

J. Brian Ratledge General Counsel

August 10, 2016

Ms. Gail Mount North Carolina Department of Commerce Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325

Re:

SCH File # 16-E-4600-0365; Amended Application of Bladen Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 50 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Bladen Co.

Docket #SP-5220, Sub 0.

Dear Ms. Mount:

The above referenced environmental impact information has been reviewed through the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

Attached to this letter are <u>additional comments</u> made in the review of this document. Because of the nature of the comments, it has been determined that no further State Clearinghouse review action on your part is needed for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act. The attached comments should be taken into consideration in project development.

Sincerely, Curtal Best

Crystal Best

State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments cc: Region N

# ug 10 2016

# NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: BLADEN

H11: ENERGY RELATED

FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER:

16-E-4600-036

**DATE RECEIVED:** 06/07/2016 **AGENCY RESPONSE:** 07/04/2016

**REVIEW CLOSED:** 07/07/2016

MS ELIZABETH HEATH

CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

1001 MSC - AGRICULTURE BLDG

RALEIGH NC

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LUMBER RIVER COG

## PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce

TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act

Environmental Review

DESC: Amended Application of Bladen Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 50 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Bladen Co. Docket #SP-5220,

Sub 0. - View document at

http://starwl.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx, Type SP-5220

Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located on the west side of Braxton Edge Road, east and west of the intersection with Old Fayetteville Road, and east of Walter West Road near Fayetteville, NC

Amended due to the additional land added.

CROSS-REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-E-4600-0472

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your response by the above indicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1301.

If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

			<u> </u>
AS A RESULT OF	THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED:	NO COMMENT V	COMMENTS ATTACHED
SIGNED BY:	Land a Mark	DATE:	7/29/16
			/ / /





Dr. Richard Reich
Assistant Commissioner

# North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Joseph Hudyncia Environmental Programs

Agricultural Services

Crystal Best State Clearinghouse N.C. Department of Administration 1301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1301

July 29, 2016

Dear Ms. Best:

The proposed Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility has the potential to negatively impact agricultural/environmental/economic balance in the immediate area. The NCDA&CS discourages taking agricultural or managed forestland out of production. Far too much productive farmland has been, and continues to be, lost to development of various types in North Carolina. As farmland is taken out of production the associated jobs and potential for producing food and fiber for a growing population is reduced, and with it a substantial amount of associated economic activity generated by farming dollars that contributes revenue to the local economy and beyond year after year.

If implementation of the solar project moves forward on this tract of land, we encourage conservation of highly productive soils for their best use, i.e. agriculture. If crop or forestry activities are a current component of land use, seek solar development on less productive sites on this tract if possible.

The use of best practices in construction and maintenance of the facility are encouraged to insure that the productive capabilities of the land for any future agricultural activity is maintained and the integrity of unique or sensitive habitats is not destroyed. It is also recommended that a decommissioning plan that clearly defines the responsible party, process, time-line, and specific responsibilities (including restoration to prior condition) is incorporated.

We have cross-referenced the parcel for existing easements related to agriculture and found no CREP conservation easements, swine buyout easements, ADFP easements, plant conservation easements or plant conservation priority sites on the subject property.

Respectfully,

Joseph Hudyncia Environmental Programs

NCDA&CS

# NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

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H11: ENERGY RELATED FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES STATE NUMBER: 16-E-4600-036

06/07/2016 DATE RECEIVED:

AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/04/2016 REVIEW CLOSED: 07/07/2016

MS RENEE GLEDHILL-EARLEY CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR

DNCR - DIV OF PARKS AND RECREATION

MSC 4617 - ARCHIVES BUILDING

RALEIGH NC



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AS A RESULT	OF THIS REVIEW THE	FOLLOWING IS	SUBMITTED:	NO COMMENT	COMMENTS ATTACHED
SIGNED BY:	USZ			DATE:	7.12.16
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