



Union Ridge Solar

Exhibit I

Public Interaction Program

Case No. 20-1757-EL-BGN

Union Ridge Solar, LLC
Public Interaction Program



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1. Introduction

Union Ridge Solar, LLC (Union Ridge) is proposing development of a 107.7 megawatt (MW), single axis tracking, photovoltaic solar facility (Facility or Project) on approximately 513 acres of privately-owned land in Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio. The Project site is located south of American Electric Power's 138 kilovolt (kV) Kirk substation. Electricity generated by the Facility will be transferred to the transmission grid operated by PJM Interconnection, LLC.

Union Ridge has created an open dialogue with community members by being available via phone, email, and in-person visits. Union Ridge is committed to addressing community members' questions, complaints, and/or concerns during all phases of the Project and has developed this Public Interaction Program to assist in community engagement.

2. Public Information Meeting and Pre-Application Community Engagement

To ensure community involvement throughout the development of the Project, Union Ridge has been connecting and communicating with Project area neighbors, various local government entities, and community organizations prior to entering the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) permitting process. Prior to submitting the application to the OPSB, Union Ridge representatives have met with and/or reached out to the following stakeholders:

- GROW Licking County – multiple conversations/ in-person meetings
- Harrison Township Trustees – multiple conversations/ in- person meetings
- Licking County Commissioners – multiple conversations/ in- person meetings
- In-person meetings/multiple conversations with impacted neighbors and concerned residents (both before and after the public information meeting)
- Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District – multiple conversations
- Denison University – multiple conversations
- Ohio & Licking County Farm Bureaus
- Southwest Licking School District Board of Education
- Licking County Engineer
- Licking County Planning Commission
- Career & Technology Education Center of Licking County
- The Works Museum
- Licking County Chamber of Commerce
- Pataskala Chamber of Commerce
- PowerConnect (Electrical Contracting Consortium)

Due to restrictions around the COVID-19 pandemic, Union Ridge held a webinar and teleconference on February 25, 2021 to present Project details to the community. Notices were mailed to participating and adjacent landowners and public notices were listed in the *Newark Advocate* prior to the meeting. The public meeting details were also posted on the Project website. Residents were able to request paper copies of the presentation materials prior to the meeting, and the Applicant provided copies to the six requests that were made. The Applicant encouraged members of the public to give input to assist in planning and development efforts. Following the meeting, all questions were answered and posted to the Project website in addition to a recording of the webinar event.

3. Hearings

Once the certificate application is filed, the OPSB staff will review the Project and file a report of investigation. The OPSB will schedule two hearings: a public hearing where members of the community can testify and submit comments; and an adjudicatory hearing. Union Ridge will use these hearings as an opportunity to obtain additional feedback regarding the Project. Union Ridge representatives will be available after the public hearing to address any questions and concerns from community members.

4. Complaint Resolution Plan

Union Ridge has developed a Complaint Resolution Plan to address public questions, concerns, and complaints during construction and operation of the Facility. A copy of the Complaint Resolution Plan and pre-construction and pre-operation notification letters will be provided to community members in the Project area via mail as prescribed below. The Complaint Resolution Plan also includes a Complaint Resolution Form that can be completed and sent to Union Ridge by anyone who has a complaint or question about the Project. The Complaint Resolution Plan identifies the process for the public to file a complaint/question, as well as Union Ridge's response and processing protocol. The Complaint Resolution Plan has been included as a separate exhibit to the certificate application.

5. Construction

At least seven days prior to construction, Union Ridge will send a notification letter via mail to: affected property owners and tenants who were provided notice of the public information meeting and OPSB hearings; local officials who received a copy of the application; residences located within one mile of the certificated boundary; and any other person who has requested updates regarding the Project. The notice will include a construction timeline, contact information, and a copy of the Complaint Resolution Plan and Complaint Resolution Form. As part of the Complaint Resolution Plan, Union Ridge will record all questions and complaints received and provide an initial response to each inquiry within two business days of receipt. Union Ridge will educate contractors on the Complaint Resolution Plan during Project planning and will discuss the Plan at the pre-construction meeting.

6. Operation

At least seven days prior to commencement of commercial operation, Union Ridge will send a notification letter via mail to: affected property owners and tenants who were provided notice of the public information meeting and OPSB hearings; local officials who received a copy of the application; residences located within one mile of the certificated boundary; and any other person who has requested updates regarding the Project. The notice will provide information about the start of operation and any remaining restoration activities. A copy of the Complaint Resolution Plan and Complaint Resolution Form will be provided again. As part of the Complaint Resolution Plan, Union Ridge will record all questions and complaints received and provide an initial

response to each inquiry within two business days of receipt. During operation of the Facility, it is expected that the off-site O&M office will house full-time employees, allowing Union Ridge to respond to any questions or complaints received from the public in a timely manner.

7. Project Website

The Project website, unionridgesolar.com, provides an additional opportunity for residents to learn more about the Project and engage with Union Ridge representatives. The website also contains information applicable to the OPSB public participation and permitting processes, the public information meeting, and Project maps. Union Ridge's contact information is also provided on the Project website, should the public have questions or concerns.