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August 24, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Tanowa Troupe
Administration/Docketing
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

**Re: Powell Creek Solar, LLC,
OPSB Case No. 20-1084-EL-BGN**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

The July 15, 2021 Opinion, Order, and Certificate (“Certificate”) approving Powell Creek Solar, LLC (“Powell Creek”) Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a solar-powered electric generation facility approved a Stipulation which set forth a number of conditions as part of the Certificate. Within this set of conditions, Condition No. 27 requires that:

At least 30 days prior to the preconstruction conference, Powell Creek shall provide the status (i.e. avoidance, mitigation measures, or capping) of each water well within the project area. Powell Creek shall indicate to Staff whether the nearest solar components to each uncapped well within the project area meets or exceeds any applicable minimum isolation distances outlined in Ohio Adm. Code 3701-28-7.

In compliance with Condition No. 27, attached for filing is a copy of Powell Creek’s Water Well Status Report. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KH', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kara H. Herrnstein

Attachment

Cc: Jonathan Pawley (w/Attachment)

Water Well Status Report

Powell Creek Solar

Putnam County, Ohio

Prepared for:



Powell Creek
SOLAR PLANT

Powell Creek Solar, LLC
a subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables, Inc.
2701 NW Vaughn St, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97210

Prepared by:



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August 2023

1 INTRODUCTION

This water well status report summarizes the steps taken by Powell Creek Solar, LLC (Powell Creek) to minimize potential impacts to water wells that could occur from the construction and operation of the Powell Creek Solar Farm (the Facility). Specifically, this plan addresses Condition 27 of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the Facility, which requires:

At least 30 days prior to the preconstruction conference, the Applicant shall provide the status (i.e. avoidance, mitigation measures, or capping) of each water well within the project area. The Applicant shall indicate to Staff whether the nearest solar components to each uncapped well within the project area meets or exceeds any applicable minimum isolation distances outlined in O.A.C. 3701-28-7.

Potential water well impacts were discussed in the initial Powell Creek Certificate Application in case number 20-1084-EL-BGN. Recorded locations of known water wells, according to Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Water Resources data, were provided in Figure 8-1 of the Application. The ODNR data referenced in the Application identified five water wells within the properties included as part of the Facility (the Project Area).

2 FIELD-VERIFIED WATER WELLS AND PLANNED MITIGATION

Field-verification of the water wells identified in the ODNR data was conducted by an individual contracted by Powell Creek in Q2 2023, guided by correspondence with the landowners of the properties on which the wells were reported to be located. Four of the five wells identified in the ODNR data were located. The fifth, ODNR well number 39896 indicated to be on the parcel with parcel identification number (PIN) 330161000000, was not located. The owners of that property had no knowledge of a water well, and according to the owners, their family has either farmed or owned that property for over 70 years. As such, ODNR well number 39896 is considered non-existent.

Two additional water wells were located by Powell Creek through correspondence with landowners. These two water wells are located on parcels which also contain a water well identified in ODNR data. The locations of all field-verified water wells are reported in Table 1. For the purposes of this status report, the two additional wells that are not identified in ODNR data have been assigned the well numbers of X1 and X2. The locations of all field-verified water wells are displayed on Figure 1.

Table 1. Field-Verified Water Wells in Project Area and Proposed Mitigation

ODNR Water Well Number	PIN of Parcel containing Well	GPS Coordinates (Latitude, Longitude)	Distance from Nearest Facility Component (feet)	Planned Mitigation
101288	330161600000	41.08508, -84.12487	71 (Fence)	Cap and seal
240565	330142000000	41.07896, -84.15180	5,390 (Fence)	Avoid by 50 feet
347019	330130900100	41.09547, -84.14425	177 (Fence)	Avoid by 50 feet
537881	190331410000	41.09826, -84.11123	174 (Fence)	Avoid by 50 feet

Table 1. Field-Verified Water Wells in Project Area and Proposed Mitigation

ODNR Water Well Number	PIN of Parcel containing Well	GPS Coordinates (Latitude, Longitude)	Distance from Nearest Facility Component (feet)	Planned Mitigation
X1 ¹	330161600000	41.08509, -84.12501	74 (Fence)	Cap and seal
X2 ¹	330130900100	41.09567, -84.14418	158 (Fence)	Avoid by 50 feet

¹These two wells are not present in the ODNR database but were located onsite by Powell Creek. X1 and X2 are not well numbers from the ODNR database, and instead are identifiers assigned to these two wells for the purposes of this status report.

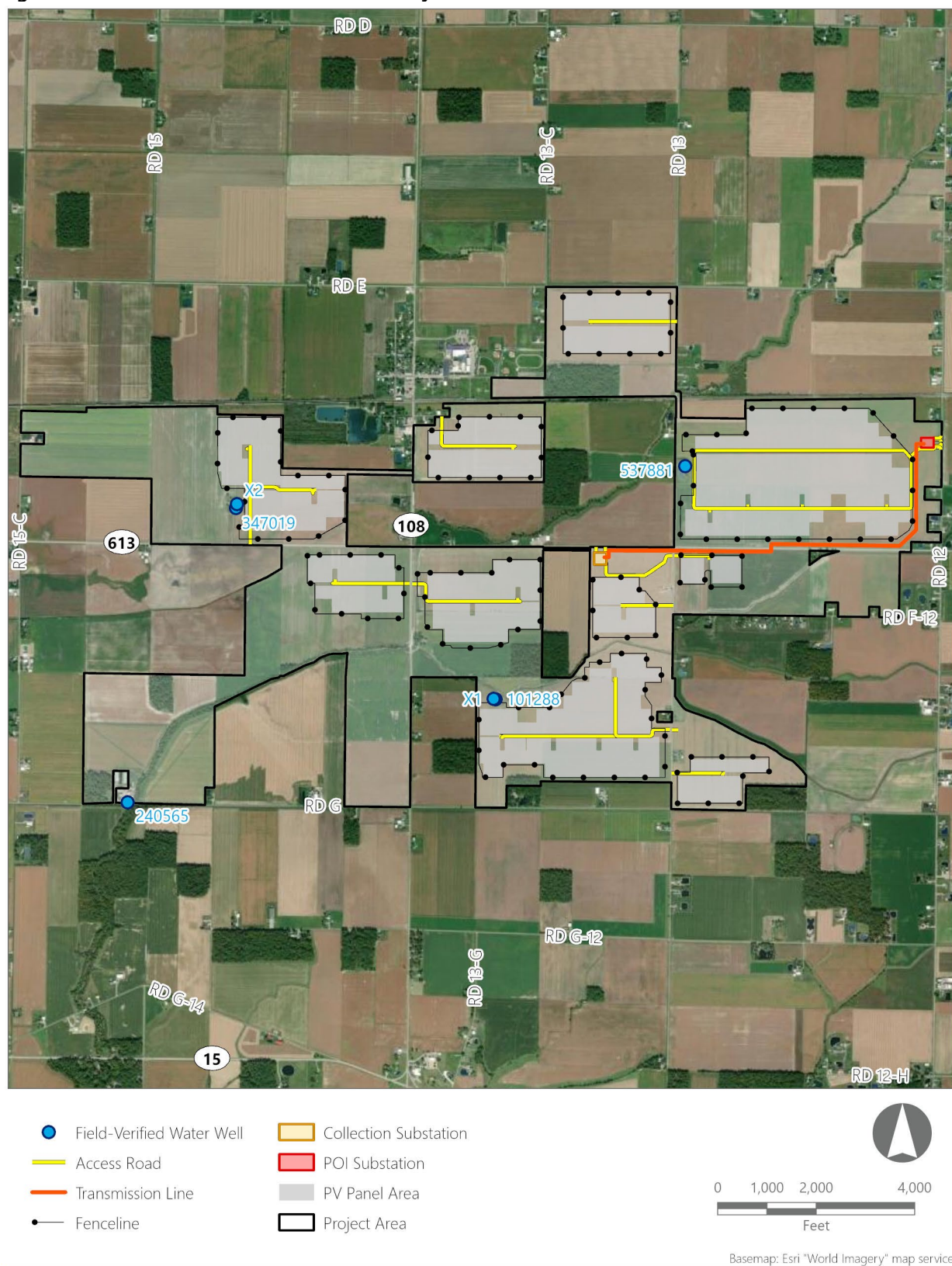
For each field-verified water well, Table 1 identifies the nearest Facility component and the distance to that component. Powell Creek intends to avoid all six of the field-verified water wells, as indicated in Table 1. All Facility components will be at least 50 feet away from field-verified water wells, which meets or exceeds any applicable minimum isolation distances outlined in O.A.C. 3701-28-7. Two of the field-verified water wells, nos. 101288 and X1, are located within an area that will be maintained by Powell Creek as a vegetated buffer area. Powell Creek's construction contractor will enlist the services of a qualified contractor to properly cap and seal these wells, pursuant to applicable regulations, so that they will not be disturbed during Facility maintenance.

3 DISCOVERY OF UNEXPECTED WATER WELL DURING CONSTRUCTION

In the event of a discovery of an unexpected water well during construction, Powell Creek would:

- Assure that work has been halted in the vicinity of the discovered water well;
- Determine if the water well falls within the applicable avoidance distances for solar components (50 feet for potable water well, 10 feet for non-potable water well);
- If the water well falls within the applicable avoidance distances, determine if Facility components can be shifted to achieve the required avoidance distance;
- If the water well cannot be avoided, engage a specialized contractor to properly seal and abandon the water well, pursuant to applicable regulations;
- Notify Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) staff of the discovery and the chosen mitigation strategy.

Figure 1. Field Verified Water Wells in the Project Area



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

Case No(s). 20-1084-EL-BGN

Summary: Notice of Compliance with Condition No. 27 - Water Well Status Report
electronically filed by Teresa Orahood on behalf of Herrnstein, Kara.