

## THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
BLOSSOM SOLAR, LLC FOR A  
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED TO  
CONSTRUCT A SOLAR-POWERED  
ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITY IN  
MORROW COUNTY, OHIO.

CASE NO. 22-151-EL-BGN

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on February 13, 2023

{¶ 1} Blossom Solar, LLC (Blossom) is a person, as defined in R.C. 4906.01.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4906.04 provides that no person shall construct a major utility facility in the state without first obtaining a certificate for the facility from the Ohio Power Siting Board (Board). In seeking a certificate, applicants must comply with the filing requirements outlined in R.C. 4906.06, as well as Ohio Adm.Code Chapters 4906-2 through 4906-4.

{¶ 3} On March 23, 2022, Blossom filed its preapplication notice informing the Board of a to be proposed 144 megawatt solar-powered electric generation facility to be constructed on 1,100 acres in Washington Township, Morrow County, Ohio (Project). Further, the notice stated that Blossom would be hosting a public information meeting on April 6, 2022, in Iberia, Ohio.

{¶ 4} On May 27, 2022, as amended on August 5, 2022, Blossom filed its application for a certificate to construct the Project.

{¶ 5} Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4906-3-06, within 60 days of receipt of an application for a major utility facility, the Board Chair must either accept the application as complete and compliant with the content requirements of R.C. 4906.06 and Ohio Adm.Code Chapters 4906-1 through 4906-7 or reject the application as incomplete.

{¶ 6} On July 26, 2022, the Board notified Blossom that its application, including data request responses, was found to be sufficiently compliant with the requirements of

Ohio Adm.Code Chapters 4906-01, et seq., and provided sufficient information to permit Staff to commence its review and investigation.

{¶ 7} On August 9, 2022, Blossom filed proof of service of its accepted and complete application on local government officials and the main public library as required by Ohio Adm.Code 4906-3-07(A). Further, Blossom states that it maintains a copy of its accepted complete application on its website.

{¶ 8} On August 9, 2022, Blossom also filed, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4906-3-07(A)(5), proof of submission of its application fee.

{¶ 9} By Entry issued on August 26, 2022, the procedural schedule was set in this case, including establishing the effective date of the application, due dates for testimony by the parties and scheduling the evidentiary hearing to commence on December 19, 2022, at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission).

{¶ 10} On September 16, 2022, Blossom filed its proof of first notice of the accepted, complete application and publication. The notice was published on August 24, 2022, and September 7, 2022, in the *Morrow County Sentinel*, a newspaper of general circulation in Morrow County.

{¶ 11} The Staff Report was filed on October 31, 2022.

{¶ 12} Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF) and Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) filed motions to intervene, and the motions were granted by Entry issued on November 2, 2022.

{¶ 13} Consistent with the procedural schedule, issues lists were filed by Blossom and OEC.

{¶ 14} By Entries issued November 30, 2022 and December 12, 2022, the procedural schedule was revised, at the joint request of the parties, such that the evidentiary hearing was called, on December 19, 2022, and continued to a date to be determined.

{¶ 15} On February 3, 2023, a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation (Stipulation), executed by Blossom, Staff, OFBF, and OEC, was filed with the Board.

{¶ 16} Accordingly, the administrative law judge (ALJ) finds that the evidentiary hearing in this matter should be reconvened. The hearing shall resume on March 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 E. Broad Street, Hearing Room C, 11th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is for Blossom, Staff, and intervenors to provide evidence regarding the Project. Everyone must register at the lobby desk and then proceed to the 11th floor to participate in the hearing.

{¶ 17} Ohio Adm.Code 4906-2-09(B) provides that the ALJ shall regulate the course of the hearing, including requiring that expert or factual testimony to be offered in Board proceedings be reduced to writing and filed with the Board according to a schedule established by the ALJ. Accordingly, the ALJ directs that all testimony, in support of or in opposition to the Stipulation, be filed by February 27, 2023.

{¶ 18} It is, therefore,

{¶ 19} ORDERED, That the evidentiary hearing be reconvened on March 7, 2023, as discussed in Paragraph 16. It is, further,

{¶ 20} ORDERED, That the parties observe the filing due date set forth in Paragraph 17. It is, further,

{¶ 21} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all interested persons of record.

THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See  
Administrative Law Judge

MJA/dmh

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
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**in**

**Case No(s). 22-0151-EL-BGN**

Summary: Administrative Law Judge Entry that the hearing shall resume on March 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 E. Broad Street, Hearing Room C, 11th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215 electronically filed by Ms. Donielle M. Hunter on behalf of Greta N. See, Administrative Law Judge, Ohio Power Siting Board