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May 11, 2021

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary Ohio Power Siting Board Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3797

**Re:** Case No. 20-1362-EL-BGN - In the Matter of the Application of Clearview Solar I, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Champaign County, Ohio.

## Response to Fifth Data Request from Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Attached please find Clearview Solar I, LLC's ("Applicant") Response to the Fifth Data Request from the staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB Staff"). The Applicant provided this response to OPSB Staff on May 11, 2021.

We are available, at your convenience, to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The Ohio Power Siting Board's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced in the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to these cases. In addition, the undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing document is also being served upon the persons below this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik
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# BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application of Clearview )	
Solar I, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental )	
Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a )	Case No: 20-1362-EL-BGN
Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in )	
Champaign County, Ohio.	

# CLEARVIEW SOLAR I, LLC 'S RESPONSE TO THE FIFTH DATA REQUEST FROM THE STAFF OF THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

On December 18, 2020, Clearview Solar I, LLC ("Applicant"), filed an application ("Application") with the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") proposing to construct a solar-powered electric generation facility in Champaign County, Ohio.

On April 28, 2021, the Staff of the OPSB ("OPSB Staff") provided the Applicant with OPSB Staff's Fifth Data Request. Now comes the Applicant providing the following response to the Fifth Data Request from the OPSB Staff.

### **Ecological**

1. In your data request response to Staff dated May 3, 2021. You state that the underground collection line crossing of Indian Creek will be done via open-cut trenching. The ODNR DOW, and OPSB Staff recommend that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent. Perennial streams are always recommended to be avoided impacts where possible. Please explain why this resource will be open-cut trenched instead of crossed using HDD, which would avoid impacts to the stream.

**Response:** The Applicant has proposed a single crossing location to minimize the number of crossings of Indian Creek. The final crossing method – open-cut or horizontal directional drilling ("HDD") – will be determined in the final design of the Project. The Applicant is proposing open-cut in the Application because it is a widely accepted, economical method for crossing waterways and can be accomplished with minimal impacts. The Applicant will work with the United States Army Corps of Engineers as needed to secure the applicable nationwide permit for the crossing.

#### **Geotechnical**

2. In a letter from the ODNR to Cardno dated 2/5/2021 (See attachment), ODNR states that the "entire project area is covered by a high concentration of surface boulders. (Pavey et al, 1999). Localized concentrations of surface boulders can be an impediment to shallow trenches and excavations within the project area." Also, on page 47 of the Application it states "Blasting is not expected based on geotechnical investigations showing bedrock well below any construction activity. Any rock-breaking activities are expected to be minimal and, in

any event, would be very limited in any particular location." Please explain what rock breaking activities or construction techniques Clearview Solar would employ.

Response: The Applicant will avoid encounters with rocks where possible. In the unlikely

situation the Applicant encounters rock that cannot be avoided by micro siting equipment

installation, construction machinery including, but not limited to, a hoe ram, stand-alone rock

breaker equipment, or rock breaker attachments for an excavator will be used.

3. Please confirm that Clearview Solar would not use blasting.

**Response:** The Applicant does not anticipate that construction of the Project will require blasting

activities but, if deemed necessary in final design, the Applicant will follow applicable regulations

and safety standards.

4. If rock is encountered over a large area, would that area be avoided or would Clearview

Solar utilize an alternate foundation such as ballasted foundation?

**Response:** The Applicant has many options using alternative foundations that are functionally

identical to a standard driven piling including, but not limited to, screws or utilizing pre-drilled

holes. Ballasted foundations are not under consideration by the Applicant. Avoidance is also an

option given that the Project expects to have some excess acreage available.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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Summary: Response to Fifth Data Request from Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Clearview Solar I, LLC