

August 10, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Wild Springs Solar, LLC for a Permit of a Solar Energy Facility in Pennington County, South Dakota Docket EL 20-018

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

As set forth in prior filings, the Wild Springs Solar Project (“Project”) is subject to decommissioning financial security requirements imposed by both the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) and Pennington County (“County”). While the Commission requires decommissioning financial security to be in place prior to the Project beginning commercial operations, the County requires decommissioning financial security to be in place prior to beginning Project construction. Currently, Wild Springs Solar, LLC (“Wild Springs”) is planning to begin construction of the Project in October 2022.

In order to satisfy the County’s financial security timing requirement, Wild Springs hereby submits and requests the Commission’s approval of the enclosed updated decommissioning cost estimate for the Project, which was prepared by Westwood Engineering (“Westwood”) and is based on the Project’s current design. Provided with the updated decommissioning cost estimate are two supporting documents, also prepared by Westwood: (1) a cost estimate comparison, which compares the current decommissioning cost estimate with the prior decommissioning cost estimate (dated September 17, 2020); and (2) a memorandum explaining the updates made to the decommissioning cost estimate and the assumptions used to support the calculations.

Also enclosed for the Commission’s approval is an updated form of surety bond. Except for the updated amount of the surety bond, the form of surety bond is the same as was previously reviewed and approved by the Commission and is consistent with the terms of Condition No. 38 of the Commission’s Order Granting Motion to Approve Decommissioning Condition and Final

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Decision and Order Granting Permit to Construct Facility; Notice of Entry, dated December 4, 2020. Once the updated decommissioning cost estimate and the surety bond form are approved, an executed surety bond will be filed with the Commission.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mollie M. Smith

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Enclosures

cc: Certificate of Service/Service List (via e-mail)

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