

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 21-0401-NMP

Application of Putney Green Acres, LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248 and 8010, authorizing the installation and operation of a 500-kW (AC) net-metered solar electric generation facility in Putney, Vermont	
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Case No. 21-0651-NMP

Application of Putney Blood Farm LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248 and 8010, authorizing the installation and operation of a 150-kW (AC) net-metered solar electric generation facility in Putney, Vermont	
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Order entered: 02/09/2021

PROCEDURAL ORDER

On January 28, 2021, in Case No. 21-0401-NMP, Putney Green Acres, LLC filed an application with the Vermont Public Utility Commission for a certificate of public good (“CPG”) to construct and operate a 500-kW solar net-metering system Putney, Vermont (the “proposed Green Acres facility”). The proposed Green Acres facility would be located on 2.4 acres of a 20-acre former paper sludge dump site south of I-91 that is accessed from River Road South. The application includes the prefiled testimony of Martha Staskus, who is the chief development officer of Norwich Technologies, Inc. (“Norwich”) in which Ms. Staskus testified that Norwich created Putney Green Acres, LLC as a limited liability corporation to own and operate the proposed Green Acres facility.

On February 1, 2021, in Case No. 21-0651-NMP, Putney Blood Farm Solar LLC filed an application for a CPG to construct and operate a 150-kW solar net-metering system in Putney, Vermont (the “proposed Blood Farm facility”). The proposed Blood Farm facility would be located north of I-91 on 0.7-acre portion of a 2.2-acre former paper sludge dump site accessed from River Road South. Ms. Staskus also filed prefiled testimony in Case No. 21-0651-NMP, similarly stating that Norwich created Putney Blood Farm Solar LLC as a limited liability corporation to own and operate the proposed Blood Farm facility.

In light of the Commission's recent decisions regarding single plants,¹ Norwich must provide supplemental information, in the form of testimony or affidavit, addressing whether the proposed Green Acres facility and the proposed Blood Farm facility constitute a "single plant" pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8002(18). The comments should address the factors the Commission considers in its single-plant analysis: same project, common ownership (project developers, ownership of completed projects, identity of lessees, project site landowners, membership in net-metering groups), contiguity in time of construction, proximity of facilities (distance between facilities, intervening buffers, topography, and type of installations), and common equipment and infrastructure (roads, control facilities, connections to the electric grid).² Norwich shall file a common site plan for the two proposed facilities and an interconnection feasibility study for the proposed Blood Farm facility. Norwich shall also file a chronology addressing Norwich's involvement: (1) locating the two proposed sites and/or acquiring access to the two proposed sites; (2) interacting with relevant state agencies and consultants to conduct natural resources (including brownfields) and historic and aesthetic assessments for the two proposed facilities; (3) identifying and preparing the technical aspects of the two proposed facilities (including interconnection with Green Mountain Power Corporation and required upgrades to the electrical distribution grid); (4) preparing the site plans and equipment choices for the two proposed facilities; and (5) briefing the two proposed facilities to officials of the Town of Putney and the Windham Regional Commission.

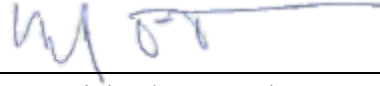
Norwich shall submit this supplemental information in support of its position regarding whether the facilities constitute separate plants by March 5, 2021.

¹ See *Petition of Portland Street Solar, LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248 and 8010, authorizing the installation and operation of a 500 kW (AC) group net-metered solar electric generation facility in St. Johnsbury, Vermont*, Case No. 19-2484-NMP, Order of 12/23/20 (denying petition because facility would be part of same project and share equipment and infrastructure with neighboring facility with total capacity in excess of 500 kW capacity limitation to receive rate benefits for net-metering projects) *appeal pending*; *Petition of Chelsea Solar LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, for a certificate of public good authorizing the installation and operation of the "Willow Road Project," a 2.0 MW solar electric generation facility on Willow Road in Bennington, Vermont*, Case No. 17-5024-PET, Order of 6/12/19, (denying the petition because the facility would be part of the same project with a neighboring 2.0 MW facility with a total capacity in excess 2.2 MW limitation for standard-offer projects) *appeal pending*.

² See *Petition of Portland Street Solar*, Case No. 19-2484-NMP, Order of 12/23/20 (detailing Commission's analysis of these factors).

SO ORDERED.

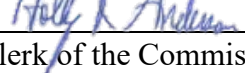
Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 9th day of February, 2021.



Michael E. Tousley, Esq.
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: February 9, 2021

Attest: 

Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PUC Case Nos. 21-0401-NMP & 21-0651-NMP – JOINT SERVICE LIST

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