## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. EMP-108, SUB 0

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## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of American Beech Solar LLC for ) ORDER CANCELLING HEARINGS. a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 110-MW Solar Facility in Halifax County, North Carolina

**RESCHEDULING PUBLIC WITNESS** HEARING, AND REQUIRING PUBLIC NOTICE

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On March 12, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearings, Requiring the Filing of Testimony, Establishing Procedural Guidelines, and Requiring Public Notice regarding the application of American Beech Solar LLC (Applicant) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to construct a 110-MW solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility in Halifax County, North Carolina. The Order scheduled a hearing for the purpose of receiving public witness testimony on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, and a hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony on Thursday, May 21, 2020. The Order also required the Applicant to publish public notice of its application and the hearings in a newspaper having general circulation in Halifax County once a week for four successive weeks.

On May 13, 2020, the Applicant filed a letter in the docket stating that due to an administrative error the required notice was only published once rather than once a week for four successive weeks.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to reschedule the public witness hearing scheduled for May 20, 2020, and cancel the expert witness hearing scheduled for May 21, 2020. The expert witness hearing will be rescheduled by further order of the Commission.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

That the hearing for the purpose of receiving public witness testimony 1. regarding the Applicant's application for a CPCN is rescheduled to Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Halifax County Historical Courthouse, Commissioner's Meeting Room, 10 North King Street, Halifax, North Carolina;

2. That the hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony regarding the Applicant's application for a CPCN scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. at Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina is cancelled;

3. That the Applicant shall publish the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in a newspaper having general circulation in Halifax County once a week for four successive weeks; and

4. That the Applicant shall file affidavits of publication.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 15th day of May, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk

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## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of American Beech Solar LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 110-MW Solar Facility in Halifax County, North Carolina

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has rescheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Halifax County Historical Courthouse, Commissioner's Meeting Room, 10 North King Street, Halifax, North Carolina, the hearing to receive public witness testimony regarding the application of American Beech Solar LLC (Applicant) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to construct an 110-MW solar photovoltaic facility in Halifax County, North Carolina, as described herein. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

The hearing may resume in Raleigh at a later date solely for the purpose of receiving expert testimony from the parties in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

On January 28, 2020, the Applicant filed an application pursuant to G.S. 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-63 for a CPCN to construct a 110-MW solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility in Halifax County, North Carolina. In support of the application for a CPCN, the Applicant filed the direct testimony of Whitney Rubin, as well as several exhibits. In summary, construction of the 110-MW solar PV facility is anticipated to begin in late 2021, with the expected commercial operation date being as early as the fourth quarter of 2022. The location of the proposed facility is on 23 parcels of land along portions of Thirteen Bridges Road, Sorietown Road, Old 125 Road, Bynum's Bridge Road, and Sand Pit Road in Halifax County, North Carolina. The northwest portion of the project is located along both sides of Thirteen Bridges Road near Sorietown Road and Old 125 Road. The northeast portion of the project is approximately 0.5 miles south of Thirteen Bridges Road. The mideast section of the project is along the intersection of Sand Pit Road and Bynum's Bridge Road, with the project on both sides of Sand Pit Road. The southeastern portion of the project is to the south of the intersection of Sand Pit Road and Bynum's Bridge Road. The southwest part of the project is the south of the intersection of Sand Pit Road and Old 125 Road. The facility will interconnect with the electric transmission system owned by Dominion Energy North Carolina. The expected service life of the facility is 20 or more years.

Additional information about the application for a CPCN may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of the application, exhibits and supporting testimony are available for review by the public, and on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4326.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-9001.

Written statements are not evidence unless persons appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

The Commission may cancel the public witness and expert witness hearings if no substantial written complaints regarding the proposed facility are received by the Commission's Chief Clerk.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 15th day of May, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk