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November 3, 2020

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary Ohio Power Siting Board Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

## **Re:** Preapplication Notification Letter

Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Allen and Auglaize Counties, Ohio.

## Dear Ms. Troupe:

Pursuant to Rule 4906-3-03(A) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("O.A.C."), Birch Solar, LLC ("Applicant" or "Birch Solar"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lightsource bp, files this Preapplication Notification Letter with the Ohio Power Siting Board ("Board") regarding its proposed solar-powered electric generation facility.

The proposed facility, the Birch Solar Project, is a solar-powered electric generation facility located in Shawnee Township, Allen County, Ohio, and Duchouquet and Logan Townships, Auglaize County, Ohio. The facility will be sited on approximately 2,600 acres and have a maximum total generating capacity of up to 300 megawatts. The purpose of the facility is to generate electricity to PJM. The Applicant anticipates filing its application with the Board within 90 days of the public information meetings. Construction is anticipated to begin as early as fourth quarter 2021, resulting in commercial operations in second quarter 2023.

On both Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Lightsource bp is hosting interactive, virtual public information meetings offering residents an opportunity to learn about the Birch Solar Project and ask questions of the development team and the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") staff. Residents can participate in the November 20<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings by phone, the internet, or both. Joining is simple:

- 1. Dial toll-free 1-877-229-8493
- 2. Enter Access ID Code 120041# when prompted.
- 3. If you have internet access, you may also watch the team and presentation LIVE at <a href="https://www.BirchSolarVirtualPublicMeeting.com">www.BirchSolarVirtualPublicMeeting.com</a>.

At this time, the Applicant has not determined whether it will be filing any requests for waiver from the Board's rules regarding the electric generation facility application to be filed with the Board.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik
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Summary: Notification - Preapplication Notification Letter electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Birch Solar, LLC