

AIRPORT RD1 VT SOLAR 45-DAY ADVANCE NOTICE OF CPG PETITION

To: Town of Fair Haven Selectboard
Town of Fair Haven Planning Commission
Rutland Regional Planning Commission
State Agencies Entitled to Advance Notice
Host Landowner
Adjoining Landowners
Green Mountain Power Corporation

Date: November 18, 2025

Re: Advance Notice of a Section 248 Petition for Certificate of Public Good for the
Airport RD1 VT Solar Project

Introduction

On behalf of Airport RD1 VT Solar LLC, this letter and enclosed information are being provided as advance notice for plans to file a petition for a certificate of public good (CPG) with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (Commission) for a 4.975 megawatt (MW) solar electric generating facility to be located off Airport Road in Fair Haven, Vermont (the Project).

The petition is planned to be filed with the Commission on or after January 2, 2026. This letter briefly describes the Project's preliminary design and assessments including potential aesthetic impacts, plans for installation and operation, the expected economic and societal benefits, and how and when to file comments or recommendations about the Project with us and the Commission in advance of the petition.

Project Description

The Project is a 4.975 MW ground-mounted solar array sited on a portion of a 105.21± acre parcel of land (SPAN# 216-070-11165) located off Airport Road in Fair Haven. The array will be comprised of two sections of multiple rows of solar panels mounted on fixed-tilt ground-mounted racks. The two array areas will comprise approximately 21± acres. The array rows in each section will vary in length and will generally run east to west with the panels facing south. An eight-foot-high agricultural style perimeter fence will enclose each array section, which will be accessible via an existing dirt farm access off Airport Road that will be upgraded with gravel and widened to twelve feet to accommodate construction deliveries and equipment. The racking and fence posts will be installed by driving or screwing the posts into the ground without the need for excavation.

A new line extension will interconnect the Project with Green Mountain Power's electric distribution system at a new riser pole located along Airport Road just north of the Project's new gravel access. Utility poles will be installed along the gravel access for the line extension and utility and Project equipment. The line will then run underground and connect with the Project's pad-mounted transformers serving each of the array sections. A rack will be installed next to the pad-mounted transformers to support the Project's inverters which convert the array's direct current (DC) output to alternating current (AC). All wiring connecting the solar panels within the array sections will be installed in underground conduit. Please refer to the preliminary site plan that accompanies this notice for the layout and location of the Project's components.

Project materials and equipment will be transported to the site by standard-size delivery vehicles without the need for special permits or traffic controls. Delivery and construction hours will be from 7AM to 7PM Monday-Friday, and if needed 8AM-5PM on Saturday. No deliveries or work will take place on Sundays or State and Federal holidays. The Project will be remotely monitored with periodic inspections and maintenance performed as required. The Project will not require any exterior lighting or sanitary facilities.

Project Aesthetics

The Project will not have an undue adverse impact on the aesthetics or scenic beauty of the surrounding area. The array will appear similar to other fixed-tilt ground-mounted solar arrays seen throughout Vermont. The array racking will be gray and made from galvanized metal. The solar panels will be dark in color with an anti-reflective coating. The array is low profile with the solar panels supported at approximately 3 feet off the ground with a maximum height of approximately 15 feet from ground level. Within the approximately 21± acre project area, or limit of disturbance, approximately 6.3± acres of trees/vegetation will be cleared before installation. After the Project is installed, the array area will be maintained with low vegetative cover. Due to the Project's location, existing vegetation, and site topography, no landscape plantings are included in the Project's plans. A complete aesthetic impact assessment will be included with the petition for a certificate of public good.

Potential Environmental Impacts

The Project is designed to avoid undue adverse impacts on the natural environment. As shown on the preliminary site plan, the Project design mostly avoids Class II wetlands and their buffer zones, as well as two streams and their riparian buffers. Access to the southern array section will require a Vermont Wetland Permit to authorize the installation of the upgraded gravel access road across a portion of a wetland buffer. A significant natural community and rare plant species were identified during site assessments, and the Project is designed to avoid those areas and their protective buffer zones. The Project will be installed in compliance with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Stormwater Program and Vermont Standards & Specifications for Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (2020). All excavated prime agricultural soils not returned in place will be

stockpiled onsite as shown on the accompanying preliminary site plan. A complete natural resource assessment will be included with the petition for a CPG.

Decommissioning

The Project will be decommissioned after it permanently ceases operation, and the site will be restored to its prior condition to the greatest extent practicable as required by the Public Utility Commission's decommissioning rule (Rule 5.900). The Project's decommissioning commitment will be supported by a bankruptcy-remote financial security from an A-rated financial institution before any site preparation and installation activities occur.

Project Benefits

The Project's benefits include annual contributions to State and Town taxes and support for Vermont-based clean energy jobs. Where commercially feasible, equipment, materials and supplies will be purchased from Vermont businesses. Power from the facility is expected to be sold to one or more Vermont electric utilities at a competitive price and will help to meet Vermont's renewable energy goals. All costs related to the Project's interconnection with Green Mountain Power will be paid for by the Project with no impact on ratepayers. The Project will not impact educational or municipal services or create an undue burden on local fire, police, or water/sewer services.

Your Ability to Comment on the Project

We anticipate filing the Section 248 petition with the Commission on or after January 2, 2026. We welcome your comments on the preliminary plan before January 2, 2026, and will take them into account when preparing the CPG petition. In addition, pursuant to 30 V.S.A § 248(f)(1)(A) and Commission Rule 5.402(C)(3) the Fair Haven Planning Commission and Rutland Regional Planning Commission have the right to convene a public hearing on the proposed Project. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A § 248(f)(1)(C) and Commission Rule 5.402(C)(4), each planning commission may submit recommendations to us about the Project within 40 days of this notice. The petition will include a summary of any written comments received in response to this letter and any oral comments made at a public hearing convened pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(f)(1)(A). Finally, each planning commission may make recommendations about the Project to the Commission after the petition is filed, and the Commission will give them due consideration. Recommendations made to the Commission, or the lack of such recommendations, do not preclude the planning commissions or the Fair Haven Selectboard from participating as parties in the Commission's proceedings to review the Project.

The Commission provides two downloadable documents that can assist you in participating in its proceedings: "Public Participation and Intervention in Proceedings Before the Public Utility Commission," found at <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/public-participation-and-intervention-proceedings->

[public-utility-commission](#), and the Commission's Section 248 procedures document, found at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/section-248-procedures>.

Again, we welcome the opportunity to further share information about this Project and to learn of any comments you may have. Please feel free to contact me by telephone at 802-578-6161 or by email at ericsphaneuf@gmail.com.

We appreciate your participation in this process.

Sincerely,

Erik Phaneuf

On behalf of Airport RD1 VT Solar, LLC

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