



15 Railroad Row, Suite 101  
White River Junction, VT 05001  
802.281.3213

December 8, 2020

To Those Persons Whose Names Appear on the 45 Day Notice List Attached Hereto

**Re:     Advanced Notice for Putney Green Acres Solar LLC  
       Solar Project Vermont Statutes Title 30 Section 8010/248 permit Process**

I.     Introduction

Pursuant to the Public Utility Commission (“PUC” or “Commission”) Rule 5.100, Putney Green Acres Solar LLC (the “Applicant”) is pleased to provide the following advance notice and information of plans for a 500 kW group net-metering, ground mount solar electric system to be sited at 0 River Rd, Putney Vermont (the “Project”). Filing of an Application with the PUC pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248 & 8010 for a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”) is anticipated to be after January 22, 2020.

This letter describes the Project, the expected Application filing date, and your rights to participate in review of the Project. Under Sections 8010 and 248, and PUC Rule 5.107(B), the parties listed on the attached 45 Day Notice List (*Attachment A*) are entitled to receive written notice at least 45 days in advance of the Application filing. Putney Green Acres Solar LLC has selected Norwich Solar Technologies to assist in development and installation of the Project. Please feel free to reach me using my contact information provided at the end of this letter if you are interested in learning more or have comments or suggestions for the proposal.

II.    Project Benefits

The Project creates a number of benefits with local and statewide significance. For example, the Project supports numerous clean energy economy jobs from design and development phases through installation and operation. The Project will annually contribute to the State Education Fund through a production tax and to the town through a local tax.

Importantly, the Project is an in-state new renewable energy generation resource that will help reduce our dependence on out of state electricity sources,<sup>1</sup>a significant portion of which is nuclear power, and instead fuel local customers and Vermont’s economy with clean power from local resources and strengthen the growth of our resilient local electrical system.

III.   Project Description

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<sup>1</sup> By generating electricity locally, electricity is distributed to nearby utility customers, avoiding new construction, upgrades, and expansion of transmission lines.

The *Attachment B* preliminary plan identifies the location of the solar array (42.968613°N, -72.495287°W), its primary components and access to the array. This 500 kW (AC) ground mount array is typical of solar electric generation installations of its type and size, comprising photovoltaic modules (“solar panels”) on fixed-tilt, supporting racks. The racks are designed to support the bottom of the solar panels approximately 3 feet above existing grade to the top of the panels at approximately 10 feet. The array will be arranged in multiple rows running generally east-west with the panels facing south and sufficient distance between the rows to minimize self-shading. The solar array may be fenced or, if not fenced, will be otherwise electrically secure.

The solar panels will be connected electrically with string inverters mounted discretely behind the panels. The power will then travel underground to an AC disconnect, and then interconnect to Green Mountain Power Corporation’s (“GMP”) distribution circuit, with a line extension to three new GMP pole-mounted transformers near the array. These transformers are typical of what GMP uses throughout their distribution system.

The array is proposed in an open area adjacent to the capped portion of the former Putney Paper closed landfill. Accordingly, the Agency of Natural Resources Solid Waste Management Program has issued a Landfill Preferred Site Certification. The host parcel is not subject to an Act 250 Land Use permit. Throughout the life of the Project, the site will remain vegetated. The Project will be monitored remotely and with periodic inspections and maintenance.

During installation, material and equipment will be transported to the site by standard-size delivery vehicles. Traffic will be limited in duration and typical of small commercial construction jobs.

### III. Potential Aesthetic Impacts

This array will be a low-profile installation and will appear like renewable energy solar arrays commonplace in Vermont. The array is proposed on approximately 2.4 acres of the 20 +/- acre parcel, setback about 215 +/- feet from Interstate 91 North. The peripheral areas of the parcel are vegetated with mature trees and afford screening of the array. A full aesthetic review will be included with the Application.

### IV. Potential Environmental Impacts

The Applicant’s preliminary analysis shows the array is not expected to have an undue adverse impact on the natural environment. A natural resource assessment addressing all relevant natural resources as described by 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) and (b)(8) will be included with the Application.

### V. Your Ability to Comment on the Project

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A § 248, you are entitled do make recommendations to the PUC and to us, at least 7 days prior to the expiration of this 45-day notice period. We anticipate filing the Section 248/8010 Application on or after January 22, 2020. Members of the public may participate in proceedings before the Vermont Public Utility Commission by submitting public comments or by intervening as a formal party to a case. Public comments must be submitted within 30 days of the Commission’s determination that the Application is administratively complete. In addition, the Putney Selectboard and Planning Commission will have the right to appear as a party in any proceedings held.

For additional information regarding this process, including your right to participate in the PUC's proceeding, please refer to the following Commission documents:

Pursuant to Sections 8010 and 248 and Commission rule 5.107, all adjoining landowners and host landowner will receive notice of the Application filing which will be available at the PUC's electronic filing system (<https://epuc.vermont.gov/>).

Again, we welcome the opportunity to further share information about the Project, and to learn of any comments you may have. Please feel free to contact me at 802-359-7416 or my email at [staskus@norwicksolar.com](mailto:staskus@norwicksolar.com).

We appreciate your participation in this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martha Staskus', is centered below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Martha Staskus  
Project Manager

Appendices: Attachment A – 45 Day Notice List  
Attachment B – Preliminary Site Plan

## Attachment A

### 45 Day Advance Notice Service List

#### Via First Class Mail

Putney Selectboard  
PO Box 233  
127 Main St.  
Putney, VT 05346

Putney Planning Commission  
PO Box 233  
127 Main St.  
Putney, VT 05346

Windham Regional Commission  
139 Main Street, Suite 505  
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Green Acres of Vermont, Inc.  
130 Sullivan St.  
Claremont, NH 03743  
(Landowner)

#### Adjoining Landowners to the site:

Boston & Maine Railroad  
% GLFRD TRANS INDUSTRIES  
1700 Iron Horse Pk  
N. Billerica, MA 01862

Nathaniel Hendricks  
PO Box 738  
Putney, VT 05346

Barry & Catherine Rounds  
296 River Rd South  
Putney, VT 05346

Thomas and Nancy Meyer  
249 River Road South  
Putney VT 05346

Joseph and Christine Moyer  
263 River Road South  
Putney, VT 05346

Vermont Agency of Transportation  
219 North Main Street  
Barre, VT 05641

#### Via Commission Electronic Filing System

Judith Whitney, Clerk  
Vermont Public Utility  
Commission  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Vermont Department of Public Service  
112 State Street, 4th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3901

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation  
1 National Life Drive,  
Davis Building, 6th Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and  
Markets  
116 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

Green Mountain Power  
163 Acorn Lane  
Colchester, VT 05446