

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 21-2939-NMP

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| Petition of Randolph Davis 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 group net-metered solar electric generation system in Randolph, Vermont |  |
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Order entered: 06/10/2024

**ORDER PROVIDING NOTICE OF ORAL ARGUMENT AND DENYING REQUEST FOR SITE VISIT**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

On May 3, 2024, the hearing officer assigned to this case released a proposal for decision.

On May 11, 2024, Joan Allen and Michael Binder (the “Landowners”) filed comments on the proposal for decision. In their comments, the Landowners included a request for the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) to conduct a site visit. The Landowners also requested oral argument on the proposal for decision.

On May 21, 2024, Randolph Davis Solar LLC (“Petitioner”) filed a response to the Landowners’ comments on the proposal for decision.<sup>1</sup> The Petitioner opposed a site visit, stating that the “request is not supported and will unnecessarily further expend State and parties’ resources and further delay the case, which is now pending nearly three years.”<sup>2</sup>

In today’s Order, we deny the Landowners’ request for a site visit, and we grant the request for oral argument and issue notice of oral argument before the Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> The Landowners have moved to strike this filing on the basis that it was inconsistent with the schedule of this proceeding. This motion is granted in part and denied in part. The Landowners are correct that all comments on the proposal for decision were due on May 11, 2024. The schedule for this proceeding did not include an opportunity for reply comments regarding the proposal for decision. Therefore, the portions of the Petitioner’s May 21, 2024, filing that address the Landowners’ comments on the proposal for decision are struck. The Landowner’s motion is denied with respect to the Petitioner’s response to the Landowners’ request for a site visit. The Petitioner could not have addressed this issue by the May 11, 2024, deadline. Therefore, the Commission has considered the Petitioner’s objection to a site visit.

<sup>2</sup> Petitioner’s Response at 3.

## **II. REQUEST FOR A SITE VISIT**

The hearing officer and Commission staff conducted a site visit on March 25, 2022. In their comments on the proposal for decision, the Landowners request an “initial” site visit. A site visit is not evidence in a case.<sup>3</sup> The purpose of a site visit is to provide context to the testimony and exhibits that are filed as part a proceeding.<sup>4</sup> The Landowners’ comments focus on orderly development of the region, erosion, issues related to the proposed facility’s preferred-site letter, and compliance with rules for silviculture. These issues are technical or legal in nature, and viewing the site in person would not significantly inform the Commission’s consideration of the relevant evidence submitted in this proceeding. Therefore, the Commission determines that a second site visit is not necessary to assess the issues raised in the Landowners’ comments on the proposal for decision, and the request for a site visit is denied.

## **III. NOTICE OF ORAL ARGUMENT**

The Commission will hold an oral argument, pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 811 and 30 V.S.A. Sections 248 and 8010 on June 18, at 11:00AM.

Participants and members of the public may access the oral argument online at <https://meet.goto.com/713668653>, or call in by telephone using the following information: phone number: +1 (571) 317-3116; access code: 713-668-653. Participants may wish to download the GoToMeeting software application in advance of the hearing at <https://meet.goto.com/install>. Guidance on how to join the meeting and system requirements may be found at <https://www.gotomeeting.com/online-meeting-support>.

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§20 and 21, the Petitioner will be responsible for court reporter costs incurred by the Commission as a result of this oral argument. Invoices for these costs will be mailed to the attorney(s) of record or the official representative(s) for the Petitioner.


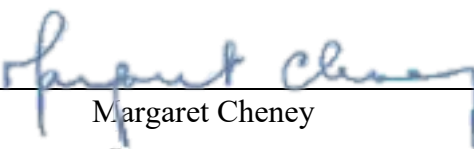
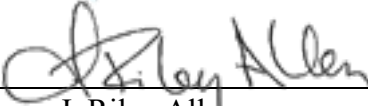
**SO ORDERED.**

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<sup>3</sup> *Petition of Babcock Solar Farm, LLC for A Certificate of Pub. Good Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. S 248 Authorizing Constr. of A 2.2 Mw (Ac) Photovoltaic Sys. in Brandon, Vermont.*, Case No. 18-2924-PET, Order of 10/24/18 at 1.

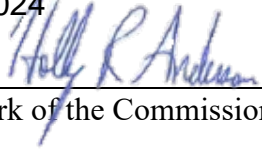
<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 10th day of June, 2024.

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| <br>_____ ) | ) PUBLIC UTILITY<br>)<br>) COMMISSION<br>) OF VERMONT |
| Edward McNamara )   |   |
| _____ )   |   |
| <br>_____ ) | ) COMMISSION<br>) OF VERMONT                          |
| Margaret Cheney )   |   |
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| <br>_____ ) | ) OF VERMONT  |
| J. Riley Allen )  |   |

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 10, 2024

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](mailto:puc.clerk@vermont.gov))*

PUC Case No. 21-2939-NMP - SERVICE LIST

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