

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

**IN THE MATTER OF LOOKOUT SOLAR )  
PARK I, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A SOLAR )  
ENERGY FACILITY IN OGLALA LAKOTA )  
COUNTY )  
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)  
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**ORDER GRANTING  
MOTION TO EXTEND  
DEADLINE FOR  
COMMISSION ACTION  
  
EL18-059**

On December 17, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for an Energy Facility Permit (Application) from Lookout Solar Park I, LLC (Lookout Solar or Applicant). Lookout Solar proposes to construct and operate a 110-megawatt (MW) solar generation facility to be located in Oglala Lakota County, South Dakota, known as the Lookout Solar Project (Project). The Project is located approximately 22 miles east of Buffalo Gap, South Dakota, on 810 acres of privately-owned land in Township 41 North, Range 48 West, Section 36 and the southern portion of Section 35 on individually-owned Indian trust land on the Pine Ridge Reservation (Project Area). The Project includes 500,000 solar panels, an energy storage facility, access roads, underground 34.5 kilovolt (kV) electrical collector lines, an underground fiber-optic cable, a collection substation, an operations and maintenance facility, and temporary construction areas. The Project would interconnect to the high-voltage transmission lines owned by the Western Area Power Administration near Cottonwood Cutoff. The Project is expected to be in-service by the second quarter of 2021. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$100 million. Lookout Solar previously filed its required Notice of Intent to Apply for a Permit for an Energy Conversion Facility in Docket EL18-007.

On December 20, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 15, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On December 26, 2018, the Commission issued a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Input Hearing; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status. On January 4, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Assessing Filing Fee; Order Authorizing Executive Director to Enter into Consulting Contracts. On February 6, 2019, the Public Input Hearing was held as scheduled at the Hermosa School Gymnasium. No applications for party status were filed with the Commission. On July 1, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Granting Local Review Committee's Request to Hire Consultant. On November 1, 2019, the Report of the Local Review Committee was filed with the Commission. On November 19, 2019, Lookout Solar filed a Motion to Extend the Deadline for Commission Action pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-24.1.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-24.1, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 22, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended that the Commission grant Lookout Solar's Motion to Extend the Deadline for Commission Action, however Commission staff requested the deadline be extended by two months rather than one as requested by Lookout Solar. After discussing the matter, the Commission voted unanimously to grant Lookout Solar's Motion to Extend the Deadline for Commission Action and to extend the one-year deadline for two months. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Lookout Solar's Motion to Extend the Deadline for Commission Action is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the new deadline for Commission action is February 17, 2020.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of December 2019.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.</p> <p>By: <u>Adam de Hueck</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/2/19</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p> |
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner