

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Petition of Novus Buck Solar LLC for a Certificate of)
Public Good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing)
the installation and operation for a 4.999 MW ground-) Case No. 26-____-PET
mounted solar array in Newport Town, Vermont to be)
known as the “Novus Buck Solar Project”)

PETITION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD
PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A § 248

By this Petition Novus Buck Solar LLC (“NBS” or “Petitioner”) requests that the Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issue a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”) pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248 for the installation and operation of a 4.999 MW solar electric generation facility in Newport Town, Vermont. In support of this Petition, NBS represents:

1. NBS is a Vermont limited liability company with a business address of 250 Main Street, Montpelier, Vermont, 05602.
2. NBS proposes to install and operate the Project on approximately 17.63 (±) acres of an approximately 57.67-acre parcel of land off Vermont Route 100 in Newport Town, Vermont (the “Property”). The Project site was previously used as a gravel extraction pit, and the fenced-in Project area will be located on remediated portions of the extraction operation.
3. The Project consists of rows of solar panels running east to west installed on single axis trackers within a perimeter fence. The Petitioner proposes to install a fixed knot game-style fence that will be a minimum of 7’ high around the perimeter of the array.
4. Electricity will run from the panels in direct current (DC) to a network of string inverters within the array, before being converted to alternating current (AC). Electricity from the array will run underground to two 2,500 kVA pad-mounted transformers. From the transformers, the electricity will continue to run underground along the proposed access drive

before transitioning overhead to a series of five new utility poles. The electricity will travel overhead along the poles to an existing pole at the end of the access drive where the Project will interconnect to the Vermont Electric Cooperative (“VEC”) system.

5. The Project’s output will be sold to VEC under a power purchase agreement that will help VEC meet its requirements under Vermont’s Renewable Energy Standards.

6. The Petitioner will access the Property from an existing access driveway off Route 100 used for the gravel extraction operation. The Petitioner will extend the access drive into the middle of the Project site.

7. NBS submitted pre-filing notice to the required parties at least 45 days prior to filing this petition in compliance with Commission Rule 5.402.

8. NBS will provide notice of the proposed Project under Rule 5.407 to adjoining landowners upon receipt of notice of a complete petition.

9. In support of this Petition, NBS submits supporting prefiled testimony and exhibits that address each of the § 248(b) criteria by the following witnesses: Alex Bravakis, Seth Goddard, Dori Barton, and Michael Willard. An index of evidence identifying the evidence pertaining to each criteria is provided with this Petition pursuant to Rule 5.403(A)(16).

10. As explained in the supporting testimony and exhibits, the proposed Project meets the criteria established by 30 V.S.A. § 248, including the applicable environmental criteria incorporated from Title 10 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5), and will promote the general good of the State of Vermont.

11. Petitioner has included with the petition materials a Request for Waiver under Rule 5.415 of the requirement for a completed interconnection study, which is currently in

progress by Vermont Electric Cooperative. As set forth in the waiver request, there is good cause to allow the proceeding to begin while the SIS is still pending given that the timing of the interconnection study is outside of Petitioner's control and the upcoming expiration of federal tax credits that impact the Project's viability.

Request for Relief

WHEREFORE, NBS respectfully requests the Commission to:

1. Waive any requirement for a completed interconnection study for good cause pursuant to the Commission's authority under Rule 5.415 in order to deem this Petition complete as soon as possible;
2. Hold a prehearing conference as expeditiously as possible on the Petition;
3. Set an expeditious schedule for the proceeding;
4. Hold evidentiary hearings, as the Commission determines necessary;
5. Make findings as required by 30 V.S.A. § 248 and *Section 8007(b) Order*, that NBS shall be authorized to construct and operate a 4.999 MW solar electric generation facility off Route 100 in Newport Town, Vermont and that the Project will promote the general good of the State of Vermont; authorize NBS to undertake the actions described herein and in the attached testimony and exhibits; and issue a Certificate of Public Good to that effect as soon as possible;
6. Take such other actions as may be required for the expeditious review and approval of this Petition.

DATED at Burlington, Vermont, this 7th day of May, 2026.

Novus Buck Solar LLC

By:



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