

**14. Does the Public Staff agree that, if the CPCN for the generating facility were to be granted:**

Note: For the answers below, we assume the Applicant is referring to the transmission line associated with the Facility's CEPCN application for consideration in Docket No. EMP-119, Sub 1, and not any transmission line upgrades associated with affected system studies.

- a. the proposed transmission line would be necessary to satisfy the reasonable needs of the public for an adequate and reliable supply of electric energy;**

The proposed transmission line would be necessary to interconnect the Facility to the grid. The Public Staff cannot determine if the line is necessary for other reasons because Macadamia Solar does not have an agreement for purchase of the capacity, energy, or renewable energy certificates.

- b. when compared with reasonable alternative courses of action, construction of the transmission line in the proposed location is reasonable, preferred, and in the public interest;**

Yes.

- c. the costs associated with the proposed transmission line are reasonable;**

Because Macadamia Solar will pay the entire cost of the proposed transmission line to connect the Facility to the grid, the Public Staff has no opinion if the costs are reasonable.

- d. the impact the proposed transmission line will have on the environment is justified considering the state of available technology, the nature and economics of the various alternatives, and other material considerations; and**

The Public Staff believes the proposed transmission line is justified if the Commission grants the CPCN and the facility and transmission line meets all applicable environmental requirements and obtain all permits necessary for the construction of the line. On October 21, 2021, the State Clearinghouse filed comments from the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources that Macadamia must resolve.

- e. that the environmental compatibility, public convenience, and necessity require the transmission line?**

Yes, at this time, if the Commission grants the CPCN for the solar generating facility.

**If You do not agree with any of the above statements, please describe in detail the basis for your position.**

The Public Staff has provided the basis of any disagreement within each answer.