WEB Addison Solar

Matter No. 23-03015

Section 1101-2.6 Exhibit 6: Public Health, Safety and Security

Revision 1

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EXHIBIT 6 PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

(a) Identification and Minimization of Potential Impacts on Public Health and Safety

WEB Addison Solar, LLC (the Applicant) assessed public health, safety and security concerns associated with construction and operation of the Facility within a 5-mile Study Area (i.e., the area within a radius of at least 5 miles from all Facility components, interconnections, and related facilities). In general, solar facilities are safer than most other forms of electricity generation and are not known to pose significant public health or safety risks (NC Clean Energy Technology Center, 2017). Unlike conventional fossil fuel power plants, solar facilities generate electricity without emitting pollutants that damage air quality or harm public health (NYSEPB, 2015). Reduced rates of fuel combustion will result in a multitude of health benefits. These benefits include reductions in premature mortality, hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and respiratory conditions (NYSEPB, 2025). In addition, solar facilities do not require water for operation or result in the discharge of wastewater, producing energy without affecting the availability or quality of surface water or groundwater. With proper siting, design, construction, and operation, solar facilities provide benefits to public and environmental health by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) and wastewater emissions associated with conventional energy production. Furthermore, the Facility will be constructed in accordance with applicable health and safety standards, and the Applicant is committed to developing and operating the Facility in a safe and environmentally responsible manner as discussed in this Exhibit.

Public health and safety concerns associated with construction of the Facility are primarily limited to common risks associated with commercial construction projects, such as increased noise levels during construction, increased traffic, and the potential release of construction-related contaminants into the environment. These common risks are generally not associated with significant impacts to public health and safety and will be avoided, minimized, and mitigated by the Applicants adherence to the Article VIII Uniform Standards and Conditions (USCs). In addition, the Applicant's measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate construction-related risks to public health and safety will be further detailed in the pre-construction compliance filings submitted in accordance with Article VIII.

Once constructed, the presence of electrical equipment both within the arrays and at the collection substation carries some risk of an electrical hazard. However, generally, these systems have been tested and proven to operate safely, and these areas will have perimeter controls (i.e., security fencing, signage) as is required by local law and the National Electrical Safety Code to prevent potential injury. Certain equipment, such as inverters, also may present a combustion risk. The Applicant's Safety Response Plan includes information regarding fire and electrical emergencies, and how these risks will be avoided, minimized, and mitigated or addressed (see Appendix 6-B).

Additionally, solar energy generating facilities have the potential to produce glare and therefore, photovoltaic (PV) modules are produced with anti-reflective coatings to reduce and mitigate glare impacts on residences, airports, and public roadways. The Applicant will utilize tracking PV arrays, which maintain low incidence angles by following the sun's position throughout the day. This increases the amount of incoming solar radiation absorbed by the panels and limits the amount reflected. The Applicant's assessment of glare showed that none of the potentially sensitive receptors located within or adjacent to

the Facility will receive glare from the Facility (see Exhibit 8 [Visual Resources] – Revision 1 and Appendix 8-B [Visual Impacts Minimization and Mitigation Plan] – Revision 1).

To the Applicant's knowledge, there are no known instances where a member of the public has been injured at an operating solar facility in the United States. Thus, appropriate siting and design of the Facility, diligent implementation of the Site Security and Safety Response Plans (see Appendices 6-A – Revision 1 and 6-B), and adherence to state and federal health and safety standards will greatly reduce the potential risks and emergency incidents associated with construction and operation of the Facility.

The public health and environmental *benefits* of transitioning to renewable energy have been a key driver of New York energy policy for decades and were a central component of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) (NYSCAC, 2019). The State anticipates that the CLCPA's renewable energy generation targets will result in improved air quality and increased health benefits across the State. Additionally, under the CLCPA, the state is required to consume 70% of its electricity from renewable resources by 2030 and 100% of its electricity from clean resources by 2040. The CLCPA created the Climate Action Council which released a Scoping Plan in April 2024 to achieve the State's bold clean energy and climate agenda.[1] The Scoping Plan evaluates technology and policy pathways across all sectors of the economy, including the energy sector, in order to identify the actions New York can take to meet the stated CLCPA goals. The Scoping Plan includes a discussion on the potential climate-related health impacts facing New Yorkers including increased heat stress and other heat-related morbidity and mortality, exacerbation of respiratory conditions and cardiovascular disease, increased risk of food and water borne diseases, increased duration and severity of allergy symptoms, increased risk of vector-borne diseases, and increased risk of injury or death following extreme precipitation events and flooding, which often have a disproportionate effect on disadvantaged communities. In addition, the Scoping Plan recognizes the mental health impacts associated with extreme weather events caused by climate change such as anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. The Climate Action Council emphasizes the necessity of developing policies and taking action to mitigate GHG emissions and adapt to climate change to mitigate such potential impacts and provide both direct and indirect benefits to public health.

WEB Addison Solar will contribute up to 105 megawatts (MW) of generation, supporting the CLCPA objectives. See Exhibit 17 (Consistency with Energy Planning Objectives) – Revision 1 for further discussion on the compatibility of the Facility with New York State energy planning objectives, and specific findings on how the Facility promotes public health and welfare and minimizes public health and environmental impacts related to climate change. Also see Exhibit 18 (Socioeconomic Effects) – Revision 1 and Exhibit 19 (Environmental Justice) for additional information.

Air, water, and soil pollution represent "the largest environmental cause of disease and premature death in the world" (The Lancet, 2017). According to the World Health Organization, 99 percent of the world's population breathes highly polluted air that exceeds the limits which the World Health Organization considers safe (WHO, n.d.). Air pollution contributes to an estimated 25 to 30 percent of deaths from heart attack, stroke, lung cancer and chronic respiratory disease, and causes the premature, preventable deaths

[1] https://climate.ny.gov/resources/scoping-plan/

of more than 7 million people every year (Burnett et al., 2018). Fossil fuels used in industry, energy, and transportation sectors contribute to over 80 percent of deaths related to air pollution (Lelieveld et al., 2023). Scores of those most impacted, including in the United States, are children, elderly, and the poor. Analysis of long-term temperature data from the NOAA Climate at a Glance County Time Series shows that Stueben County has experienced significant warming over the past century (NOAA National Centers for Environmental information, 2025). Average annual temperatures in the county have risen by around approximately 4.0°F since 1895, with winter warming exceeding 5°F. The frequency of very hot days over 90°F has also gone up noticeably. When examining trends by decade, it is clear that the 2010s were the hottest on record for Stueben County, with every year since 2015 ranking among the top warmest. In New York, populations most affected are those living in poverty in urban centers, often people of color, who must breathe the pollution created by fossil fuel generating facilities located in their neighborhoods, and who are often most vulnerable to flooding, prolonged power outages, and increasingly severe weather due to climate change.

Conventional fossil fuel power generation is a major source of criteria air pollutants, which affect air quality, visibility, and public health. Those facilities release sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide, which lead to the formation of particulate matter, ozone, and other acidic compounds, as well as mercury. Exposure to these pollutants can cause or aggravate "lung diseases including asthma, emphysema, and chronic bronchitis, as well as increase the risk of premature mortality from heart or lung disease" (NYSDPS, 2015). According to the New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS)'s Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement for the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) proceeding:

> *One study estimated health impacts from fossil fuel energy sources at $362 to 886 billion in economic value annually, based on premature mortality, workdays missed, and direct costs to the U.S. healthcare system resulting from PM2.5, NOx, and SO2. The same study estimated that the economic value of negative health impacts was equal to approximately $0.14 to $0.31 per kWh. These costs may be even higher if greenhouse gas emissions are included.*

According to a report by New York City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene dated 2011, particulate air pollution in New York City "causes more than 3,000 deaths, 2,000 hospital admissions for lung and heart conditions, and approximately 6,000 emergency department visits for asthma in children and adults" each year (NYC DOHMH, 2011). A 10% reduction in particulate air pollution is expected to prevent more than "300 premature deaths, 200 hospital admissions and 600 emergency department visits annually" in New York City alone (NYC DOHMH, 2011). It is likely that, across the state, thousands of New Yorkers are sickened or die prematurely due to poor air quality. Additionally, premature deaths in the United States could increase between 1,000 and 4,300 per year by 2050 if nothing is done to reduce air pollution (CDC, n.d.).

Many in the scientific community have also raised concerns about the relationship between poor air quality and communities hit particularly hard by the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Early studies have shown or posited a connection between poor air quality and poor outcomes for patients affected by COVID-19 infections (Ali and Islam, 2020) and (Wu et al., 2020). Scientists believe there is a link between patient exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 spread and mortality, and that reductions in criteria air pollutants would have potentially prevented tens of thousands of U.S. deaths from the disease (Copat et al., 2020;

Liang et al. 2020). While the CLCPA and other state energy policies emphasize the urgent need to address climate change, the legislation and similar state initiatives have also focused on addressing broader air pollution problems as a matter of equity and environmental justice, particularly in disadvantaged communities "burdened by cumulative environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects."[2] Some of New York's dirtiest power plants are so-called "peaking" power plants which operate on the hottest days of the year, and produce the most air pollution, often in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color in the New York City area.

Harmful effects of air pollution are not limited to humans—the natural environment suffers negative air pollution impacts ranging from acid rain and contamination of water sources, to crop and forest damage, in addition to the wide range of threats posed by climate change (Ecosystems and Air Quality, 2022). Moreover, climate change poses a broader range of threats to human health than only air quality issues. According to the NYSDEC, the projected effects of climate change "threaten the livability and economic vitality of many of New York's communities, as well as the health and safety of the residents of those communities" through projected sea level rise, increased storms and storm-related damages, increased salinity in drinking water in communities along the Hudson River, expansion of invasive species and pests, droughts, heat waves, and cold events, among other things. As demonstrated in the 2021 Sixth Assessment Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, human induced climate change is affecting weather and climate extremes in every region of the world, and such changes will continue to increase in frequency and intensity in direct correlation with an increase in global warming (IPCC, 2021). As indicated in the 2021 IPCC Report, cumulative carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions must be reduced in order to limit human-induced global warming. Thus, moving towards renewable energy alternatives that reduce CO_2 emissions on a widescale regional level will play an important role in global efforts to reduce global warming and address impacts of climate change.

As a safe, renewable source of energy production, solar facilities will play a critical role in meeting the public health and safety goals of the New York State energy policy. The public health benefits of solar energy are a critical driver of new state policy guiding in-state energy development. The 2025 State Energy Plan, adopted by the State Energy Planning Board on December 16, 2025, reinforces the State's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting clean energy growth, and improving public health outcomes, while balancing system reliability and affordability considerations. Consistent with the CLCPA, the Plan emphasizes sustained progress toward a zero-emission electric grid and highlights the importance of expanding renewable generation, including solar, as a key strategy for reducing pollutant emissions from the energy sector and protecting the health and welfare of New Yorkers. By increasing the share of electricity supplied by solar and other renewable resources, the Plan aims to continue to decrease public health risks associated with fossil-fuel combustion and improve air quality statewide.

Specifically, annual operation of the proposed 105 MW Facility would generate emission free energy, offsetting equivalent to approximately 85,323 metric tons of carbon dioxide associated with GHG emissions

[2] See, e.g., Article 75 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law, which focuses on efforts to aid Disadvantaged Communities burdened by negative public health effects, environmental pollution, and climate change impacts, such as by establishing a Climate Justice Working Group, among other things.

generated by traditional energy sources (EPA, 2025). This value is based off the estimated 193,967,000 kWh production capacity of the Facility and converted to metric tons utilizing the Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. The kWh production capacity is based off production modeling conducted by the Applicant which considers various factors including solar irradiance, solar panel equipment characteristics, potential system losses from equipment inefficiencies or shading, meteorological data including temperature and windspeed, performance ratios, and degradation over time[3]. The Facility would not generate other common pollutants associated with traditional energy generation sources, such as nitrogen and sulfur oxides, or mercury, nor would it utilize significant volumes of water for generation or discharge effluent. The Facility not only naturally supports near term public health and safety through the displacement of air and water emissions but also meets long term objectives of curbing climate change which has broader public health and safety effects at the local, state, and global levels.

Furthermore, the Facility will aid in reducing and eliminating significant water pollution and other harmful environmental effects which result from all phases of fossil fuel power generation, from extraction and refining, to transportation, storage, use and disposal, as well as the use of cooling water at fossil fuel combustion facilities. The transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy here in New York will not only play a critical role in the State's efforts to combat climate change, as discussed herein, it will aid efforts to reduce deadly air pollution, and advance principles of environmental justice by eliminating significant sources of pollution from the State's most vulnerable neighborhoods. Based on this analysis and the mitigation and protection measures proposed by the Applicant, significant impacts on public health, safety, and security will not occur as a result of Facility construction and operation.

(1) Waste Generated during Construction and Operation

The construction of the Facility is not expected to produce significant amounts of gaseous, liquid, or solid waste. Waste produced during construction will typically be limited to standard waste produced by common construction equipment and large-scale construction activities and will be handled by the contractor in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations pertaining to such wastes. Solid waste generated during construction of a solar energy facility consists primarily of brush and timber from site preparation; cardboard, plastic, and metal packing materials; construction scrap, and general refuse. All debris and excess construction materials will be removed and appropriately disposed of consistent with Title 16 New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (16 NYCRR) Section 1101-3.4(s) requirements.

The operation of construction equipment by the designated contractor will generate the majority of gaseous and liquid waste during construction. Construction equipment and vehicles, including but not limited to bulldozers, pile drivers, delivery trucks, and passenger vehicles, will be fueled by unleaded gasoline and ultra-low sulfur diesel and will have maintained mufflers. Minor volumes of concrete washout wastes would be generated for inverter and substation foundations. The contractor will be

[3] The Applicant updated the production yield modeling using PVSyst on August 17, 2026, based on a full 3D model of the Facility and loss assumptions provided by Canadian Solar. The updated PVSyst yield report estimates annual Facility production of 194,435,288 kWh/year. Additional losses associated with the Facility's overhead transmission line, which are not captured in PVSyst, were manually incorporated into the production estimate provided.

responsible for the removal and disposal of concrete washout at a licensed facility consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.4(y)(7) requirements for concrete washouts.

Other liquid and/or solid waste materials will be primarily limited to standard construction-related wastes and will be handled by the contractor in accordance with construction best management practices (BMPs) and all applicable laws and regulations. Trenchless crossings, such as horizontal directional drilling, will be utilized to install underground collection lines under the existing Millenium Gas Pipeline and one public road, as identified in the Design Drawings (see Appendix 5-A – Revision 1 [Preliminary Design Drawings]). The only potential impact associated with the trenchless crossing method is an inadvertent return (i.e., frac-out) of drilling fluid. Such inadvertent returns are rare, and the Applicant will develop an Inadvertent Return Plan in accordance with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-4.2(f)(5) to ensure drilling fluid does not enter wetlands, waterbodies, or streams. The Applicant will collect and dispose of drilling fluid in accordance with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-4.2(f)(5), which may include drying of fluid at on-site staging areas before disposing of off-site disposal.

Solid waste will consist primarily of plastic, wood, cardboard and metal packing/packaging materials, construction scrap and general refuse from the delivery of project components. Facility construction will generate solid waste, consisting primarily of approximately 2,006 wooden pallets and 66,200 cardboard boxes. All construction waste that cannot be recycled will be collected from work areas and stored in dumpsters, where a private contractor will empty the construction materials on an as-needed basis, which is expected to be no less frequent than weekly and dispose of the refuse at a licensed solid waste disposal facility. The closest municipal landfill and recycling center to the Facility is the Bath Sanitary Landfill located approximately 12-miles northeast in Steuben County, NY. The landfill accepts waste generated within Steuben County by construction and demolition, industrial, residential, institutional and commercial operations (Stueben County, n.d.). According to the NYSDEC's current 2020 version of the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Capacity Chart, the existing annual permit limit for this landfill is 256,700 tons per year. The existing and planned capacity for this landfill under the existing permit is 595,071 tons (NYSDEC, 2020a). The recycling center accepts all recyclable items- paper, plastic, metal, and glass- separated (Stueben County, n.d.).

Additionally, during construction of the Facility, sanitary facilities used by workers will consist of portable toilets, which will be emptied, as needed, by an NYSDEC-permitted waste hauler and taken to a designated disposal facility.

Generally, densely wooded areas may result in a volume of approximately 300 cubic yards of woodchips per dense tree stand acre, with an additional approximately 100 cubic yards resulting from chipping of associated stumps. Based on the limits of clearing shown on Figures 3-1 (Topographic Map) – Revision 1 and 3-14 (Facility Layout on Aerial Overlays) – Revision 1, construction of the proposed Facility would result in the clearing of approximately 77.9 acres of trees consisting of approximately 9.3 acres with stumps that will remain (producing an estimated 2,790 cubic yards of material) outside the Facility fenceline and 68.6 acres where stumps will be removed within the Facility fenceline (producing an estimated 27,440 cubic yards of material). Tree clearing and disposal of vegetation will be conducted in accordance with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.4(u) requirements including coordinating with landowners

to salvage materials. Landowners will have the right to any materials, including trees, taken from their property during site preparation. Any trees not claimed by the landowner would first be salvaged for merchantable timber for commercial wood use or utilized as firewood, particularly for cleared trees within mature hardwood and mixed forest areas. The remaining cleared vegetation, including immature hardwood and mixed brush or shrubs is expected to be chipped and spread on site in upland areas of the Facility Site (safely away from water resources or active agricultural fields) so as not to interfere with existing land use practices. Thus, the amount of waste associated with vegetation clearing is anticipated to be negligible and primarily limited to unusable vegetation. For instance, large tree stumps not chipped will be either left in place as to not disrupt environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, removed and stockpiled or buried on site (in non-wetland and nonagricultural areas), or disposed of at a licensed off-site landfill designated for receipt of such waste. All timber products will be managed in accordance with Article VIII USCs designed to prevent the spread of invasive species, such as those for firewood (NYSDEC, 2020b). Activities will comply with the provisions of 6 NYCRR §192, Forest Insect and Disease Control, and ECL Section 9-1303 and any quarantine orders issued thereunder, consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-6.4(y)(8)(i), and the approved Invasive Species Control and Management Plan which will be prepared by the Applicant in accordance with the pre-construction compliance filing requirements outlined in 16 NYCRR Section 1101-4.2(e)(7).

Operation of the Facility is anticipated to generate minimal waste as outlined in Table 6-1 Source and Anticipated Volumes of Waste during Construction and Operation. Operational materials may include cardboard packaging and vegetation from maintenance activities. An operations and maintenance (O&M) facility to support the Project will be housed off-site in a location that can support the Applicant's New York solar facilities. In addition, the Applicant will coordinate with a local team nearby for rapid response and routine maintenance. The O&M facility would produce waste typical to a small office including mixed paper products, food scraps, plastics, and general waste. Waste produced during operation of the Facility will be re-used or recycled to the maximum extent practicable. Facility components that are no longer operational and therefore require replacement, such as inverters and transformers, will be repurposed or sent to the local scrapyard, if possible. Broken solar panels will be disposed of in accordance with federal and state laws, while defective panels will be sent back to the manufacturer.

Table 6-1. Source and Anticipated Volumes of Waste during Construction and Operation

Source	Volume	Management Method
Construction		
Timber and Stumps	30,230 cubic yards	Provided to landowners upon request, sold to a timber buyer, or disposed of at Bath Sanitary Landfill.
PV Panel Packing Materials	6,350 cubic yards	Cardboard, Plastic, and Metal – recycled or disposed of at Bath Sanitary Landfill, or returned to vendor for reuse as applicable
Damaged PV Panels	N/A	Returned to manufacturer

Source	Volume	Management Method
Operation		
PV Panel Packing Materials		Same as Construction
Operations and Maintenance Building		Paper, plastic and food scraps recycled or disposed of at Bath Sanitary Landfill
Inverters	4.2 and 2.66 MW inverters (19.88 feet × 9.5 feet × 8 feet)	Repurposed or scrapped

(2) Anticipated Volumes of Wastes to be Released to the Environment

It is not anticipated that the construction or operation of the Facility will generate a substantial amount of waste, with the exception of general construction waste described above, which is not anticipated to be released into the environment.

Most of the required vegetation and tree clearing during construction of the Facility is anticipated to be repurposed and utilized on-site or converted to merchantable lumber. Thus, vegetation clearing waste that would be unusable and disposed of at a licensed off-site landfill is anticipated to be negligible.

The use of herbicides may be required during operation of the Facility for selective targeting of invasive species but would not be used on a broad scale across the Facility Site. Herbicide treatments would be applied by a licensed New York State pesticide applicator that meets the requirements set forth in 6 NYCRR §325, Application of Pesticides in accordance with NYSDEC approved herbicide and treatment measures. The type of herbicide(s) to be used, method of application, and schedule for application will be determined based on the locations of the targeted areas, an evaluation of herbicide safety and efficacy, and the particular invasive species to be controlled which will be detailed in the Applicant's Vegetation Management Plan and Invasive Species Control and Management Plan in compliance with 6 NYCRR §575 and in accordance with Article VIII pre-construction compliance filings. A de minimis amount of water may be used for vehicle washing associated with invasive species control (removal from trucks).

(3) Treatment Processes to Minimize Wastes Released to the Environment

It is not anticipated that the proposed Facility will require any waste treatment processes during construction or operation.

(4) Procedures for Collection, Handling, Storage, Transport, and Disposal for Wastes

Refer to subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) for additional detail regarding the types and amounts of waste that is anticipated to be generated by the construction and operation of the Facility. Additionally, the procedures for the collection, handling, storage, transport, and disposal for specific, limited amounts of waste are described herein.

As discussed in subsection (a)(1), trees cleared from the work area will be converted to merchantable lumber, cut into logs, and stockpiled on the edge of the work area or removed from the defined work area, while limbs and brush will be chipped and spread in upland areas of the Facility Site. Large stumps not chipped will be either left in place as to not disrupt environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, removed and stockpiled on site (in non-wetland and nonagricultural areas), or disposed of at a licensed off-site landfill designated for receipt of such waste. All timber products will be managed in accordance with BMPs designed to prevent the spread of invasive species, such as those for firewood (NYSDEC, 2020b). Activities will comply with the provisions of 6 NYCRR §192, Forest Insect and Disease Control, and ECL Section 9-1303 and any quarantine orders issued thereunder.

All major construction waste will be collected and disposed of in 10- to 40-yard roll-off dumpsters located within the Facility security fences at locations such as laydown yards and major construction areas. A private contractor will empty the dumpsters as needed and dispose of the refuse at a licensed solid waste disposal facility.

Waste produced during operation of the Facility will be reused or recycled to the maximum extent practicable or sent to the local scrapyard, if applicable. Facility components that are no longer operational and require replacement, such as inverters, transformers, and broken solar panels, will be repurposed, if possible, or disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws. Defective panels will be sent back to the manufacturer. The Applicant has also prepared a Site Restoration and Decommissioning Plan (See Exhibit 23 – Revision 1), which describes methods for removing and recycling or disposing of equipment and materials at the end of usable life of the Facility.

(5) Maps of Study Area and Analysis of Public Health and Safety Facilities and Resources

See Figure 6-1 (Public Health and Safety), which depicts publicly available data within a 5-mile radius of the Facility, including the following:

- Known public water supplies
- 9 Fire Stations, and 3 Police stations
- 4 Hospitals and emergency medical facilities
- USEPA-regulated facilities
- Dams, bridges, and related infrastructure
- Existing known hazard risks (flood hazard zones)
- NYSDEC Remediation Site

Note that although these features occur within 5 miles of the Facility, only one dam and a portion of the 100-year and 500-year flood zones are within the Facility Site. The following assets were not identified within a 5-mile radius of the Facility: storm surge zones, coastal erosion hazards, landslide hazard areas, explosive or flammable materials transportation or storage facilities, emergency services communication facilities, or other geologic/geomorphic/hydrologic hazards.

(6) Significant Impacts to the Environment, Public Health and Safety

As indicated in subsections (a)(1) through (4), the Facility is not expected to result in any significant public health or safety concerns associated with the release of gaseous, liquid, or solid wastes. The potential public health and environmental benefits of the Facility, particularly as they relate to climate change, are discussed further in section (a) and Exhibit 17 (Consistency with Energy Planning Objectives) – Revision 1.

Exhibit 7 (Noise and Vibration) evaluates the potential for noise from construction and operations to impact sensitive noise receptors. Construction will not require blasting, which generates high levels of noise. As discussed in Exhibit 7 (Noise and Vibration), sound propagation modeling shows that construction will not result in public health impacts from noise and impacts during operation are below all applicable limits for participating and non-participating residents.

Exhibit 8 (Visual Impacts) – Revision 1 describes the analysis of glint and glare from solar installations that could result in operator safety impacts, such as the potential to disorient motorists when driving or pilots when landing near the Facility Site. As discussed in Exhibit 8 – Revision 1, the Solar Glare Hazard Analysis showed that no glare would be received at any of the identified residences, rights-of-way, State and National Register of Historic Places eligible resources, or travel routes.

Exhibit 13 (Water Resources) evaluates potential impacts to public water supplies based on a survey of existing water wells and water supplies in the Study Area. Based on the data reviewed, the proposed Facility is not anticipated to result in any significant impacts to groundwater quality or quantity, or to the private drinking water supply wells, aquifer protection zones, or groundwater aquifers within the Facility Site, or within a 1-mile radius of the Facility Site.

Exhibit 16 (Transportation) – Revision 1 discusses potential traffic impacts to roads in the Study Area. During construction, the number of heavy equipment vehicles operating adjacent to or within public road rights-of-way will increase (see Table 16-1 in Exhibit 16 – Revision 1). However, due to the existing low traffic volumes on adjacent roadways and the rural character of the Facility Site, traffic impacts on the adjacent roadway network due to proposed construction activities are expected to be negligible. During operations, periodic maintenance activities will require pick-up trucks and occasional heavy equipment for replacement panel delivery. As discussed in Exhibit 16 – Revision 1, minor increases in traffic will occur during construction, and increases during operation are negligible.

As described in Exhibit 17 (Consistency with Energy Planning Objectives) – Revision 1, the Facility will generate Renewable Energy Credits as part of the effort to mitigate climate change through a reduction of GHGs which contribute to climate change. Reducing GHG emissions as required by the CLCPA, New York State will reduce climate change impacts, including impacts on public health and the environment related to warmer temperatures, more frequent heat waves, and changing weather patterns. By increasing renewable energy generation in New York, the Facility contributes toward the reduction in the use of fossil fuel and supports state goals for improved health and welfare for environmental justice communities.

As shown on Figure 6-1 (Public Health and Safety), the portion of the Facility Site containing the collection substation and point of interconnection (POI) switchyard, located in the Town of Erwin, is within a 100-year and 500-year FEMA Floodplain. This portion of the Facility has been designed to ensure that this critical infrastructure is elevated above the Base Flood Elevation to safeguard against potential flood hazards (see Appendix 5-A – Revision 1 [Preliminary Design Drawings]). The substation will be anchored to mitigate the risk of flooding. All foundation calculations will be performed with the assumption of water at the ground level to appropriately account for buoyant effects. The Applicant will also use flood-resistant structural steel and concrete as per ASCE 24 standards for structures within the flood zone. In addition, a downstream analysis for the substation site was conducted by the Applicant's design engineer consistent with NYSDEC requirements (See Appendix 19 [Substation Downstream Analysis] of Appendix 13-C [Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan]). This analysis indicates that there will be no significant changes in water surface elevation and peak flows from pre to post development conditions downstream of the proposed development. Moreover, the mine's gravel pit is nearby the substation location which further mitigates any potential downstream impacts, as shown in the downstream analysis. Sections 6.5 and 6.5.1 of the Safety Response Plan (Appendix 6-B) address actions to be taken in the event of a flood event taking into account local considerations and feedback provided by local emergency service providers to prioritize the substation and POI for evacuation when flood danger arises and revising ingress and egress routes with local emergency responders to account for potential flood-related impacts. See Exhibit 24 (Local laws and Ordinances) – Revision 1 for further discussion on the Project's consistency with the local floodplain regulations for the Town of Erwin.

(7) Impact Minimization Measures

General measures to minimize impacts from construction and operation of the Facility include compliance with the conditions of various local, state, and/or federal regulations that will ultimately govern Facility development as well as the commitments made by the Applicant throughout this Application. For instance, federal permitting required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will serve to protect water resources, along with implementation of a State-approved stormwater permit. Highway permitting at the town, county, and state level, is discussed in Exhibit 16 (Effect on Transportation) – Revision 1. The Applicant plans to enter into Road Use Agreements with the Towns or County, as needed, and will minimize or avoid congestion and damage to highways in the area and address traffic safety concerns as discussed in Exhibit 16 (Effects on Transportation) – Revision 1 Appendix 16-A (Route Evaluation Study) – Revision 1. Special hauling permits and/or Road Use Agreements will be obtained, as needed, prior to work requiring such permits (i.e., prior to use of oversize/overweight vehicle). The Applicant is requesting that the New York State Department of Transportation and/or the Towns and County retain the authority to issue such permits and approvals as necessary and in accordance with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.1(d)(2) and Section 1101-4.2(e)(8).

Facility development and operation will also include measures to minimize potential impacts by following and implementing the USCs including by protecting underground facilities and pipelines consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.4(h) and (i) requirements, protecting mechanical equipment by fencing consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.4(k), operating the Facility according to all applicable safety rules and regulations as outlined in 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.5(c), and hiring an

independent, third-party monitor to oversee compliance with environmental commitments and siting permit requirements and applicable sections of the Public Service Law, Executive Law, Environmental Conservation Law, and Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.4(b) requirements.

For a detailed analysis of impact minimization measures for a given resource, see the appropriate exhibit in this Application (e.g., for impact minimization measures associated with noise, see Exhibit 7; for visual minimization measures associated with glare, see Exhibit 8 – Revision 1; and for impact minimization measures associated with wetlands, see Exhibit 14 – Revision 1).

(8) Mitigation Measures

In the Applicant's experience, when a project such as the Facility is properly sited and designed, mitigation measures are generally not necessary because significant impacts to public health and safety typically do not occur. However, Facility development and operation will include measures to mitigate potential impacts to public health and safety by following and implementing the USCs, which generally include the following:

- Develop and implement various plans to minimize potential adverse impacts to air, soil, and water resources (which can directly impact public health), including a dust control plan, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (Appendix 13-C), and Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (Appendix 13-D).
- Document existing road conditions and undertake public road improvement/repair as required to mitigate impacts to local roadways (Exhibit 16 – Revision 1).
- Develop and implement a Site Security Plan (Appendix 6-A) – Revision 1.
- Develop and implement the Safety Response Plan (Appendix 6-B).
- Develop and implement a Complaint Management Plan to address public concerns throughout Facility construction and operation (16 NYCRR Section 1101-4.2 (e)(7)).
- Follow notification and reporting requirements in the event of an emergency (16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.5(g).
- Adhere to applicable USCs (16 NYCRR Section 1101-3).

For a detailed analysis of USCs to be followed for a given resource, see the appropriate exhibit in this Application (e.g., for USCs associated with noise see Exhibit 7).

(9) Proposed Monitoring

The Applicant is committed to develop and operate the Facility in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. In addition to implementing the USCs, an Environmental Monitoring Plan will be developed in accordance with the pre-construction compliance filing requirements outlined in 16 NYCRR Section 1101-4.2(e)(6), and implemented prior to the start of construction, and the Applicant will hire an independent, third-party environmental monitor to oversee compliance with environmental commitments and permit requirements during construction including siting permit requirements and

applicable sections of the Public Service Law, Executive Law, Environmental Conservation Law, and Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification, consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-6.4(b) requirements.

Prior to construction, a Quality Assurance and Control Plan will be developed and submitted as a pre-construction compliance filing (1101-2.2(e)(1)), demonstrating how the Applicant will monitor and assure conformance of Facility design, engineering, and installation. Once the Facility has been constructed, periodic inspections will be conducted to identify damages and any necessary repairs consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.5(d) requirements, as part of the Applicant's Facility Maintenance and Management Plan, which will be developed prior to construction. Among other things, the inspections will examine PV panels for wear and tear and any issues or red flags at the inverters that could cause a fire or other potential health and safety problems.

(b) Site Security Plan

The Applicant has developed a Site Security Plan (Appendix 6-A- Revision 1 of this Application), which includes security measures to be implemented during operation. It is anticipated that the Applicant will own and operate the Facility, except for POI switchyard, which will be constructed, owned, and operated by New York State Electric and Gas. The Applicant will be responsible for site safety and security during operation of the Facility, excluding the POI switchyard.

(1) Access Controls

The Site Security Plan discusses operational access controls in Section 3.0. All access roads shall be gated to restrict access to the general public. Gates will be required to be kept locked when maintenance activities are not occurring. Signage will be installed on gates warning the public not to trespass and of possible hazards. During both construction and operation, all contractors must inform the Site Construction Manager or Facility Manager of the portion of the Site they intend to visit and the approximate date and time.

The PV arrays and associated equipment will be fenced in accordance with all applicable regulations and standards. All access gates will be closed and locked except when they are in the direct control of Facility personnel. Signage will be posted surrounding the perimeter fencing stating it is a federal offence to damage property at a utility-power solar site and stating that no trespassing is allowed. In addition, signs will be posted in appropriate locations identifying the owner/operator of the Facility along with an emergency telephone number.

The collection substation, which will be owned and maintained by the Applicant, will be fenced in accordance with all applicable regulations and standards. All access gates will be closed and locked except when they are in the direct control of Facility personnel. Control buildings within the substation yard shall be kept locked unless Facility personnel are working in this location. Warning signs will be placed at the base of all pad mount transformers and substations.

The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility to support the Project will be housed off-site in a location in New York that can support the Applicant's New York solar facilities. In addition, the Applicant will coordinate with a local team nearby for rapid response and routine maintenance. The day-to-day O&M of the Facility will be managed by a locally based team, equipped with the necessary tools and equipment required to conduct routine maintenance to promptly respond to any onsite issues that may arise. The locally based team will be fully capable of carrying out maintenance functions and addressing any operational needs or emergencies as they occur, ensuring the continued efficient functioning of the Facility.

(2) Electronic Security and Surveillance Facilities

Electronic security measures are not currently proposed for the Facility. However, should electronic security measures, such as triggered alarms at gate entrances or touchpad entry to various components, be determined necessary following consistent issues with vandalism or trespass, or other security issues, these measures will be considered and/or approved by the Facility Manager.

Additionally, surveillance of the Facility is not planned at the outset of operation. Rather, should vandalism and trespass become issues for the Project, intrusion detection methods, most likely in the form of security cameras, will be installed in these problem areas as determined necessary by the Facility Manager.

(3) Security Lighting

Permanent security lighting shall be installed at the collection substation as needed and required by applicable state and local standards. The lights installed will be automatic or manual as deemed necessary to minimize environmental and community impacts. Checking security lighting functionality shall be a component of all maintenance inspections and any security lighting that fails shall be promptly replaced. The Applicant has included basic information regarding security lighting in the Site Security Plan (Appendix 6-A) – Revision 1. A Lighting Plan providing more detailed information is included in Exhibit 8 (Visual Impacts) – Revision 1, Appendix 8-B (Visual Impacts Minimization and Mitigation Plan) – Revision 1. PV arrays are not anticipated to include permanent lighting.

(4) Lighting to Ensure Aircraft Safety

There are no public or private airports within the Facility Site. The closest airport is the Corning-Painted Post Airport approximately 1.3 miles away and there is a private airstrip approximately 2.3 miles away. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Notice Criteria Tool summarizes the filing requirements specified in Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 77.9 and advises if a notice to the FAA is required. Based on the Notice of Criteria Tool, the proposed Facility is required to complete FAA notice for certain proposed overhead collection line pole locations (see Appendix 16-B – Revision 1, Exhibit 16 – Revision 1, and Exhibit 25 – Revision 1). The Applicant is fully committed to engaging with the FAA in this consultation process. The FAA requires notice at least 45 days prior to the start of the proposed construction, but the Applicant plans on submitting notice earlier to allow sufficient time for the process

and ensure that appropriate consultation occurs prior to construction. Should the FAA identify any necessary modifications, the Applicant has sufficient site control and design flexibility to evaluate and implement appropriate measures, if required (see Exhibit 4 – Revision 1 and Appendix 4-A – Revision 1).

(5) Cyber Security

The Applicant will comply with all North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) standards and maintain an audit-ready Internal Compliance Program. These mandatory Reliability Standards include CIP Standards 002 through 011, which address the security of cyber assets essential to the reliable operation of the electric grid (NERC, 2021). Physical access to critical cyber infrastructure areas will be restricted to those individuals who must have access. Where feasible, access into cyber secured restricted areas will be monitored by personnel and/or video surveillance.

The cyber security program compliance reviews will be performed by an independent auditor every 3 years in compliance with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-2.6(b)(5). In addition, qualified internal personnel will conduct an annual in-house compliance audit. The Applicant will also perform internal compliance evidence reviews to support ongoing compliance oversight and ensure that the Project remains in compliance with any applicable NERC standards. The performance of the Facility, as well as the substation, will be continuously monitored from the Applicant's monitoring center, with outsourced national Designated Entity monitoring.

The Facility is rated as a Low Impact NERC facility and will follow the Applicant's Corporate Policy Standard Operating Procedures and audit-ready NERC Low Impact Program. The security management controls, outlined in Section 5 of Appendix 6-A – Revision 1, Site Security Plan, ensure that Facility personnel are provided with security awareness and training, incident response procedures and training, and that the Facility implements physical security and electronic access controls, including controls for transient cyber assets and removable media.

In addition, the Applicant has implemented several corporate policies that address strong password encryption, two-factor authentication, an incident response plan and playbook, as well as off-site storage of log files and backup of critical assets. Further details regarding the Facility's Cyber Security Systems are outlined in the Site Security Plan in Appendix 6-A – Revision 1.

(c) Safety Response Plan

A Safety Response Plan which provides emergency response direction is included as Appendix 6-B. The Safety Response Plan specifies the contingencies related to Facility operation that would constitute a safety or security emergency, as well as the procedures to follow during such an event.

(1) Types of Safety and Security Emergencies

The Facility poses little risk to the community, given the setback requirements established by local law and NERC safety standards which govern the location of electrical equipment relative to people and structures near the Facility which are in place to prevent potential harm in the event of an emergency. Accordingly, the Safety Response Plan focuses primarily on supporting the safety of persons at the Facility (i.e., employees and authorized visitors) in the event of a major emergency; potential community concerns are addressed in the Safety Response Plans as appropriate. The Safety Response Plan contains information regarding the following emergency situations:

- Fire Emergencies
- Hazardous Material Spills
- Electrical Emergencies
- Medical Emergencies and Incidents
- Physical Security Threats
- Severe Weather or Natural Disaster.

For each emergency category, the Safety Response Plan contains procedures and guidelines to be followed in the event an incident arises, together with a checklist that identifies key tasks and specifies who is required to complete the task.

(2) Emergency Response Measures by Contingency

Sections 4-6 of the Safety Response Plan provides detailed instructions and guidelines to be followed by site personnel, the public, and emergency responders for each of the above listed contingencies. See Appendix 6-B for a description of the emergency response measures by contingency. Transmission-related incidents that affect the operation of the Facility, or that pose a public safety concern, and catastrophic incidents will be reported to the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission and NYSDPS consistent with 16 NYCRR Section 1101-3.5(g).

(3) Evacuation Control Measures by Contingency

The proposed Facility will not create safety concerns of a magnitude that would necessitate a community evacuation. Accordingly, Sections 4-6 of the Safety Response Plan focuses on evacuation of Facility personnel. In addition, the Safety Response Plan includes specific instructions relating to evacuations in relation to each of the contingencies identified above (e.g., hazardous materials, earthquake, severe weather, and physical security threats).

(4) Community Notification Procedures by Contingency

A utility-scale solar energy generating facility does not typically create safety concerns of a magnitude that would require community notification. As detailed previously, the primary contingencies would be internal to the Facility (e.g., medical emergencies, physical security threats, and fire). Local emergency services will be notified of all emergencies for which their assistance is, or maybe, required. The criteria

for determining whether to contact local emergency responders are included in Sections 4-6 of the Safety Response Plan for each contingency. The Safety Response Plan indicates that if an emergency requires reporting to host and/or adjacent landowners and community officials, notification will be made via telephone or as appropriate. Reports of spills or releases that require immediate outreach to federal, state and/or local authorities will be made by the Facility Manager in accordance with the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (Appendix 13-D).

(5) Emergency Equipment

The Safety Response Plan includes a list of all equipment available for responding to fire emergencies or hazardous substance incidents (i.e., Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous material on site, fire extinguishers, and personal protective equipment). In general, onsite equipment to respond to fire emergencies or hazardous substance incidents will be on-site in the collection substation yard and in an off-site O&M building. The Applicant has also compiled a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan which includes further information regarding hazardous material spills (see Appendix 13-D).

Access to PV arrays will be coordinated with local emergency responders and may include double locks on perimeter gates. Similar lock mechanisms will be placed at the collection substation, although access to these areas will be subject to additional utility regulations. However, any time that the Facility operators and maintenance personnel are in the PV array or substation fenced areas, the access road gates remain unlocked and medical personnel will be able to access these areas as needed.

(6) Prevention of Ice Throw

The Facility is not a wind facility; therefore, the requirements of 16 NYCRR Section 1101-2.6(c)(6) are not applicable.

(7) Contingency Plans

The Safety Response Plan contains a protocol and guidelines to be followed in the event of a fire emergency or hazardous substance incident. Training activities with first responders will occur regularly to address these emergencies should they arise, as outlined in the Safety Response Plan. In addition, the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (Appendix 13-D) has been prepared, and will be implemented, for both the construction and operation phases of the Facility. The Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan provides an assessment of potential hazardous substances that could be utilized during the construction, operation, or maintenance of the Facility. Typically, potential hazardous substances would consist of oils such as fuel oil, hydraulic oil, mineral oil, and lubricating oil (see Exhibit 13 and Appendix 13-D for additional information).

A fire at the Facility's collection substation or at one of the intra-array inverters would be contained through a combination of the underlying gravel pad and/or the substation access road. The gravel pad and the access road will provide a buffer between the component and surrounding vegetation to help

prevent the spread of fire. In addition, the collection substation will be constructed within a fenced gravel yard. Routine maintenance of the gravel yard will eliminate combustible material within the buffer area between equipment and the substation fence line.

(8) Emergency Responder Training Drills

As described in subsection (c)(7) above, the Applicant will conduct training drills with emergency responders at least annually and update the Safety Response Plan in response to applicable comment received. Additional informal coordination with local first responders and emergency services will be conducted as needed. The Applicant will consult with emergency responders on any specialized materials or equipment that may be needed for servicing the Facility.

(d) Request for Review by Local Office of Emergency Management

The Facility Site is not located within any part of a city that has a population over one million and therefore, a review by the local office of emergency management is not required by the Article VIII regulations. As noted elsewhere in this Exhibit, the Applicant has consulted with local emergency responders and relevant municipal agencies to ensure that its safety and security plans appropriately consider local conditions, risks, and resources. The Site Security Plan (SSP; Appendix 6-A – Revision 1) and the Safety Response Plan (SRP; Appendix 6-B) were provided to the Department of Homeland Security on November 10, 2025, for review and comment. Furthermore, on June 25, 2025, the Applicant provided the SSP and SRP to the Addison Volunteer Fire Department, Campbell Fire Department, Coopers Plains–Long Acres Fire Department, East Campbell Fire Department, Forest View Gang Mills Fire Department, and Thurston Fire Department, to solicit input on the SSP and SRP (this consultation is further described in Exhibit 2 [Overview and Public Involvement] – Revision 1, and a copy of the email exchanges are included in Appendix 2-A;). The Applicant updated the Safety Response Plan to incorporate the local emergency responders' requests to the extent practicable including installing a Knox Box at the intersection of Smith Hill Road and the access road for the collection substation, prioritizing evacuation of the POI and collection substation when flood risk arises, and adjusting emergency contact information as requested.

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