



**NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC STAFF
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

August 18, 2020

Ms. Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

Re: Docket No. EMP-111, Sub 0 – Motion of Sweetleaf Solar LLC to
Cancel Public Witness Hearing

Dear Ms. Campbell:

On July 8, 2020, the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) issued its Order Requiring Filing of Testimony, Establishing Procedural Guidelines, and Requiring Public Notice in the above-reference docket. In its Order, the Commission scheduled a remote public hearing to be held via WebEx on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses regarding the application of Sweetleaf Solar LLC (Applicant) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a 94-MW solar photovoltaic electric generating facility to be located in Halifax County, North Carolina, operated as a merchant generating facility. The Order directed the Applicant to publish the Public Notice attached as Appendix A to the Order in a newspaper having general circulation in Halifax County once a week for four successive weeks and stated that members of the public wishing to testify at the hearing must register to do so no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 17, 2020. The Public Notice attached as Appendix A to the Commission's Order stated, "The Commission may cancel the public witness hearing if no substantial written complaints regarding the proposed facility are received by the Commission's Chief Clerk on or before ten days following the last day of the publication of notice."

On August 17, 2020, the Applicant filed its Motion to Cancel Public Witness Hearing. The Applicant stated in its motion that the Applicant filed an affidavit certifying that notice of the public witness hearing was published on July 16,

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July 23, July 30, and August 6, 2020, in accordance with the Commission's July 8, 2020 Order. The Applicant further stated that ten days had elapsed since the last day of publication of notice and, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge, no written complaints regarding the facility had been received. The Applicant requested that the Commission cancel the public hearing scheduled for August 24, 2020, if no substantial written complaints were received.

The Public Staff has reviewed the filings in the above-referenced docket and notes that no written complaints have been filed. The Public Staff further notes that, as of the time of this filing, one member of the public has registered with the Public Staff to testify at the public hearing.

Given that no written complaints regarding the facility have been received, and given that the Public Staff received just one registration to testify at the public witness hearing by the deadline, the Public Staff does not object to the Applicant's motion to cancel the public witness hearing. The Public Staff will advise the individual who registered to testify at the public witness hearing that he may file a written statement in the docket detailing the issues he planned to address in his testimony.

By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record.

Sincerely,

/s/ Megan Jost
Staff Attorney
megan.jost@psncuc.nc.gov

MJ/cla