the Project site is located several hundred feet from any roads, adjoining property lines, and nearby residences. The array is on a southern slope, and has trees to the north, east and west that make it hard to see from the driveway or house. The array site has been approved by the landscape architect, Shepard Butler Landscape Associates, for optimal aesthetics.

V. Expected Petition Filing Date with Vermont Public Utility Commission

We will file a Section 8010 application and supporting materials with the PUC soon after the 45-day notice period expires, approximately Aug. 10, 2020.

VI. Comments and Inquiries Concerning the Project

At this juncture, if you have any questions or comments concerning the Project please feel free to contact us as follows:

Darren O'Meara
O'Meara Solar
PO Box 151
West Topsham, VT 05086
802-522-2381
omearasolar@gmail.com

We hope that you will support this Project, given the benefits it will provide to the property, the town and the state, and given its extremely limited impacts. You will have an opportunity to file comments with the Public Utility Commission once the application for a certificate of public good is filed. In the meantime, I invite you to contact me with any questions or comments you have, as we welcome your input and suggestions to make this a successful project.

Sincerely,
Darren O'Meara
O'Meara Solar
omearasolar@gmail.com

Enclosures:
List of Persons and Entities Receiving Notice
Attachment A – Location Map, Site Plan

Margo Avery Trust – Proposed Solar Project in Norwich, VT
List of Persons and Entities Receiving 45-Day Notice of the Application

By ePUC:

Vermont Public Utility Commission
112 State Street, 4th floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701
(1 hard copy via first class mail)

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
1 National Life Drive, # 6
Montpelier, VT 05620

Vermont Public Service Department
Commissioner's Office
112 State Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Vermont Agency of Agriculture,
Food and Markets
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Secretary's Office
1 National Life Dr., Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3901

Green Mountain Power
68-70 Merchants Row
Rutland, VT 05701

By certified mail:

Town of Norwich
Select Board
300 Main Street
PO Box 376
Norwich, VT 05055

Town of Norwich
Planning Commission
300 Main Street
PO Box 376
Norwich, VT 05055

Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional
Commission
128 King Farm Road
Woodstock, VT 05091

Adjoining Landowners (by certified mail)

Parcel 09-022.110
1219 Bragg Hill Rd.
Benjamin & Christianna Morley
1219 Bragg Hill Road
Norwich, VT 05055

Parcel 09-022.130
1305 Bragg Hill Rd.
Laura & John Guest
1305 Bragg Hill Road
Norwich, VT 05055

Parcel 09-022.200
295 Tucker Hill Road
William L. Kitchel III
709 Pennstone Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Parcel 09-026.000
256 Tucker Hill Road
Stanton & Jennifer Williams, Trustees
256 Tucker Hill Road
Norwich, VT 05055

Parcel 09-027.000
222 Tucker Hill Road
John & Margarita Severinghaus
222 Tucker Hill Road
Norwich, VT 05055

Parcel 09-043.000
1208 Bragg Hill Rd.
Brian & Erica Dade
1208 Bragg Hill Road
Norwich, VT 05055-9592

Parcel 09-043.100
1282 Bragg Hill Rd.
Frederik & Sophia Crawford
PO Box 482
Norwich, VT 05055

Parcel 09-048.000
Upper Valley Land Trust
19 Buck Road
Hanover, NH 03755

Parcel 09-050.00
414 Burton Woods Road
Guarino Terino, Et Als
c/o Jerry A. Terino
1017 NH Route 4A
Enfield, NH 03784