BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In The Matter of The Application of South Branch Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need For a Generation Tie Transmission Line	))))	Case No. 23-373-EL-BTX

APPLICANT'S RESPONSES TO STAFF'S DATA REQUESTS
DATED DECEMBER 26, 2023

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1. Will construction of the facility require coverage under the Ohio EPA NPDES construction stormwater general permit OHC00006?

   RESPONSE: Yes, the construction of the gen-tie is expected to require coverage under the Ohio EPA NPDES construction stormwater general permit OHC000006.

2. Does the maintained right-of-way width differ for the underground portion of the gen-tie transmission line? If so, please explain what that right-of-way for the underground portion would be.

   RESPONSE: The right-of-way width for both above ground and underground elements will be the same (approximately 50 feet).

3. South Branch Solar, LLC submitted shapefiles with its application. From that, it appears that the proposed structure locations for the preferred route are outside of the proposed right-of-way width and centerline. Please explain or re-submit corrected GIS data.

   RESPONSE: The proposed structures locations are proposed to be within the right-of-way, as shown in the attached KMZ.

4. The proposed alternate and preferred routes are close to an existing transmission pole structure just outside the existing Fostoria Central Substation. Please explain what minimum distance the transmission pole owner/operator and NESC requires from that transmission pole structure to the preferred (or alternate) route.

   RESPONSE: As the preferred and alternate routes extend from the Norfolk Southern railroad and cross Township Road 218, they will continue as an underground installation. South Branch Solar will coordinate a final review of the design and drawings with AEP, to avoid and maintain appropriate separations from existing infrastructure and access the Fostoria Central Substation as directly as

possible. That said, the underground nature of the planned design allows for considerable separation from existing overhead features.

5. Please explain what the applicable codes referenced in page 11 of the application the gen-tie transmission line would be engineered and constructed to comply with.

RESPONSE: The gen-tie transmission line would be engineered and constructed according to NESC code C2-2023, RUS bulletin 1724E-200 ("Design Manual for High Voltage Transmission Lines"), ASCE Manuals and Reports on Engineering Practice No. 74 ("Guidelines for Electrical Transmission Line Structural Loading"), and IEEE 1313.2-1999 ("IEEE Guide for the Application of Insulation Coordination").

6. Confirm that the gen-tie electric transmission line design would comply with the National Electric Safety Code.

RESPONSE: Confirmed, the gen-tie transmission line design would comply with the NESC.

Summary: Response to Staff's Data Requests Dated December 26, 2023 electronically filed by Teresa Orahood on behalf of Dylan F. Borchers.