

June 4, 2020

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

[Landowner Name]
[Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

Re: In the Matter of the Application by Wild Springs Solar, LLC to the
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for an Energy Facility
Permit in Pennington County, South Dakota
EL20-018

Dear Landowner:

On behalf of Wild Springs Solar, LLC (“Wild Springs”), I am providing notice of an upcoming telephonic public input meeting convened by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) regarding the Wild Springs Solar Project (“Project”), a proposed solar energy facility to be located in Pennington County, South Dakota. You are receiving this notice because your property is located within or within one-half mile of the proposed site where the Project is to be constructed.

Enclosed is a copy of the Commission’s public input meeting notice, as well as a map showing the location of the Project. **As indicated in the notice, the telephonic public input meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. MDT / 7:30 p.m. CDT. Call-in information: Number: 1 (866) 410-8397, Conference Code: 3224480715#.** At the telephonic public input meeting, Wild Springs will present a brief description of the Project, and interested persons may present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application for Facility Permit (“Application”) for the Project filed by Wild Springs with the Commission.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-5.2, Wild Spring’s Application is on file in the Auditor’s office in Pennington County. In addition, the Application and other documents in the case may be accessed on the Commission’s website at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2020 Electric Dockets, EL20-018.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jay Hesse
Wild Springs Solar, LLC

Enclosures: Project Location Map and Public Notice

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

- WHAT:** Permit to Construct the Wild Springs Solar Project on approximately 1,499 acres of land in Pennington County, South Dakota, approximately one-half mile south of New Underwood, South Dakota
- WHEN:** Wednesday, July 1, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. MDT / 7:30 p.m. CDT. Call-in information: Number: 1 (866) 410-8397, Conference Code: 3224480715#
- WHERE:** Pursuant to Executive Order EO2020-16, the Commission will hold a telephonic public input meeting

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15, 49-41B-16, and Executive Order EO2020-16, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public input meeting at the above time on an application to construct the Wild Springs Solar project, a solar facility located on approximately 1,499-acres on privately-owned land in the Rapid City East and East Central Pennington Unorganized Territories; where civil township data is not available (Project Area). The proposed Project will have an output of up to 128 megawatts (MW) of nameplate solar energy capacity. The proposed Project includes solar modules, inverters, tracking racking, fencing, access roads, a substation, an operations and maintenance building, a parking lot, electric collection lines, and up to three weather stations. The Project will interconnect to the New Underwood Substation, which is owned and operated by Western Area Power Administration. Wild Springs has entered into a Power Purchase Agreement with Basin Electric Power Cooperative, who is taking the entire output of the Project for 15 years, starting in 2022. The Project is expected to be completed in 2022. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be \$190 million.

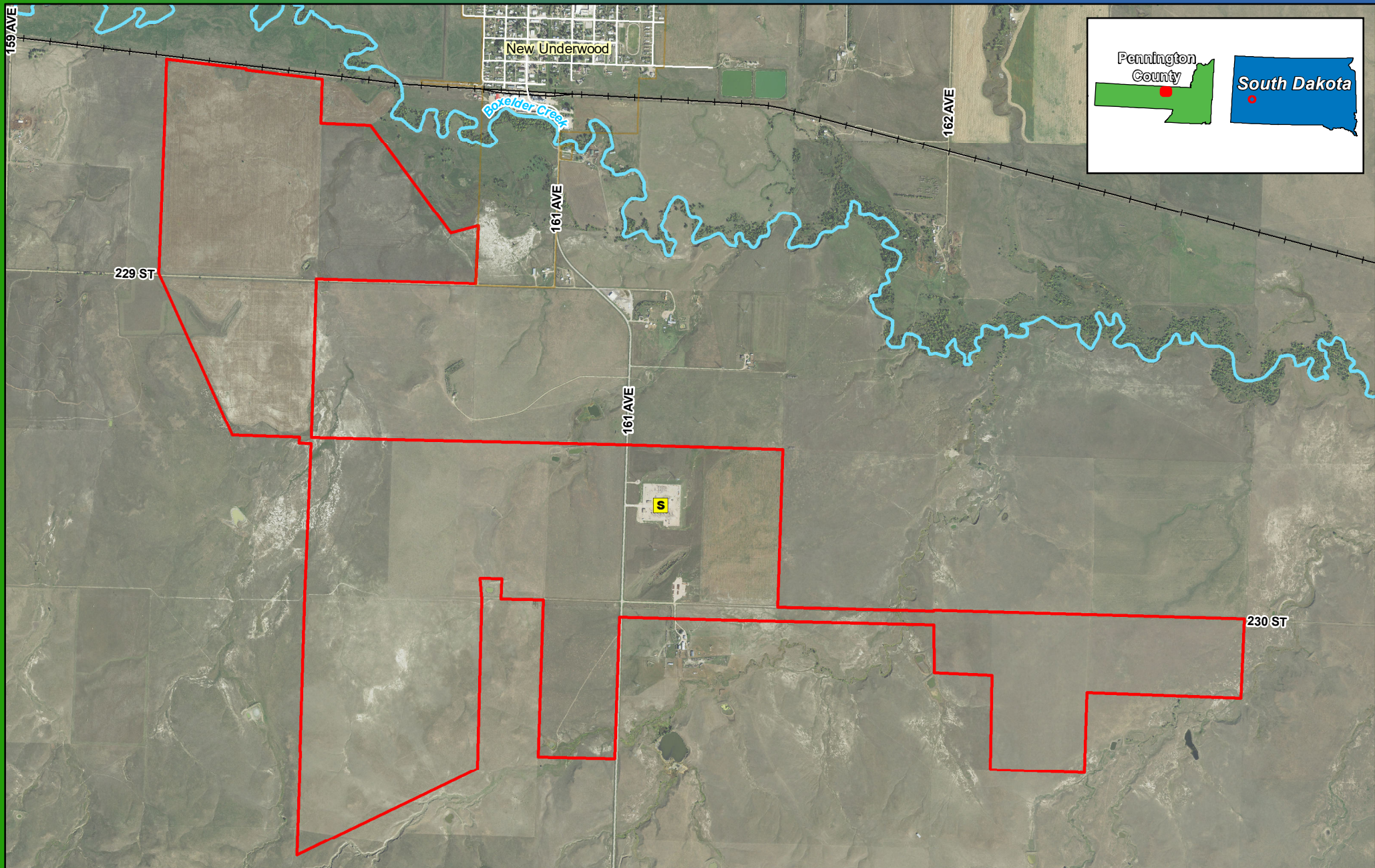
The purpose of the public input meeting will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the meeting, Wild Springs will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. Wild Springs' presentation will be available on the Commission's website, puc.sd.gov, on July 1, 2020, the day of the meeting. Interested persons who wish to comment are asked to call the Commission at 1-800-332-1782 by 2:00 p.m. MDT / 3:00 p.m. CDT., July 1, 2020, to place their name on a list. Commenters who have pre-registered will be called on to comment first. Commenters will be given approximately 5 minutes to speak and asked to provide their name, town, and last four digits of the number they are calling from.

A copy of the Application is on file with the Pennington County Auditor pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-5.2 and at the Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's website at puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2020 Electric Dockets, EL20-018 or by contacting the Commission by phone at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicant and the Commission staff. Each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; or any person residing in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited, or any directly interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making timely written application to the Commission. Applications for party status may be obtained from the Commission's website or by contacting the Commission. **Applications for party status must be filed with the Commission on or before 4:00 p.m. MDT / 5:00 p.m. CDT., July 14, 2020.** The Commission will also be accepting comments in writing from anyone, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mailing the Commission right up until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by putting on actual testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct.

Following the public input meeting, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, the Commission's staff, or the Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, Wild Springs must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether a permit to construct should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate.



0 0.25 0.5 Miles



1:26,000

Figure 2
Land Control Area
Wild Springs Solar Project
Pennington County, SD

- Existing Substation
- Land Control Area
- Perennial Stream (NHD)
- Railroad