## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. SP-5272, SUB 0

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## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Sunflower Solar LLC, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 16-MW Solar Facility in Halifax County, North Carolina

ORDER ISSUING AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND ACCEPTING REGISTRATION OF NEW RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY

BY THE COMMISSION: On March 3, 2015, Sunflower Solar LLC (Applicant), filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to G.S. 62-110.1(a) for construction of a 20-MW<sub>AC</sub> solar photovoltaic electric generating facility to be located off Highway 301 in an unincorporated area about two miles south of Weldon, Halifax County, North Carolina. Contemporaneously with the application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility.

On August 25, 2015, the Commission issued a recommended order granting the certificate to the Applicant, which became final and effective on September 10, 2015.

On February 11, 2016, the Applicant filed an amended application stating that the Applicant has made several changes to its plan for the construction of the facility. The changes include adding additional land to the construction site and reducing the capacity of the facility from 20 MW<sub>AC</sub> to 16 MW<sub>AC</sub>. In addition, the Applicant stated that the E911 address for the facility is 2439 and 3240 Highway 301 in an unincorporated area approximately two miles south of Weldon, Halifax County, North Carolina. The Applicant also stated that the corresponding changes should also be made on the Registration for the New Renewable Energy Facility.

On February 17, 2016, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Publication of Notice.

On March 24, 2016, the Applicant filed a verified certificate of service stating that a copy of the application and the related public notice were provided to Dominion North Carolina Power on February 18, 2016.

Also on March 24, 2016, the Applicant filed an affidavit of publication from The Daily Herald (Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina) stating that the publication of notice was completed on March 11, 2016. No complaints have been received.

On March 30, 2016, the State Clearinghouse filed comments. Because of the nature of the comments, the cover letter indicated that no further State Clearinghouse review action by the Commission was required for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on April 18, 2016. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the application and determined it to be in compliance with the requirements of G.S. 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-64. The Public Staff further stated that the registration statement contains the certified attestations required by Commission Rule R8-66(b). Therefore, the Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the application, accept the registration statement, and issue the requested amended certificate.

After careful consideration, the Commission finds good cause to approve the application and issue the attached certificate for the proposed solar photovoltaic electric generating facility. The Commission further finds good cause, based upon the foregoing and the entire record in this proceeding, to accept registration of the facility as a new renewable energy facility. The Applicant shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year and will be required to participate in the NC-RETS REC tracking system (<u>http://www.ncrets.org</u>) in order to facilitate the issuance of RECs.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the application of Sunflower Solar LLC, for an amended certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, approved.

2. That Appendix A shall constitute the amended certificate of public convenience and necessity issued to Sunflower Solar LLC, for the 16-MW<sub>AC</sub> solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located at 2439 and 3240 Highway 301 in an unincorporated area approximately two miles south of Weldon, Halifax County, North Carolina.

3. That the registration statement filed by Sunflower Solar LLC, for its solar photovoltaic facility located in Halifax County, North Carolina, as a new renewable energy facility, shall be, and is hereby, accepted.

4. That Sunflower Solar LLC, shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the <u>18<sup>th</sup></u> day of April, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Aail L. Mount

Gail L. Mount, Chief Clerk

## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

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Sunflower Solar LLC c/o BayWa r.e. Development LLC 17901 Von Karman Ave, Suite #1050, Irvine, CA 92614

is hereby issued this

AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PURSUANT TO G.S. 62-110.1

for a 16-MW<sub>AC</sub> solar photovoltaic electric generating facility

located

at 2439 and 3240 Highway 301 in an unincorporated area approximately two miles south of Weldon, Halifax County, North Carolina

subject to all orders, rules, regulations and conditions as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the <u>18<sup>th</sup></u> day of April, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Aail L. Mount

Gail L. Mount, Chief Clerk