

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION BY WILD SPRINGS
SOLAR, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A
SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY IN
PENNINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH
DAKOTA**

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**AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA SCHMIT
PROVIDING NOTICE OF NON-
MATERIAL CHANGES (FACILITY
LOCATION ADJUSTMENTS)**

EL20-018

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

I, Melissa Schmit, being first duly sworn on oath, state and allege as follows:

1. I am the Director of Permitting at National Grid Renewables, which is assisting Wild Springs Solar, LLC (“Wild Springs”) in the development of the Wild Springs Solar Project (“Project”). I have the authority to provide this affidavit on behalf of Wild Springs.
2. I am providing this Affidavit pursuant to paragraph 25 of the Permit Conditions approved by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) and included with its December 4, 2020 Order Granting Motion to Approve Decommissioning Condition and Final Decision and Order Granting Permit to Construct Facility; Notice of Entry (“Order”) in the above-referenced docket.
3. Since issuance of the Order, Wild Springs has determined that adjustments to the locations of solar panels, tracking rack system and piers, inverters, and transformers (each a “Facility”) are needed. A comparison map showing both the locations approved by the Commission and the current Facility locations is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. A map showing the current Project layout is attached as **Exhibit B**.
4. The reasons for each of the adjustments identified in **Exhibit A** are provided below:
 - A. The locations of solar panels, tracking rack system and piers, and transformers have been shifted as a result of final site evaluation (e.g., geotechnical analyses), micro-siting activities, and final design.
 - B. The locations of inverters have also been shifted as a result of final site evaluation (e.g., geotechnical analyses), micro-siting activities, and final design. The prior Project design included 89 inverters. The final number of inverters for the Project is 40 based on the size of the inverter selected.

5. As shown on **Exhibit C**, the Facility adjustments comply with the Pennington County noise limit of 55 dBA as measured at the closest property line.
6. All adjustments are located within the Land Control Area identified in the Application.
7. **Exhibit D** (public and confidential versions) identifies the locations of cultural resources (confidential version only), active burrows within the 2019-mapped prairie dog colonies' extent, and wetlands in relation to the Proposed Layout. As shown on **Exhibit D**, cultural resources are avoided or mitigated in consultation with the SHPO; active burrows within the 2019-mapped prairie dog colonies' extent are avoided; and wetland impacts are avoided or are in compliance with applicable USACE regulations.
8. With respect to the Project, including the Facility adjustments described herein, Wild Springs will comply with the Commission's Order and all other applicable regulations and requirements.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

WILD SPRINGS SOLAR, LLC



 Melissa Schmit

Dated this 19th day of September, 2022.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 19th day of September, 2022.



 Notary Public MN
 My Commission Expires: 1/31/23

