

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
ROBERT TURNBULL
ON BEHALF OF MACADAMIA SOLAR LLC
NCUC DOCKET NO. EMP-119, SUB 1

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, TITLE, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2 A. My name is Robert Turnbull. I am a Natural Resources Department Manager at
3 Terracon Consultants, Inc. (“Terracon”) in Raleigh, North Carolina. My office address is 2401
4 Brentwood Road, Raleigh, NC 27604.

5 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL**
6 **EXPERIENCE.**

7 A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources and a Master of Business
8 Administration degree. I have more than 19 years of experience with natural resources evaluations
9 and permitting for various infrastructure projects. My professional qualifications are further
10 detailed in my curriculum vitae, included as Attachment A.

11 **Q. WHAT IS TERRACON’S ROLE WITH RESPECT TO THE**
12 **MACADAMIA SOLAR PROJECT?**

13 A. Terracon has been contracted by Geenex Solar, LLC to perform natural and cultural
14 resources evaluations for the proposed Macadamia Transmission Line project, an approximately
15 6.53 mile 230kV transmission line (“Transmission Line”) necessary to interconnect the proposed
16 solar Facility’s Substation to the existing Trowbridge Substation owned by Virginia Electric and
17 Power Company, d/b/a/ Dominion Energy North Carolina (“DENC”). These tasks include
18 preparation of a Desktop Environmental Resources Review and Wetland and Waters Delineation
19 within the Transmission Corridor for the near final Transmission Line (collectively, the
20 “Environmental Report”), as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-102 and Commission Rule R8-
21 62(c). These tasks were completed by our Environmental Planning Team in North Carolina,

1 which includes staff specializing in natural resources, cultural resources, and GIS. The
2 Environmental Report is included as Schedule 6 to the Application for a Certificate of
3 Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity to construct the
4 Transmission Line, filed by Macadamia Solar in this docket (“the Application”).

5 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?**

6 A. No.

7 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

8 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide background on the preparation of the
9 Environmental Report filed in support the Application.

10 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR FAMILIARITY WITH THE FACILITY AND**
11 **WITH THE MACADAMIA TRANSMISSION LINE.**

12 A. I have reviewed environmental survey data, conducted desktop analysis, and
13 managed the field crews that conducted the natural resources studies for the transmission line. I
14 am familiar with the contents of the Environmental Report, which are hereby incorporated by
15 reference.

16 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE MACADAMIA SOLAR TRANSMISSION**
17 **LINE.**

18 A. The Transmission Line will include approximately 6.53 miles of 230 kV
19 transmission line in a 100 feet wide easement path between the proposed Facility’s Substation
20 and the existing DENC’s Trowbridge Substation (“Transmission Corridor”). The Transmission
21 Line is located south and west of the Town of Plymouth in Washington County, North Carolina.
22 The Transmission Corridor crosses through undisturbed forested communities, agricultural land,
23 rural residential areas, managed pine plantation, and recent clear-cut areas.

1 **Q. BASED ON THE ANALYSIS CONDUCTED TO DATE, HAS THE**
2 **TRANSMISSION LINE BEEN SITED TO MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL**
3 **IMPACTS?**

4 A. Yes. Potential environmental impacts resulting from the Macadamia Transmission
5 Line are anticipated to be minimal. This assessment is due, in part, to the fact that the Transmission
6 Corridor is primarily agricultural and silviculture land with limited natural resource diversity and
7 that impacts to natural resources, to a great extent, can be avoided and mitigated. Anticipated
8 environmental impacts from the Transmission Line, as well as proposed mitigation measures, are
9 described in greater detail in the Environmental Report.

10 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

11 A. Yes.