



**NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC STAFF
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

April 1, 2020

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

Re: Docket No. EMP-107, Sub 0 – Halifax County Solar LLC
Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
80-MW_{AC} Solar Photovoltaic Facility located in Halifax County, North
Carolina

Dear Ms. Campbell:

On August 30, 2019, Halifax County Solar LLC (Applicant) filed a request for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-63. Consistent with the testimony of Jay B. Lucas, an engineer in the Electric Division, filed on October 25, 2019, the Public Staff believes the Applicant has satisfied all requirements necessary for the Commission to grant the CPCN.

On November 6, 2019, the Commission issued an *Order Cancelling Hearing and Admitting Pre-Filed Testimony*. In its Order, the Commission admitted into the record the pre-filed testimony of the Applicant’s witness, Christopher Killenberg, and Public Staff witness Lucas and stated that it would proceed as appropriate in its consideration of the application.

Also on November 6, 2019, the State Clearinghouse filed comments from the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources recommending that the Applicant conduct a comprehensive archaeological survey of the project area. On March 13, 2020, the State Clearinghouse again filed comments from the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources indicating that the project as designed will not impact a nearby

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Ms. Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk
Page Two
April 1, 2020

cemetery and will have no effect on any historic properties eligible for listing in the National Register. The State Clearinghouse's 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 has not received any protests or any other comments on the application. For this reason, and based on the Clearinghouse's determination of no further action needed, the Public Staff recommends that the Commission approve the application and grant the CPCN.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Benjamin Snowden