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February 16, 2024

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen Executive Secretary South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Re: In the Matter of the Application by Wild Springs Solar, LLC for a Permit of a Solar Energy Facility in Pennington County, South Dakota

Docket EL20-18

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket, Wild Springs Solar, LLC ("Wild Springs") submits the following documents:

- 1. Updated Decommissioning Cost Estimate;
- 2. Updated Decommissioning Cost Estimate Memorandum;
- 3. Motion for Partial Exemption from Condition No. 38;
- 4. Form of Surety Bond (Exhibit A to the Motion); and
- 5. Certificate of Service.

Wild Spring requests the Commission approve the enclosed updated decommissioning cost estimate for the Project, which was prepared by Westwood Engineering and is based on the Project's final as-built design. The updated decommissioning cost estimate includes a comparison between the cost estimate provided in the Decommissioning Plan submitted as Appendix D to the Facility Permit Application and the current cost estimate, with notes explaining the changes. Provided with the updated decommissioning cost estimate is a memorandum further explaining the updates made to the decommissioning cost estimate and the assumptions used to support the calculations.

Wild Springs also requests the Commission approve the form of surety bond (included as Exhibit A to the Motion for Partial Exemption, discussed below), which includes the amount specified in the updated decommissioning cost estimate. Except for the updated amount of the surety bond, the form of surety bond is the same as was previously reviewed and accepted by the Commission and is consistent with the terms of Condition No. 38.

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Finally, pursuant to Condition No. 34, for the reasons described in the Motion for Partial Exemption from Condition No. 38, Wild Springs requests an exemption from Condition No. 38's requirement that the form of surety bond be submitted at least 60 days prior to commencement of commercial operation.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mollie M. Smith

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Enclosures

cc: Certificate of Service/Service List (via email)