

High River Energy Center, LLC

Case No.: 17-F-0597

90-Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic Generation Project, Montgomery County, New York

NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF PRELIMINARY SCOPING STATEMENT

High River Energy Center, LLC is seeking authority from the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (the Siting Board) to construct a 90-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic electric generating facility (the Project) in the Town of Florida, Montgomery County, New York, in the area of Pattersonville Road and Bulls Head Road south of Interstate 90, pursuant to Article 10 of the New York State Public Service Law (PSL). High River Energy Center, LLC hereby provides notice that it will file a Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) with the Siting Board on or about November 16, 2018. The PSS summarizes the proposed scope of studies that High River Energy Center, LLC will undertake, the results of which will form the basis of its Article 10 Application to the Siting Board. High River Energy Center, LLC also seeks input from the public, interested agencies, and local municipalities on the scope and methodology of proposed studies to be conducted.

The Project components will include commercial-scale solar arrays, access roads, buried (and possibly overhead) electric collection lines, and electrical interconnection facilities. The interconnection facilities will consist of a new collection substation and point of interconnection (POI) switchyard which will interconnect to National Grid's existing Stoner – Rotterdam #12 115 kV transmission line. The Project is proposed to be constructed on land either leased or purchased from owners of private property.

The Project will safely generate enough clean, renewable electricity to power approximately 22,000 households. The Project will offset air emissions from other sources of electrical generation such as fossil fuel powered generation plants, and will further the State Energy Plan's goal of generating 50% of all electricity consumed in the State with renewable resources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by the year 2030.

Based upon reasonably available information, the PSS will describe the scope of review and proposed studies to be performed under Article 10, including the environmental setting of the Project, environmental and health considerations to be evaluated, as well as construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project, proposed benefits of the Project, and Project security.

With the PSS, High River Energy Center, LLC will also submit \$31,500 in intervenor funding. Interested parties may apply for intervenor funding to be used to pay for expenses such as administrative, attorney, and/or consultant fees. A guide to applying for intervenor funding can be found on the New York State Department of Public Service's (DPS) website by using the following direct link: goo.gl/avcprS.

Within 21 days after the date in which the PSS is filed, any person, agency, or municipality may submit comments on the PSS by serving such comments on High River Energy Center, LLC, at the address provided below, and filing a copy with the Secretary to the Siting Board. Comments must reference Case 17-F-0597 and may be submitted to Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary to the Siting Board, New York State Public Service Commission, Agency Building 3, Albany, NY 12223-1350 or electronically to secretary@dps.ny.gov. Any interested person may also file a request with the Secretary to receive copies of all notices concerning the Project, including notices regarding any proposed pre-application stipulations. Documents filed in this proceeding may also be viewed at the DPS website located at www.dps.ny.gov by clicking "Search" on the homepage and then entering Case 17-F-0597 in "Search by Case Number."

Within 21 days after the closing of this comment period, High River Energy Center, LLC will prepare a summary of the material comments and their replies thereto, and file and serve the

summary in the same manner as High River Energy Center, LLC files and serves the PSS.

Not less than 22 days after the PSS is filed, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will hold a conference to, among other things, initiate the stipulation process in which High River Energy Center, LLC and other parties attempt to negotiate and agree on the studies and other issues to be addressed in the Article 10 Application. The ALJ will also issue a notice of availability of pre-application intervenor funds, which will provide a schedule and instructions on how interested parties may apply for such funds. Requests for intervenor funds are due within 30 days of issuance of the notice. A pre-application meeting will also be convened to consider funding requests no less than 45 but no more than 60 days after the filing of the PSS.

High River Energy Center, LLC will use the results of the studies it conducts to prepare the Application, which will be filed not less than 90 days after the PSS is filed. The Application will include, amongst other topics, a description of the Project, an evaluation of the environmental and health impacts and avoidance/mitigation measures, a summary of public involvement activities, a statement of why any local laws or ordinances should not be applied, electrical interconnection and system reliability studies, security and emergency plans, a statement demonstrating compliance with the most recent State Energy Plan, and other relevant information.

The Siting Board will then determine whether the Application is compliant with filing requirements. Once it is deemed compliant, the ALJ will schedule a public hearing and issue a notice that additional intervenor funds, in the amount of \$90,000, will be available for parties participating in the Application phase. The ALJ will also schedule a pre-hearing conference to identify intervenors, award intervenor funds, identify issues for the hearing, and establish a case schedule. After the hearings, intervenors may submit briefs to the ALJ who will then issue a recommended decision, upon which the Siting Board will render its decision on whether to certify the Project. State law requires that the Siting Board must render a decision on the Application within 12 months of its determination that the Application is compliant with filing requirements.

Additional information on how to participate in Siting Board matters may be obtained by contacting High River Energy Center, LLC's project representative or the Siting Board Public Information Coordinator:

High River Energy Center, LLC
Representative
Mr. Keddy Chandran
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Siting Board Public Information Coordinator
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3 Empire State Plaza
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To find more information, please go to the Siting Board's website (www.dps.ny.gov/SitingBoard) or the Project website (www.highriverenergycenter.com), or call the Project's toll-free number: (800) 214-7929.

Hard copies of the PSS will also be available for review at the following local document repositories:

- Town of Florida Town Hall, 214 Ft. Hunter Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010
- Fort Hunter Free Library, 167 Fort Hunter Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010
- Amsterdam Free Library, 28 Church St, Amsterdam, NY 12010