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April 7, 2021

The Honorable Greta See
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street, 12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Staff's Response to Motion for
Protective Order and Motion for Waiver,
Case No: 20-1757-EL-BGN

Dear Judge See:

On March 26, 2021, Union Ridge Solar, LLC ("Applicant") filed a motion for a protective order to keep several portions of its Application confidential and not part of the public record. Specifically, Applicant requested that a portion of Exhibit H—a report assessing the socioeconomic impact of the Project ("Socioeconomic Report")—and Exhibit R—a survey of archaeological resources ("Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey")—be kept confidential. The Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board ("Staff") does not oppose this motion.

On March 26, 2021, Applicant also filed a motion for waiver of Ohio Administrative Code ("Ohio Adm.Code") 4906-4-08(D)(2) through (D)(4) "with respect to evaluation of impacts to landmarks, identification of and evaluation of impacts to landmarks, recreation and scenic areas, and visual impacts." In its motion, it requested that the Ohio Power Siting Board authorize the Applicant to use a reduced study area of two miles for "the impact of the Project on the preservation and continued meaningfulness of the registered landmarks." It also requested a reduced study area of five miles "for scenic and recreation areas, and visibility and viewshed." Applicant averred that its request is for good cause given "the nature of the technology and the setting specific to the Project," and it anticipates "no effects [] on landmarks or scenic and recreation areas outside of the immediate Project Area."

The Staff feels that the Applicant's submitted studies are sufficient and that the rule should be waived in this case. The Staff notes, as the Applicant observed, that the Board has granted similar waivers to other solar projects in the past. This being the case, the Staff does not object to the requested waiver. However, the Staff reserves the right to require the results from the Applicant in the area covered by the requested waiver if the Staff determines such information to be necessary during the course of its investigation.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chelsea R. Fletcher

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**On behalf of Staff of the
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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

4/7/2021 3:32:53 PM

in

Case No(s). 20-1757-EL-BGN

Summary: Correspondence Regarding Staff's Response to Motion for Protective Order and Motion for Waiver electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M Naeder on behalf of OPSB