

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

CPG # NMP-\_\_\_\_\_

Application of BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC     )  
Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 219a and Board Rule 5.100     )  
authorizing the installation and operation of a 500 kW     )  
solar group net-metered electric generation facility     )  
located off of Route 2 in East Montpelier, Vermont     )

**APPLICATION**

BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC (“Applicant”), by its undersigned counsel, hereby submits this Application to the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont (“Board”) for a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”) pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 219a, and the procedures authorized by Board Rules 5.108(B) and 5.110, for the installation and operation of a 500 kW group net- metered ground mounted solar array located off Route 2 (lot behind 2537 Route 2) in the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont (the “Project”). In support of this Application, the Applicant represents:

1. BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC has a mailing address at 145 Pine Haven Shores Road, Suite 1150, Shelburne, VT 05482.
2. Applicant proposes to install and operate a 500 kW ground mounted solar array on property owned by Anthony and Jean Cassani at Route 2 in the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont (lot behind 2537 Route 2) on approximately 4 acres of an 8.36 acre parcel of land (the “Property”). The Property is currently six separate subdivided lots that the Applicant proposes to utilize for the Project. The Applicant will have site control of the Project area, including all subdivided lots, if the Board issues a CPG.
3. The closest residence is located approximately 153 feet to the southeast of the Project site. The second closest residence is located approximately 196 feet to the south of the Project site.

4. The Project is located in an open field setback approximately 283 feet from Route 2.
5. The Project generally involves:
  - Approximately 2,684 solar panels installed on fixed, pile-driven post mounted racking systems across approximately 4 acres;
    - Coated with non-reflective glazing
    - Sloped at an angle of approximately 20 degrees
    - Approximately nine (9) feet high off the ground at their highest point
  - Approximately 17 string inverters dispersed across the array that would convert the direct current (DC) generated by the panels to alternate current (AC);
  - Network upgrades associated with interconnection of the system into Green Mountain Power's existing 3-phase service along Route 2, including installing approximately three new distribution poles. The first pole shall extend the existing three phase service across Route 2 and be located on the north side of Route 2. The second pole will extend from that point to the north east up the slight incline towards the Project site. The third pole located approximately in the middle of the southern edge of the Project Site shall be installed behind an existing large tree and vegetation to aid in screening, this pole shall carry the necessary pole mounted transformers;
  - An approximate 8' perimeter fence with approximately 6" vertical spacing; and driven fence posts;
  - New gravel access road to the Site, approximately 317 feet long.
6. The proposed Project would interconnect with GMP. The Applicant filed a complete Application for Interconnection under Board Rule 5.500 and GMP issued the fast track analysis on November 24, 2015. Applicant shall implement GMP's recommended system upgrades and shall not commence Project construction until it receives interconnection approval from GMP. Thus, the proposed Project will not create an undue adverse impact on system stability or reliability.
7. GMP would use all the electricity generated by the Project for use in its service territory.
8. Applicant hopes to have the new facility in service by Spring of 2016.

9. Applicant has assessed the Project under Board Rule 5.108, which waives certain Section 248 criteria for net-metering projects of this scale. Specifically, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 219a(c)(2)(A) and Board Rule 5.108(B), which provide that the Board may waive certain requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 248(b) that are not applicable to net metering systems, the Board has conditionally waived review of the following criteria for wind turbines and other systems which are installed on, as, or within a new structure, which is not a home or business: 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(2) (need); 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(4) (economic benefit); 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5) (greenhouse gases, public health, and safety); 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(1) (air and water pollution); 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(1)(C) (water conservation); 10 V.S.A. §§ 6086(a)(2) & (3) (sufficiency of water and burden on existing supply); 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(5) (transportation, except for impacts related to construction); 10 V.S.A. §§ 6086(a)(6) and (7) (municipal & educational services); 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(6) (integrated plan); 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(7) (electric energy plan); 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(9) (waste-to-energy facilities); and 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(10) (transmission facilities).
10. The proposed Project satisfies the applicable criteria and therefore warrants that the Board makes the findings requisite to the issuance of a CPG.
11. Applicant identified the adjoining landowners by using the certified grand list as it existed on September 1, 2015, and has attached that list to this Application.
12. The Applicant followed the filing requirements set forth in Board Rule 5.100, including providing written notice to adjoining landowners, the municipal planning commission, the regional planning commission, the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Service and its Director for Public Advocacy, the

Public Service Board and the serving electric company at least 45 days in advance of this filing, under Board Rule 5.110(C).

13. Applicant sent the Application to the municipal planning commission, the regional planning commission, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Department of Public Service and the serving electric company under Board Rule 5.110(C). The Applicant also sent the Application to the municipal zoning administrator.
14. Applicant sent notice under Board Rule 5.110(C) that the Application has been filed with the Board to the legislative bodies and the landowners of record of property adjoining the Project site.
15. Applicant has filed Proposed findings and a proposed CPG herewith in accordance with the requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 219a and Board Rule 5.110.
16. The Project's latitude and longitude coordinates are as follows: Latitude: 44°16'4"N. Longitude: 72°29'31".
17. In support of this Application, Applicant submits supporting prefiled testimony and exhibits sponsored by the following witnesses:

Witnesses

Subject

Andrew Thomas

Describes the Project and describes the proposed Project's compliance with Public Service Board Rule 5.106 relating to group net metering system requirements. Describes the Project's compliance with 30 V.S.A. § 248 (b)(1) orderly development of the region, (b)(5) aesthetics, noise, historic sites, transportation systems/ traffic, waste disposal, and development affecting public investments.

Adam Crary

Describes the Project's potential impacts on the natural environment and addresses portions of 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5), including 10 V.S.A. § 1424a(d) outstanding resource waters and 6086(a): headwaters, waste disposal, floodways, streams, shorelines, wetlands, soil erosion and

rare and irreplaceable natural areas, threatened and endangered species, and necessary wildlife habitat.

Allison D. Kimball

Addresses the proposed electrical system components and the Project's compliance with 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(3) system stability and reliability.

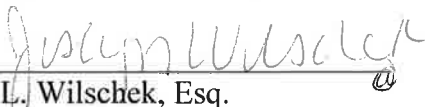
WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests this Board to:

- A. Determine that 30 V.S.A. § 219a and Board Rule 5.100 review is appropriate.
- B. Waive notice and hearing requirements in accordance with Board Rule 5.100.
- C. Make findings as required by 30 V.S.A. § 219a.
- D. Find that the Project, as described in this Application and the prefiled testimony, will promote the general good of the State of Vermont and issue a Certificate of Public Good to that effect.
- E. Take such other and further action as the Board deems necessary to resolve this Application.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC

By:

  
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