

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION



Application of South Ridge Solar Park, LLC)
for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30)
V.S.A. §§ 8010, 248 and Commission Rule 5.100)
to install and operate a 500kW ground mount group) Docket No.
group net metered solar electric generation)
facility on property located off Star Point Drive)
in Middlebury, VT)

PETITION OF
SOUTH RIDGE SOLAR PARK, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD

South Ridge Solar Park, LLC (“SRSP” or “Petitioner”) by its representative, Encore Renewable Energy, hereby petitions the Vermont Public Utility Commission for a Certificate of Public Good in accordance with 30 V.S.A. §§ 8010 and 248, and Commission Rule 5.100 to construct and operate a 500 kW (AC) ground mounted photovoltaic electric generating group net metered system (the “Project”) in Middlebury, Vermont. In support of this petition, SRSP states as follows:

1. South Ridge Solar Park, LLC is a Vermont limited liability company with a principal place of business of 5 Park Street, Star Mill, 3rd Floor, Middlebury, VT 05753.
2. SRSP will lease an approximate 3 acre portion of the property from Middle Road Ventures, LLC, located off Meadow Glen Drive in Middlebury, Vermont. SRSP plans to develop a 500 kW (AC) ground-mounted solar facility with approximately 2,200 PV panels mounted on roughly 95 fixed-tilt racking systems across the site.
3. The solar array will be connected to a series of string inverters and will interconnect with the Green Mountain Power’s (“GMP”) three-phase distribution system, which will be will run to a new riser pole owned by GMP, where three 167kVA pole-mounted transformers will step-up the voltage from 480 V to 12,470 V, before running overhead along the

proposed access driveway coming from Meadow Glen Drive where two additional poles will support the line extension. The Project will execute an interconnection agreement with GMP prior to interconnection.

4. SRSP will be the administrator of a net metering group, which will maintain customers within GMP territory. SRSP is building the Project for the purpose of offsetting all or part of the group members' own electricity requirements. The group will be formed as follows:

- a. The meters comprising the group will consist of: (1) the meter to be installed and located at the array (account number to be determined); and (2) existing GMP account numbers.
- b. Charlie Kireker will be the administrator for the group and will be responsible for communications with GMP.
- c. The group administrator will add or remove meters from the group at its sole discretion.
- d. The group administrator, in its sole discretion, will settle all disputes between group members. In no event will SRSP require the Public Utility Commission, the Public Service Department, or GMP to resolve a dispute within the group net metering system.
- e. The Project will comply with the National Electric Code, National Electric Safety Code and Commission Rule 5.500.

5. By letter dated May 15, 2018, sent via the PUCs electronic service, SRSP submitted advance notice of its intent to seek a CPG to the PUC, the Department of Public Service, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Natural Resources Board, the Division of Historic Preservation, the Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets, and GMP.

6. By letter dated May 15, 2018, sent certified mail, SRSP submitted advance notice of its intent to seek a CPG for this project to the Town of Middlebury Planning Commission, the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, the Town of Middlebury Selectboard, the adjoining landowners, and the host landowner. A good faith effort was used to identify all adjoining landowners via the Town of Middlebury Grand List, which were certified on June 28, 2018. Copies of the notices are included with the prefiled evidence filed with this Petition as Exhibit SRSP-DM-3.

7. The Project to be installed is on new ground-mounted racking systems, and is thereby subject to review under § 248(b) criteria, which are applicable to this project pursuant to Commission Rule 5.111. As such, Petitioner respectfully directs the PUC to the prefiled testimony and exhibits dated the 2 day of July, 2018 addressing these criterion. Specifically, these filings show that the Project will not have an undue adverse impact on any of the applicable criteria.

Witnesses

Derek Moretz

Subject

Provides a Project overview, addresses group net-metering requirements under Commission Rule 5.106, explains access requirements, and explains the Project's compliance with the following criteria under 30 V.S.A. § 248: (b)(1) (orderly development of the region); 30 V.S.A. § 248: (b)(3) (noise); (b)(5) (construction traffic, historic and/or archaeologically sensitive sites); soil erosion criteria

(30 V.S.A. § 248: (b)(5)(10 V.S.A. §§ 6086(a)(4));
and 10 V.S.A. §§ 6086(a)(4) (waste disposal);
system stability and reliability criteria 30 V.S.A.
§248(b)(3); and 6086(a)(9)(k) (public investment).

Adam Crary

Describes the Project's compliance with the
relevant environmental criteria under 30 V.S.A. §
248(b)

Brian Browning

Describes the Project's compliance with the
relevant system stability and reliability criteria 30
V.S.A §248(b)(3).

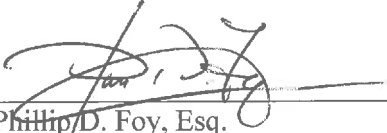
Michael Buscher

Describes the Project's compliance with the
relevant aesthetic criteria under 30 V.S.A. § 248:
(b)(5).

WHEREFORE, South Ridge Solar Park, LLC respectfully requests the honorable
Vermont Public Utility Commission to:

- a. Determine that the Project falls within the purview of 30 V.S.A. § 8010;
- b. Find that the Project, as described in this Petition and the prefiled testimony, will promote the general good of the State of Vermont and issue a Certificate of Public Good pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248 and 8010; and
- d. Grant any further relief that the Commission deems just and proper.

Dated: Burlington, Vermont
September 17, 2018



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