

October 5, 2023

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. 20-1529-EL-BGN** - In the Matter of the Application of Wheatsborough Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Erie County, Ohio.

**Certificate Compliance Condition 15 – Updated Water Well Plan**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Wheatsborough Solar, LLC (“Applicant”) is certified to construct a solar-powered electric generation facility in Erie County, Ohio, in accordance with the order issued by the Ohio Power Siting Board (“OPSB”) in the above-referenced case.

At this time, the Applicant is filing the attached updated Water Well Plan in compliance with Condition 15 of the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation approved by the OPSB’s September 16, 2021 order in Case No. 20-1529-EL-BGN. This information was provided to the Staff of the OPSB on October 5, 2023.

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

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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***Attorneys for Wheatsborough Solar, LLC***

Cc: Matt Butler

4872-7908-8641 v1 [88534-2]

# Water Well Plan

## Wheatsborough Solar Project

Erie County, Ohio

Prepared for:



Wheatsborough Solar, LLC  
120 Garrett St, Suite 700  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Prepared by:



Environmental Design & Research  
Midwest Region  
5 E Long St, Suite 700  
Columbus, OH 43215  
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**September 2023**

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This water well plan summarizes the steps taken by Wheatsborough Solar, LLC (Wheatsborough) to minimize potential impacts to water wells that could occur from the construction and operation of the Wheatsborough Solar Facility (Facility). Specifically, this plan addresses conditions 15 and 16 of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the Facility:

(15) 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 Ohio Adm.Code 3701-28-7.

(16) Staff recommends that in the event any well within the fence line depicted on Application Figure 03-2 is no longer viable for use, to properly seal the well as appropriate in accordance with any applicable laws and regulations.

Potential water well impacts were discussed in Wheatsborough's application in case number 20-1529-EL-BGN. Locations of known water wells were provided in Figure 8-1 of that application. The application identified three water wells within the Project Area (the properties under lease that are expected to contain Facility components). As indicated in the application, based on communications between Wheatsborough and the owners of properties on which reported wells were identified, the three identified well locations are no longer in service. Wheatsborough will coordinate with landowners to identify specific well locations prior to construction of the Facility.

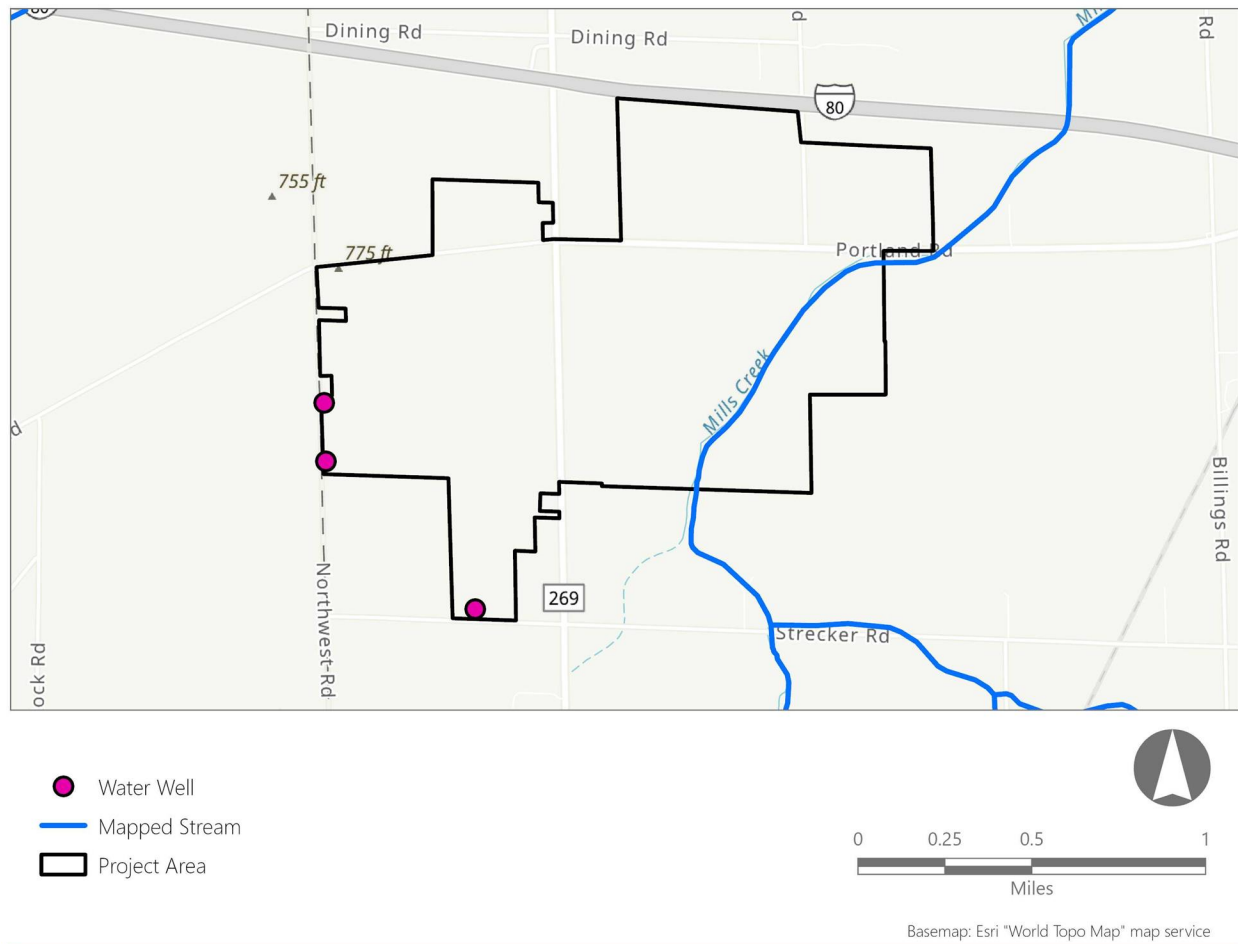
## 2 IDENTIFIED WATER WELLS AND PLANNED MITIGATION

As indicated in Table 1 and on Figure 1, one well (40399) is believed to be within 50 feet of Facility components. The exact location and condition of this well will be identified prior to construction of the Facility. The well will be sealed, if not already sealed, following applicable regulations, and no ground-embedded structures will be placed within 10 feet of the well. For the other two wells (913966 and 901424), Wheatsborough is planning to follow the applicable minimum isolation distances outlined in Ohio Adm.Code 3701-28-7. If the actual locations of these wells, or any other wells, are discovered to be closer than the minimum isolation distances, Wheatsborough will follow the steps outlined in Section 4 of this plan.

**Table 1. Water Wells in Project Area and Planned Mitigation**

| Water Well Number | General Location               | Distance (feet) from Nearest Facility Components | Planned Mitigation                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 40399             | Strecker Road                  | 28 (Fence), 48 (PV Panel Area)                   | Assure properly capped and avoid by 10 feet |
| 913966            | County Road 312/Southwest Road | 92 (Fence), 112 (PV Panel Area)                  | Avoid by 50 feet                            |
| 901424            | County Road 312/Southwest Road | 385 (Fence), 405 (Access Road)                   | Avoid by 50 feet                            |

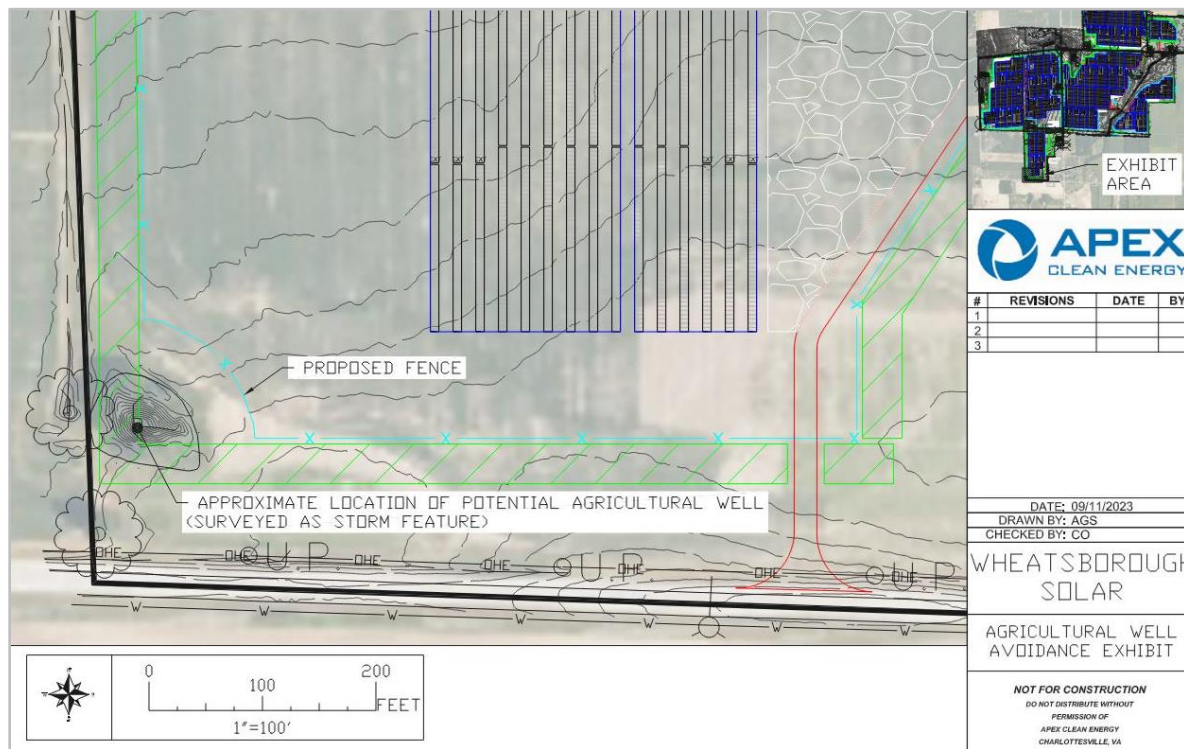
Figure 1. ODNR-Recorded Water Wells in the Project Area



### 3 POTENTIAL AGRICULTURAL WELL

After the initial preparation of this water well plan in May 2023, it was determined that a structure that was surveyed as a storm water feature is a potential agricultural well. The structure, located at the extreme southwest corner of the site, will be avoided during construction and operation of the Facility. The Facility fenceline will be placed at least 50 feet from the structure, as shown in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2. Avoidance of Potential Agricultural Well



#### 4 DISCOVERY OF UNEXPECTED WATER WELL DURING CONSTRUCTION

In the event of a discovery of an unexpected water well during construction, Wheatsborough 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 the OPSB staff of the discovery and the chosen mitigation strategy

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**10/5/2023 3:16:37 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 20-1529-EL-BGN**

Summary: Notice - Certificate Compliance Condition 15 – Updated Water Well Plan  
electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Wheatsborough Solar, LLC.