

SKYSTONE SOLAR, LLC 3.35 MW COMMUNITY SOLAR FACILITY

Prepared by: Skystone Solar, LLC
McHenry County Conditional Use Permit Application June 25, 2025



Introduction

Skystone Solar, LLC is a limited liability company owned by Cultivate Power, LLC. Skystone Solar, LLC, the Applicant, has prepared this application for a 3.35 megawatt (MW) solar energy and storage facility in McHenry County, Illinois. This 3.35 MW facility may be referred to herein as "Skystone Solar" or "the project."

We submit this request on behalf of the property owner, Ansar and Elyas Mohammed. Cultivate Power, LLC, or another qualified solar farm owner and operator, will provide the financial backing and technical expertise to ensure the success of Skystone Solar, LLC. Cultivate Power is a dedicated distributed generation solar developer focused on Illinois. Our team has a combined 100 years of experience developing and financing solar projects and we are excited to bring solar to McHenry County.

We are excited by the opportunity to provide McHenry County with a long-term source of clean, sustainable energy. Beyond that, the project will generate income for our landowner, create an opportunity for ComEd customers to subscribe to power at or below market rates, and increase the local tax base.

This application was prepared according to the requirements detailed in Title 16: Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 16.56.030, Subsection PP and Chapter 16.20.40, Subsection E, Approval Standards for Conditional Use Permits of McHenry County Illinois, Code of Ordinances. Skystone Solar, LLC respectfully submits information, exhibits, and materials which are incorporated into and made part of the Application below in order to comply with the McHenry County conditional use permit Standards for Issuance.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to working together to bring the benefits of a solar energy facility to the area. Please let me know if I can provide additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Paul Bottum 847-312-3712 Bottum@Cultivate-Power.com Cultivate Power



Project Overview

Project Name: Skystone Solar, LLC
Nearest Cross Streets: Illinois Route 47 and Ballard Rd.

Township: Grafton Size: 3.35MWac # of panels = 8300

Acreage: 26+ acre parcel, 17 acre project area

Zoning District: Agricultural Landowner: Ansar and Elyas Mohammed

Skystone Solar, LLC will contain rows of Photovoltaic (PV) cell modules mounted on posts set in the ground. The project currently anticipates a battery storage system will also be incorporated into Skystone Solar, LLC. The project will be a self-contained, low-impact development requiring little to no local municipal services.

Skystone Solar will bring significant economic and energy benefits to Mc He nry County and is not projected to have an adverse impact on public health, safety or general welfare, nor will it affect the comfort and convenience of the public or of the immediate neighborhood.

Skystone Solar, LLC was determined as an ideal location for solar farm development for a variety of factors including:

- → Proximity to relevant electrical and road infrastructure
- → Likelihood of wetlands and other protected landforms or species
- → Slope of land and direction of this slope
- → Interest from our landowner
- → Current zoning district and surrounding uses

The project will have minimal impact on surrounding properties, which are predominantly zoned A1 Agricultural and I1 Light Industrial uses.

The anticipated power output of the project is approximately 5.4 million kilo-watt hours (kWh) annually, enough to power approximately 750 single-family homes. Skystone Solar, LLC expects to invest an estimated \$5,000,000 in the project, create 20 local jobs during construction and significantly increased property tax revenue over the lifetime of the project. Cultivate Power is a proud partner of each community that we work with, and we look forward to a continued relationship with McHenry County.

¹ https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator

² https://www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-jobs-census-2020



Commercial Solar Ordinance – Title 16: Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 16.56.030, Subsection PP

PP. Commercial solar energy facility. Conditional use permits for a commercial solar energy facility shall have no time limit, unless the use is abandoned as specified in subsection PP.4. below (Commercial solar energy facility: Abandonment), or the permit is revoked in accordance with § 16.20.040 I. (Revocation of Conditional Use Permits).

1. Application.

a. A threatened and endangered species consultation (EcoCAT) from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is required at the time of conditional use permit application for any site that is five (5) acres or greater in size and currently in agricultural use or undeveloped.

The project has completed an EcoCAT review and the consultation has been terminated. The project will submit an environmental review with the USFWS.

b. A **site plan** shall be provided showing all improvements, including structures, fencing, power lines (above and below ground), lighting, and landscaping, at a detail sufficient to understand the location, height, appearance, and area.

See Exhibit F.

c. All other application submittal requirements outlined in the *Planning and Development Department Zoning Application Packet* as published on the McHenry County Website.

The project has submitted, by way of Exhibits, all of the requirements outlined in the Planning and Development Zoning Application Packet requirements.

2. Site design.

a. Solar panels, structures, and electrical equipment, excluding fences and power lines for interconnection, shall be erected no less than fifty (50) feet from any lot line and no less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from any residence, other than a residence on the same ownership parcel.

The proposed project will comply with the setback requirements. 50 feet from any lot line and a minimum of 150 feet from any residence that is not a participating residence.



b. No structures, excluding power lines for interconnection, may exceed twenty (20) feet in height. Power lines shall be placed underground to the maximum extent possible.

Power and communication lines running between banks of solar panels will be secured using a Cable Management System (CAB). All DC power and communication lines will be buried underground. To support the required equipment to interconnect the proposed project to the ComEd grid, utility poles and a power line will be installed aboveground to interconnect to the existing overhead electrical infrastructure

c. Lighting must comply with § 16.60.020 (Exterior Lighting).

There is no lighting on the site.

d. Solar panels shall have a surface that minimizes glare and shall comply with § 16.60.040D. (Lighting and Glare).

Modules are designed with anti-reflective coating and demonstrate less glare than windows or water.

e. The facility shall be situated as to minimize impacts to woodlands, savannas, wetlands, drainage tiles, and encroachment into flood plains. All site development shall comply with the Stormwater Management Ordinance. Any damaged drainage tiles shall be repaired.

The proposed project has been situated as to minimize impacts to the surrounding environment and will comply with all of the County's Flood Damage Ordinance and Stormwater Management Ordinance. The proposed project will repair/replace any damage to the drain tile system.

f. In order prevent erosion, manage run-off, and provide ecological benefit, the facility shall be planted with "low-profile" native prairie species, using a mix appropriate for the region and soil conditions per Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) standards, as amended from time to time.

The project will provide a Vegetation Management Plan outlining the native prairie species mix appropriate for the region and soil conditions in alignment with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Standards prior to building permit issuance.



g. Fencing shall be provided in compliance with the National Electrical Code, as applicable. The use of barbed wire must comply with § 16.56.050H.1.c. of this Ordinance

The project will be surrounded by a 7' agricultural style fence and gated for security purposes.

h. Any part of the facility that is within five hundred (500) feet of a **NONPARTICIPATING RESIDENCE**, or road right-of-way, shall be landscaped with an arrangement of native shrubs, subject to approval by the County Board, unless the facility is screened from view by existing vegetation.

The proposed facility has consulted with the McHenry County zoning and planning office for guidance regarding vegetation landscaping. Vegetation screening consisting of native shrubs and evergreen trees will be installed, where necessary, in locations that are within five hundred (500) feet of a non-participating residence or road right of way.

i. Prior to building permit issuance, the operator shall prepare a landscape monitoring and maintenance plan to ensure the establishment and continued maintenance of the native prairie species, all installed landscape screening, and all existing vegetation that provides required landscape screening.

The owner operator of the facility will prepare a landscape monitoring and maintenance plan to ensure establishment and oversight of vegetation screening and prairie species maintenance.

j. Prior to scheduled public hearing, the operator shall enter into an **Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement** with the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA), as required by that department.

Skystone Solar LLC has executed an Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The AIMA agreement is included as part of the application documents.

k. Prior to building permit issuance, the operator shall provide an executed road use agreement between the Applicant and the appropriate governing road and highway jurisdictions or the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), showing approved entrances.



Prior to building permit issuance, the project will obtain the required IDOT road permit and enter into a Road Use Agreement with the County, Highway Commissioner or Township Road District, as necessary. The facility owner will pay for any reasonable costs incurred to repair and improve the roads following construction of the facility.

3. Safety.

a. Prior to construction, the operator shall prepare an emergency management plan acceptable to the County and the local fire district and shall be responsible for training of emergency personnel, as needed.

The project has consulted with the local fire district and shared the preliminary site plan. The operator will provide an emergency management plan acceptable to the County and fire prevention bureau prior to construction. The project will provide resources to support training of emergency personnel, as needed.

b. A sign shall be posted providing the name of the operator and a phone number to be used in case of an <u>on</u>-site emergency.

The proposed project will have a sign with the name of the operator and emergency contact number at the entrance to the site.

c. Access shall be granted, provided appropriate advance notice, for periodic inspection of the site by the County or the local fire district.

The project has consulted with the local fire prevention bureau district and the operator will grant access, with appropriate advance notice, for inspection of the site by County or Fire District officials.

d. Damaged solar panels shall be removed, repaired, or replaced within sixty (60) days of the damage. The ground shall remain free of debris from damaged solar panels at all times.

In the event that solar panels are damaged, they will be removed, repaired and replaced within sixty (60) days. The project will undergo scheduled inspections and the ground will always remain free of debris from damaged solar panels.



4. Abandonment.

a. The COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY shall be considered abandoned if the operator fails to pay rent as specified in the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement, or it ceases to generate electricity for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months. Reports of electrical power production shall be provided to the County upon request. An abandoned COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY must be decommissioned and removed within twelve (12) months from the time it is deemed abandoned. The operator may appeal in writing to the Zoning Enforcement Officer for an extension of time in order to remove the facility or to bring the solar farm back into operation.

Skystone Solar, LLC guarantees that the facilities will be properly removed within 12 months of the end of the project lifetime or in the unlikely event that the system ceases power production for a period of 12 months. The project will provide reports on electrical power production when requested by the County. If necessary, the operator will appeal in writing to the Zoning Enforcement Officer for an extension of time to bring the project back or operation or to extend decommissioning.

 <u>Decommissioning.</u> Decommissioning and removal of the COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY shall be the responsibility of the operator upon abandonment or revocation of the conditional use permit.

All operators shall comply with the following:

a. Prior to building permit issuance, the operator shall prepare a decommissioning plan which shows the final site conditions after the COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY has been removed from the property. Decommissioning plans shall require removal of all solar panels, electrical equipment, piles, foundations, and conduits (above and below ground). Access roads, fencing, groundcover, and landscaping may remain only by agreement of property owner.

Prior to building permit issuance, Skystone Solar, LLC will prepare a decommissioning plan outlining the steps to bring the facility back to the original site condition. Skystone Solar LLC guarantees that the facilities will be properly removed within 12 months of the end of the project lifetime or in the unlikely event that the system ceases power production for a period of 12 consecutive months. The project will comply with all of the McHenry County decommissioning requirements.



b. Prior to building permit issuance, the operator shall submit an engineer's estimate of cost for decommissioning the facility and restoring the site in accordance with the approved decommissioning plan. Upon review and approval by the Zoning Enforcement Officer of the estimate, the operator shall obtain a bond, letter of credit, or other form of surety acceptable to the County to be held by the Department of Planning and Development in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the estimate. Provision of this financial assurance shall be phased in over the first eleven (11) years of the project's operation or as otherwise provided in accordance with the executed Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement.

Prior to building permit issuance, Skystone Solar, LLC will post decommissioning bond with the County's **Treasurers** Office. LLC Skystone Solar, understands and will submit payments in accordance with the payment schedule as listed in the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement.

c. During the operation of the facility, a new engineer's estimate of cost for decommissioning shall be submitted every ten (10) years to the Department of Planning and Development. Upon approval of the estimated costs by the Zoning Enforcement Officer, a revised surety shall be provided to the Department of Planning and Development in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the new estimate.

Skystone Solar, LLC will submit an updated cost estimate every ten (10) years, and upon approval, will provide a revised surety bond to the Department of Planning and Development that meets one hundred percent (100%) of the new estimate.



EXHIBITS

Exhibit A: McHenry County Conditional Use Permit Application Form

Exhibit B: Solar Overview

Exhibit C: Construction Overview

Exhibit D: Operations and Maintenance Overview

Exhibit E: Decommissioning

Exhibit F: Site Plan

Exhibit G: FEMA FIRM Map

Exhibit H: AIMA

Exhibit I: IDNR EcoCAT Consultation

Exhibit J: ILHPA preliminary SHPO review

Exhibit K: Construction and Haul Route



Exhibit A





Solar Overview

Solar Technology

Skystone Solar, LLC will contain rows of Photovoltaic (PV) cell modules mounted on posts set in the ground. These rows of modules are referred to as "solar arrays" mounted on a single axis tracking system, which allows them to follow the sun throughout the day. The modules face east in the morning, are horizontal at midday, and face west in the afternoon, and are no more than fifteen (15) feet high at max tilt. Solar components will comply with the current edition of the National Electric Code, are UL Listed or equivalent, and will have an anti-reflective coating.

The project currently anticipates a battery storage system will also be incorporated into Skystone Solar, LLC. The battery will meet all applicable codes including NFPA and UL standards¹.

The basic components of any solar energy facility include: PV modules, inverters, combiner boxes, transformers, battery, wires and conductor cables, structural racking system for PV modules, an access road, and perimeter fencing. Solar electricity production includes the following components:

- 1) Electrical Power Generation. Sunlight strikes the PV module cells, which convert photons of light into electrons, producing low-voltage, Direct Current (DC) electricity.
- 2) Combiner Boxes. The low-voltage, DC electricity is fed through cables from each PV module to a combiner box.
- 3) Inverters. The low-voltage, DC electricity is fed through cables from the combiner box to an inverter, where it is converted to low-voltage, Alternating Current (AC) electricity.
- 4) Transformers. The transformer steps up the low-voltage, AC electricity to the appropriate voltage so that it can be fed into the electrical transmission system.
- 5) Battery Storage. The battery can store electricity generated by the solar system in order to distribute energy to the local grid when the electricity is in higher demand.
- 6) Utility Distribution. Electricity is sent through the electrical sub-transmission lines to utility distribution systems for delivery to ratepayers.

Current photovoltaic modules are typically Crystalline Silicone (C-Si) and Thin Film (TF). The solar PV modules function as a solid state, inert crystal, similar to a pane of solid glass. The modules do not corrode and do not produce any emissions. The technology is encapsulated in layers of plastic and glass to prevent air and moisture from entering the cell and conversely prevents the release of materials out of the module and into the environment². The solar panels are expected to work upwards of 40 years before they are recycled to recover the valuable materials contained inside.

¹ https://cdn.prod.website-



Current battery technology is typically lithium-ion batteries. The battery can enhance the electric grid by storing electricity produced by the solar panels and deploying that power to the grid at times of high stress.

Glare

Photovoltaic solar energy systems are designed to reduce reflection and have low potential to produce hazardous glare. Modules are covered with anti-reflective coating and demonstrate less glare than windows and water³.

Sound

The solar energy system produces minimal sound during the day and no sound overnight. The main source of noise is from the inverter, but this noise cannot be heard beyond the project boundary. The inverter rated at 67 decibels, about the volume of a washing machine, at 10 meters.⁴

Environmental Impact

Skystone Solar will contract environmental consultants to perform field investigations, literature reviews, and agency consultations to identify and assess existing environmental conditions at the project site. Information derived from the environmental diligence is used by Skystone Solar to avoid and minimize effects to environmental resources during the design process. Full compliance with federal, state, and local regulations will ensure Skystone Solar will not result in adverse impacts to environmental resources. Skystone Solar has consulted with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources who determined that adverse effects to protected species are unlikely from the project.

Safety

Skystone Solar will be a safe facility that will not impact the well-being of local residents or McHenry County. Solar energy facilities are very safe, with simple and proven technologies.

The project will be constructed according to all required building and electrical codes and safety measures. Site plans will be approved by all applicable local authorities, and regularly visited throughout construction as required by the Mc Henry County's or by the State of Illinois' building codes. Energized system components, such as inverters, will be commissioned by the manufacturers' technicians. The project will employ required lock-out measures and safety warnings. A 7' tall perimeter fence per National Electrical Code regulations will prevent trespassing and vandalism. Access codes to the gate will be provided to the Police Department, Fire Department, and emergency service providers. Vehicular access to the site is adequate for the use proposed and for emergency services.

³ https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/blog/posts/research-and-analysis-demonstrate-the-lack-ofimpacts-of-glare-from-photovoltaic-modules.html

⁴ https://www.enfsolar.com/pv/inverter-datasheet/13175



The foundation and design of the solar structures shall be designed and sealed by an Illinois licensed professional engineer. The design shall conform to applicable codes, standards and local soil and climate conditions.

The regular vegetation control methods prevent buildup of debris that could otherwise pose risk of fire material, thus Skystone Solar, LLC will pose no increased risk of fires to the surrounding areas.

Skystone Solar will continue to coordinate with all necessary Federal, State, and County agencies and other entities throughout the planning process for Skystone Solar, LLC.



Exhibit C



ExhibitC.

Construction Overview

Timeline

The construction of Skystone Solar is expected to take approximately 20-26 weeks using standard solar construction procedures. The utility's engineering, procurement, and construction of the interconnection facilities will take 6-18 months total and will be complete just before the construction of the solar farm itself. Finally, the solar farm will go through 2-3 months of commissioning before reaching commercial operation.

Finances and Labor

Skystone Solar, LLC expects to invest an estimated \$5,000,000 into the project. These costs are based on build cost assumptions and include all construction, material, labor, and professional service-related expenditures. Cultivate Power, in combination with tax equity and debt partners, will provide the financial backing for the project.

Approximately \$3,000,000 of the project cost will benefit the local economy including expenditures on parts and labor, goods and services, fuel and lodging, dining and other consumer resources. Skystone Solar, LLC will result in the creation of approximately 20 local jobs during construction provided that qualified, local labor is available⁵. Cultivate Power hires and works with qualified, local subcontractors wherever possible. Local contractors are most familiar with local practices and authorities, which streamlines work on our projects.

Soil, Grading, and Vegetation

Most sites require minimal grading and an entire facility can often be installed with minimal soil disturbance. Soil will not be removed from the site except in the case of remediation. Structural frames are driven into the ground with steel beams on which PV modules are mounted. The inverters, transformers and battery storage are mounted on top of small concrete pads – the only concrete on the project. The project area will be seeded with native plantings.

Drain Tile

Skystone Solar is committed to maintaining the integrity of existing drain tile conditions. Field tile will be surveyed prior to construction and repaired or replaced if impacted.

Traffic

A temporary and limited rise in vehicle traffic during the construction period is anticipated: approximately 2-15 personal cars and 1-10 trucks will visit the site per day.

⁵ https://www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-jobs-census-2020



Exhibit D



Exhibit D

Operation and Maintenance Overview

Equipment Maintenance

Once constructed, the project will be monitored remotely and will require minimal maintenance, anticipated 5-9 site visits per year. The project will not require on-site manning, nor will it require sewer, water, or other services.

Vegetation Maintenance

Skystone Solar, LLC is committed to landscaping best practices that stabilize the soil to add strength and durability for the long-term success of the project and the health of the land. Based on the specific site, local plantings will be chosen and maintained to prevent erosion, manage run off, and build soil. Seeding will be from a mix of local plants.

Skystone Solar will maintain vegetation for property within the fence line and property immediately surrounding fencing (within reason), specifically ensuring vegetation does not encroach on solar panels. Frequency of vegetation management visits is determined by both regional and seasonal factors. We anticipate mowing will occur at the Skystone Solar site at maximum 6 times a year.

Traffic Safety

No significant traffic impacts are anticipated due to Skystone Solar. With no more than one to three vehicle visits per quarter on average, the project will not be a significant traffic generator and will not cause undue harms to the surrounding road networks, to local responders, or to the Illinois Department of Transportation.



Exhibit E

Exhibit E

Decommissioning

Commitments and Code Adherence

Skystone Solar, LLC guarantees that Skystone Solar shall be removed, at the expense of the operator, at the end of the project lifetime or in the unlikely event that the system ceases power production according to the conditions below. The project will comply with McHenry County decommissioning requirements and has signed an Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement (AIMA) with the Illinois Department of Agricultural that further commits Skystone Solar, LLC to proper decommissioning processes.

Decommissioning Conditions

Decommissioning will occur as a result of any of the following conditions:

- The land lease expires or is terminated; or
- The solar energy system the ("SES") does not produce power for a period of 12 consecutive months

Decommissioning Steps

If any of the decommissioning conditions are met, the operator is responsible for decommissioning steps including:

- Remove all Operator-owned equipment, conduits, structures, and foundations to a depth of at least five feet below grade; and
- Remove all fencing unless the owner of the leased real estate requests in writing for it to stay in place; and
- Take the following steps to restore the land:
 - Grade to maintain existing drainage patterns at the time of decommissioning unless stated otherwise by the leading Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) or in any governing decommissioning ordinance;
 - o Reseed the land using local non-invasive grasses; and
 - o Maintain the grass for a total of three months after the seeding.

Financial Assurance

Skystone Solar, LLC will provide McHenry County with financial assurance of decommissioning in the form of a surety bond as determined by the decommissioning estimate. The preliminary decommissioning estimate is approximately \$525,872.00. Skystone Solar will submit a surety bond to the McHenry County zoning office prior to building permit issuance. According to the Standard Solar AIMA V.8.19.19, we propose financial assurance be phased in as follows:

10% prior to the end of the first year of operation 50% prior to the end of the sixth year of operation 100% prior to the end of the eleventh year of operation

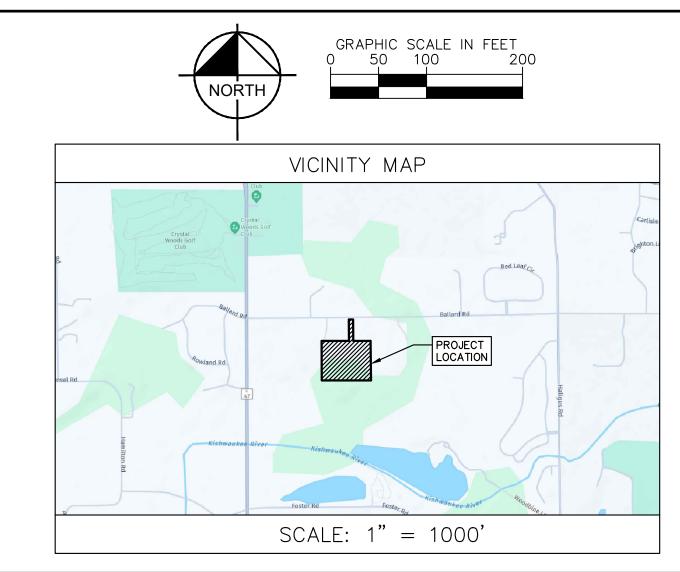
Plan Changes

Any updates to the decommissioning plan will be submitted within 30 days to the McHenry County Zoning Office by the party responsible for decommissioning the SES.



Exhibit F





LEGEND	
ROAD LABEL	BALLARD RD
EX. ROAD CENTERLINE (TRACED PER AERIAL)	
PROJECT BOUNDARY (PER KMZ FILE PROVIDED BY CULTIVATE ON 04/23/2025)	
PROPERTY LINE (TRACED PER MCHENRY COUNTY GIS)	
PROPERTY LINE SETBACK (PER THE MCHENRY COUNTY SOLAR ORDINANCE)	
EX. RESIDENCE/STRUCTURE (TRACED PER AERIAL)	
EX. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING SETBACK (PER THE MCHENRY COUNTY SOLAR ORDINANCE)	
EX. OVERHEAD ELECTRIC (TRACED PER AERIAL)	EX OHE
EX. UTILITY POLE (TRACED PER AERIAL)	Ø
EX. WETLAND (DOWNLADED PER NWI ON 04/30/2025)	
EX. ADID WETLAND (DOWNLOADED PER MECHENRY COUNTY GIS ON (6/24/2025)	
EX. TREES/VEGETATION	(* * * * * * * *)
EX. CONTOURS	
EX. FLOW DIRECTION AND SLOPE	XX%
PR. FENCE	x x x
PR GRAVEL ACCESS ROAD	
PR. SOLAR ARRAY	
PR. PANEL LIMITS	
PR. STAGING AREA	
PR. EQUIPMENT PAD	
PR. OVERHEAD ELECTRIC	—— онw
PR. UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC	UGE UGE UGE-
PR. UTILITY POLE	Ø
PR. SUPPORTING FACILITIES - ENERGY STORAGE	
PR. TREE CLEARING	
PR. VEGETATIVE SCREENING	00000

NOTES

- THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN IS FOR SPECIAL USE PERMIT REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY MCHENRY COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM.
- THIS PLAN WAS PRODUCED UTILIZING GIS RESOURCES AND INFORMATION FROM MULTIPLE SOURCES, INCLUDING MCHENRY COUNTY, GOOGLE EARTH, AND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION.
- THE SUBJECT PROPERTY DOES NOT LIE WITHIN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AS SHOWN ON THE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (17111C0310J) PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA).
- THE LOCATIONS OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: FENCING, SOLAR ARRAY RACKING, INVERTER/TRANSFORMER PADS, OVERHEAD POLES AND LINES, ETC., SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION DUE TO SITE CONDITIONS, ADDITIONAL PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS, EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS, AND/OR OTHER CONSTRAINTS DURING FINAL ENGINEERING.
- STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED AS REQUIRED BY COUNTY AND/OR NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMITTING.
 REQUIREMENTS TO BE DETERMINED DURING FINAL
- A SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN THAT MEETS THE NPDES STANDARDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNTY DURING FINAL ENGINEERING.
- SETBACKS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN ARE BASED ON THE MCHENRY COUNTY SOLAR ORDINANCE. 3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE FULLY RESPONSIBLE TO PROVIDE SIGNS, BARRICADES, WARNING LIGHTS, GUARD RAILS, AND EMPLOY FLAGGERS AS NECESSARY WHEN CONSTRUCTION ENDANGERS EITHER VEHICULAR OR PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC. THESE DEVICES SHALL REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL TRAFFIC MAY PROCEED NORMALLY AGAIN.
- SOLAR PANELS SHALL NOT EXCEED 20 FEET IN HEIGHT WHEN ORIENTED AT MAXIMUM TILT ACCORDING TO THE MCHENRY COUNTY SOLAR ORDINANCE.

SITE DATA TABLE					
PIN #:	18-04-200-005				
PROPERTY OWNER	ANSAR A ELYAS MOHAMMED				
SITE ADDRESS	11305 BALLARD RD, WOODSTCOK, IL 60098				
ZONING JURISDICTION	MCHENRY COUNTY, AGRICULTURAL				
CURRENT LAND USE	HOMESITE-DWELLING				
PROPOSED LAND USE	COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY				
PROJECT BOUNDARY AREA	20.4 ± AC				
AREA WITHIN FENCE	16.9 ± AC				
PRELIMINARY SOLAR AREA	14.3 ± AC				
TREE CLEARING	5.0 ± AC				
ADJACENT PROPERTY LINE SETBACK	50'				
DWELLING UNIT SETBACK	150'				
MWDC/MWAC	5.0/3.35				
NUMBER OF MODULES	8300				
GCR	39%				

:ULTIWAT POWER

Z

ONING PLAN

SHEET NUMBER

EX-1



Exhibit G

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



Legend SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR SPECIAL FLOOD **HAZARD AREAS** Regulatory Floodway 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X **Future Conditions 1% Annual** Chance Flood Hazard Zone X Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X Effective LOMRs OTHER AREAS Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D **GENERAL** - - - Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer STRUCTURES | LILLI Levee, Dike, or Floodwall 20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance 17.5 Water Surface Elevation **Coastal Transect** ₩ 513 W Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE) Limit of Study Jurisdiction Boundary **Coastal Transect Baseline** OTHER Profile Baseline **FEATURES** Hydrographic Feature Digital Data Available No Digital Data Available MAP PANELS Unmapped The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent

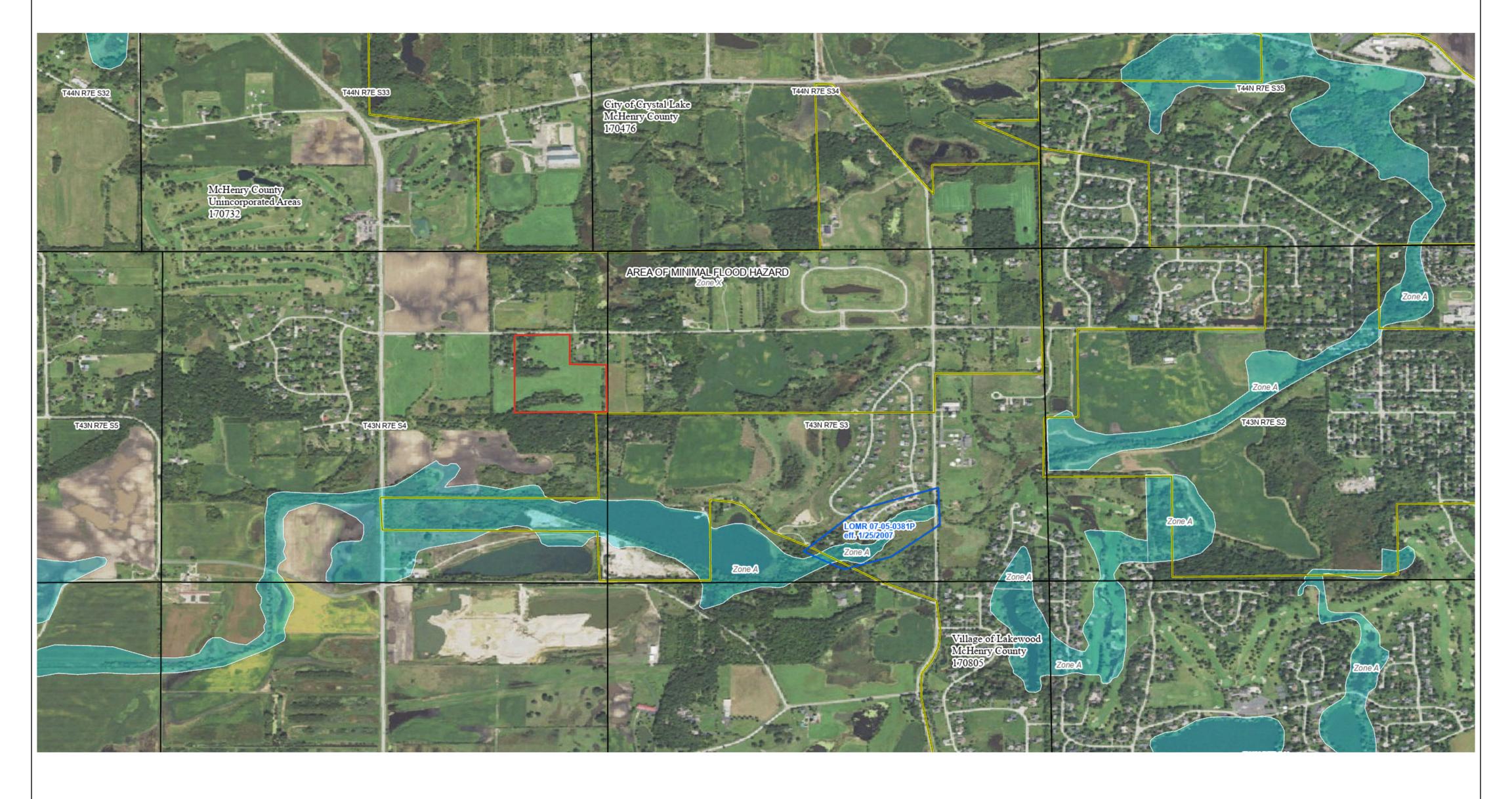
This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

an authoritative property location.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 4/23/2025 at 4:56 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

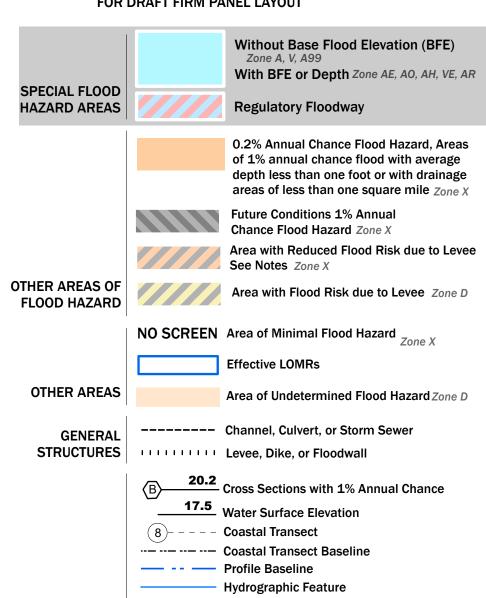




88°22'29.17"W 42°11'58.1"N

FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR DRAFT FIRM PANEL LAYOUT



Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)

Jurisdiction Boundary

Limit of Study

OTHER

FEATURES

NOTES TO USERS

This information was derived from NAIP, dated April 11, 2018.

For information and questions about this Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), available products associated with this FIRM, including historic versions, the current map date for each FIRM panel, how to order products, or the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in general, please call the FEMA Map Information eXchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA Flood Map Service Center website at https://msc.fema.gov. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study Report, and/or digital versions of this map. Many of these products can be ordered or obtained directly from the website.

Communities annexing land on adjacent FIRM panels must obtain a current copy of the adjacent panel as well

as the current FIRM Index. These may be ordered directly from the Flood Map Service Center at the number listed above.

For community and countywide map dates, refer to the Flood Insurance Study Report for this jurisdiction. To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your Insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

Basemap information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA).

This map was exported from FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) on 4/23/2025 4:54 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time. For additional information, please see the Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet at https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/118418

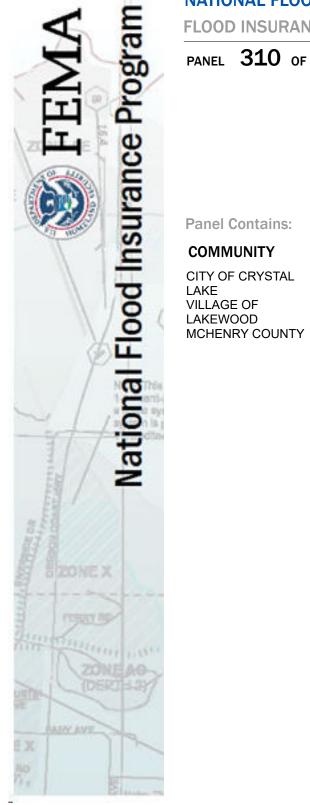
This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below.

The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards. This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date.

SCALE

Map Projection: GCS, Geodetic Reference System 1980; Vertical Datum: No elevation features on this FIRM For information about the specific vertical datum for elevation features, datum conversions, or vertical monuments used to create this map, please see the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report for your community at https://msc.fema.gov

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NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

PANEL 310 OF 365

170476 0310 **Panel Contains:** PANEL NUMBER COMMUNITY 170732 0310 CITY OF CRYSTAL

> MAP NUMBER 17111C0310J **EFFECTIVE DATE** November 16, 2006



Exhibit H

STANDARD AGRICULTURAL IMPACT MITIGATION AGREEMENT

between Skystone Solar, LLC

and the ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Pertaining to the Construction of a Commercial Solar Energy Facility

in McHenry County, Illinois

Pursuant to the Renewable Energy Facilities Agricultural Impact Mitigation Act (505 ILCS 147), the following standards and policies are required by the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) to help preserve the integrity of any Agricultural Land that is impacted by the Construction and Deconstruction of a Commercial Solar Energy Facility. They were developed with the cooperation of agricultural agencies, organizations, Landowners, Tenants, drainage contractors, and solar energy companies to comprise this Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement (AIMA).

Skystone Solar, LLC ______, hereafter referred to as Commercial Solar Energy Facility Owner, or simply as Facility Owner, plans to develop and/or operate a ____3.5MWac Commercial Solar Energy Facility in _____MCHenry ___ County [GPS Coordinates:_42.23690. -88.41460], which will consist of up to ____26 ___ acres that will be covered by solar facility related components, such as solar panel arrays, racking systems, access roads, an onsite underground collection system, inverters and transformers and any affiliated electric transmission lines. This AIMA is made and entered between the Facility Owner and the IDOA.

If Construction does not commence within four years after this AIMA has been fully executed, this AIMA shall be revised, with the Facility Owner's input, to reflect the IDOA's most current Solar Farm Construction and Deconstruction Standards and Policies. This AIMA, and any updated AIMA, shall be filed with the County Board by the Facility Owner prior to the commencement of Construction.

The below prescribed standards and policies are applicable to Construction and Deconstruction activities occurring partially or wholly on privately owned agricultural land.

Conditions of the AIMA

The mitigative actions specified in this AIMA shall be subject to the following conditions:

- A. All Construction or Deconstruction activities may be subject to County or other local requirements. However, the specifications outlined in this AIMA shall be the minimum standards applied to all Construction or Deconstruction activities. IDOA may utilize any legal means to enforce this AIMA.
- B. Except for Section 17. B. through F., all actions set forth in this AIMA are subject to modification through negotiation by Landowners and the Facility Owner, provided such changes are negotiated in advance of the respective Construction or Deconstruction activities.
- C. The Facility Owner may negotiate with Landowners to carry out the actions that Landowners wish to perform themselves. In such instances, the Facility Owner shall offer Landowners the area commercial rate for their machinery and labor costs.

- D. All provisions of this AIMA shall apply to associated future Construction, maintenance, repairs, and Deconstruction of the Facility referenced by this AIMA.
- E. The Facility Owner shall keep the Landowners and Tenants informed of the Facility's Construction and Deconstruction status, and other factors that may have an impact upon their farming operations.
- F. The Facility Owner shall include a statement of its adherence to this AIMA in any environmental assessment and/or environmental impact statement.
- G. Execution of this AIMA shall be made a condition of any Conditional/Special Use Permit. Not less than 30 days prior to the commencement of Construction, a copy of this AIMA shall be provided by the Facility Owner to each Landowner that is party to an Underlying Agreement. In addition, this AIMA shall be incorporated into each Underlying Agreement.
- H. The Facility Owner shall implement all actions to the extent that they do not conflict with the requirements of any applicable federal, state and local rules and regulations and other permits and approvals that are obtained by the Facility Owner for the Facility.
- I. No later than 45 days prior to the Construction and/or Deconstruction of a Facility, the Facility Owner shall provide the Landowner(s) with a telephone number the Landowner can call to alert the Facility Owner should the Landowner(s) have questions or concerns with the work which is being done or has been carried out on his/her property.
- J. If there is a change in ownership of the Facility, the Facility Owner assuming ownership of the Facility shall provide written notice within 90 days of ownership transfer, to the Department, the County, and to Landowners of such change. The Financial Assurance requirements and the other terms of this AIMA shall apply to the new Facility Owner.
- K. The Facility Owner shall comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations, specifically including the worker protection standards to protect workers from pesticide exposure.
- L. Within 30 days of execution of this AIMA, the Facility Owner shall use Best Efforts to provide the IDOA with a list of all Landowners that are party to an Underlying Agreement and known Tenants of said Landowner who may be affected by the Facility. As the list of Landowners and Tenants is updated, the Facility Owner shall notify the IDOA of any additions or deletions.
- M. If any provision of this AIMA is held to be unenforceable, no other provision shall be affected by that holding, and the remainder of the AIMA shall be interpreted as if it did not contain the unenforceable provision.

Definitions

Abandonment

When Deconstruction has not been completed within 12 months after the Commercial Solar Energy Facility reaches the end of its useful life. For purposes of this definition, a Commercial Solar Energy Facility shall be presumed to have reached the end of its useful life if the Commercial Solar Energy Facility Owner fails, for a period of 6 consecutive months, to pay the Landowner amounts owed in accordance with an Underlying Agreement.

Aboveground Cable Electrical power lines installed above ground surface to be utilized

for conveyance of power from the solar panels to the solar facility inverter and/or point of interconnection to utility grid or customer

electric meter.

Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement

(AIMA)

The Agreement between the Facility Owner and the Illinois

Department of Agriculture (IDOA) described herein.

Agricultural Land Land used for Cropland, hayland, pastureland, managed

woodlands, truck gardens, farmsteads, commercial ag-related facilities, feedlots, livestock confinement systems, land on which farm buildings are located, and land in government conservation

programs used for purposes as set forth above.

Best Efforts Diligent, good faith, and commercially reasonable efforts to achieve

a given objective or obligation.

Commercial Operation Date The calendar date of which the Facility Owner notifies the

Landowner, County, and IDOA in writing that commercial operation of the facility has commenced. If the Facility Owner fails to provide such notifications, the Commercial Operation Date shall be the

execution date of this AIMA plus 6 months.

Commercial Solar A solar energy conversion facility equal to or greater than 500 Energy Facility (Facility) kilowatts in total nameplate capacity, including a solar en

kilowatts in total nameplate capacity, including a solar energy conversion facility seeking an extension of a permit to construct granted by a county or municipality before June 29, 2018. "Commercial solar energy facility" does not include a solar energy conversion facility: (1) for which a permit to construct has been issued before June 29, 2018; (2) that is located on land owned by the commercial solar energy facility owner; (3) that was constructed before June 29, 2018; or (4) that is located on the customer side of the customer's electric meter and is primarily used to offset that customer's electricity load and is limited in nameplate capacity to

less than or equal to 2,000 kilowatts.

Commercial Solar Energy

Facility Owner

County

deemed (Facility Owner)

A person or entity that owns a commercial solar energy facility. A Commercial Solar Energy Facility Owner is not nor shall it be to be a public utility as defined in the Public Utilities Act.

The County or Counties where the Commercial Solar Energy

Facility is located.

Construction The installation, preparation for installation and/or repair of a

Facility.

Cropland Land used for growing row crops, small grains or hay; includes land

which was formerly used as cropland, but is currently enrolled in a government conservation program; also includes pastureland that

is classified as Prime Farmland.

Deconstruction

The removal of a Facility from the property of a Landowner and the restoration of that property as provided in the AIMA.

Deconstruction Plan

A plan prepared by a Professional Engineer, at the Facility's expense, that includes:

- (1) the estimated Deconstruction cost, in current dollars at the time of filing, for the Facility, considering among other things:
 - i. the number of solar panels, racking, and related facilities involved:
 - ii. the original Construction costs of the Facility;
 - iii. the size and capacity, in megawatts of the Facility;
 - iv. the salvage value of the facilities (if all interests in salvage value are subordinate to that of the Financial Assurance holder if abandonment occurs);
 - v. the Construction method and techniques for the Facility and for other similar facilities; and
- (2) a comprehensive detailed description of how the Facility Owner plans to pay for the Deconstruction of the Facility.

Department

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA).

Financial Assurance

A reclamation or surety bond or other commercially available financial assurance that is acceptable to the County, with the County or Landowner as beneficiary.

Landowner

Any person with an ownership interest in property that is used for agricultural purposes and that is party to an Underlying Agreement.

Prime Farmland

Agricultural Land comprised of soils that are defined by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as "Prime Farmland" (generally considered to be the most productive soils with the least input of nutrients and management).

Professional Engineer

An engineer licensed to practice engineering in the State of Illinois.

Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

A unit of local government that provides technical and financial assistance to eligible Landowners for the conservation of soil and water resources.

Tenant

Any person, apart from the Facility Owner, lawfully residing or leasing/renting land that is subject to an Underlying Agreement.

Topsoil

The uppermost layer of the soil that has the darkest color or the highest content of organic matter; more specifically, it is defined as the "A" horizon.

Underlying Agreement

The written agreement between the Facility Owner and the Landowner(s) including, but not limited to, an easement, option, lease, or license under the terms of which another person has constructed, constructs, or intends to construct a Facility on the property of the Landowner.

Underground Cable Electrical power lines installed below the ground surface to be

utilized for conveyance of power within a Facility or from a

Commercial Solar Energy Facility to the electric grid.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

(NRCS)

An agency of the United States Department of Agriculture that provides America's farmers with financial and technical assistance

to aid with natural resources conservation.

Construction and Deconstruction Standards and Policies

1. **Support Structures**

- A. Only single pole support structures shall be used for the Construction and operation of the Facility on Agricultural Land. Other types of support structures, such as lattice towers or H-frames, may be used on nonagricultural land.
- B. Where a Facility's Aboveground Cable will be adjacent and parallel to highway and/or railroad right-of-way, but on privately owned property, the support structures shall be placed as close as reasonably practicable and allowable by the applicable County Engineer or other applicable authorities to the highway or railroad right-of-way. The only exceptions may be at jogs or weaves on the highway alignment or along highways or railroads where transmission and distribution lines are already present.
- C. When it is not possible to locate Aboveground Cable next to highway or railroad rightof-way, Best Efforts shall be expended to place all support poles in such a manner to minimize their placement on Cropland (i.e., longer than normal above ground spans shall be utilized when traversing Cropland).

2. **Aboveground Facilities**

Locations for facilities shall be selected in a manner that is as unobtrusive as reasonably possible to ongoing agricultural activities occurring on the land that contains or is adjacent to the Facility.

3. **Guy Wires and Anchors**

Best Efforts shall be made to place guy wires and their anchors, if used, out of Cropland, pastureland and hayland, placing them instead along existing utilization lines and on land other than Cropland. Where this is not feasible, Best Efforts shall be made to minimize guy wire impact on Cropland. All guy wires shall be shielded with highly visible guards.

4. **Underground Cabling Depth**

- A. Underground electrical cables located outside the perimeter of the (fence) of the solar panels shall be buried with:
 - 1. a minimum of 5 feet of top cover where they cross Cropland.
 - 2. a minimum of 5 feet of top cover where they cross pastureland or other non-Cropland classified as Prime Farmland.
 - 3. a minimum of 3 feet of top cover where they cross pastureland and other Agricultural Land not classified as Prime Farmland.

- 4. a minimum of 3 feet of top cover where they cross wooded/brushy land.
- B. Provided that the Facility Owner removes the cables during Deconstruction, underground electric cables may be installed to a minimum depth of 18 inches:
 - 1. Within the fenced perimeter of the Facility; or
 - 2. When buried under an access road associated with the Facility provided that the location and depth of cabling is clearly marked at the surface.
- C. If Underground Cables within the fenced perimeter of the solar panels are installed to a minimum depth of 5 feet, they may remain in place after Deconstruction.

5. Topsoil Removal and Replacement

- A. Any excavation shall be performed in a manner to preserve topsoil. Best Efforts shall be made to store the topsoil near the excavation site in such a manner that it will not become intermixed with subsoil materials.
- B. Best Efforts shall be made to store all disturbed subsoil material near the excavation site and separate from the topsoil.
- C. When backfilling an excavation site, Best Efforts shall be used to ensure the stockpiled subsoil material will be placed back into the excavation site before replacing the topsoil.
- D. Refer to Section 7 for procedures pertaining to rock removal from the subsoil and topsoil.
- E. Refer to Section 8 for procedures pertaining to the repair of compaction and rutting of the topsoil.
- F. Best Efforts shall be performed to place the topsoil in a manner so that after settling occurs, the topsoil's original depth and contour will be restored as close as reasonably practicable. The same shall apply where excavations are made for road, stream, drainage ditch, or other crossings. In no instance shall the topsoil materials be used for any other purpose unless agreed to explicitly and in writing by the Landowner.
- G. Based on the mutual agreement of the landowner and Facility Owner, excess soil material resulting from solar facility excavation shall either be removed or stored on the Landowner's property and reseeded per the applicable National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit/Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). After the Facility reaches the end of its Useful Life, the excess subsoil material shall be returned to an excavation site or removed from the Landowner's property, unless otherwise agreed to by Landowner.

6. Rerouting and Permanent Repair of Agricultural Drainage Tiles

The following standards and policies shall apply to underground drainage tile line(s) directly or indirectly affected by Construction and/or Deconstruction:

A. Prior to Construction, the Facility Owner shall work with the Landowner to identify drainage tile lines traversing the property subject to the Underlying Agreement to the extent reasonably practicable. All drainage tile lines identified in this manner shall be shown on the Construction and Deconstruction Plans.

B. The location of all drainage tile lines located adjacent to or within the footprint of the Facility shall be recorded using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) technology. Within 60 days after Construction is complete, the Facility Owner shall provide the Landowner, the IDOA, and the respective County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) with "as built" drawings (strip maps) showing the location of all drainage tile lines by survey station encountered in the Construction of the Facility, including any tile line repair location(s), and any underground cable installed as part of the Facility.

C. Maintaining Surrounding Area Subsurface Drainage

If drainage tile lines are damaged by the Facility, the Facility Owner shall repair the lines or install new drainage tile line(s) of comparable quality and cost to the original(s), and of sufficient size and appropriate slope in locations that limit direct impact from the Facility. If the damaged tile lines cause an unreasonable disruption to the drainage system, as determined by the Landowner, then such repairs shall be made promptly to ensure appropriate drainage. Any new line(s) may be located outside of, but adjacent to the perimeter of the Facility. Disrupted adjacent drainage tile lines shall be attached thereto to provide an adequate outlet for the disrupted adjacent tile lines.

D. Re-establishing Subsurface Drainage Within Facility Footprint

Following Deconstruction and using Best Efforts, if underground drainage tile lines were present within the footprint of the facility and were severed or otherwise damaged during original Construction, facility operation, and/or facility Deconstruction, the Facility Owner shall repair existing drainage tiles or install new drainage tile lines of comparable quality and cost to the original, within the footprint of the Facility with sufficient capacity to restore the underground drainage capacity that existed within the footprint of the Facility prior to Construction. Such installation shall be completed within 12 months after the end of the useful life of the Facility and shall be compliant with Figures 1 and 2 to this Agreement or based on prudent industry standards if agreed to by Landowner.

- E. If there is any dispute between the Landowner and the Facility Owner on the method of permanent drainage tile line repair, the appropriate County SWCD's opinion shall be considered by the Facility Owner and the Landowner.
- F. During Deconstruction, all additional permanent drainage tile line repairs beyond those included above in Section 6.D. must be made within 30 days of identification or notification of the damage, weather and soil conditions permitting. At other times, such repairs must be made at a time mutually agreed upon by the Facility Owner and the Landowner. If the Facility Owner and Landowner cannot agree upon a reasonable method to complete this restoration, the Facility Owner may implement the recommendations of the appropriate County SWCD and such implementation constitutes compliance with this provision.
- G. Following completion of the work required pursuant to this Section, the Facility Owner shall be responsible for correcting all drainage tile line repairs that fail due to Construction and/or Deconstruction for one year following the completion of Construction or Deconstruction, provided those repairs were made by the Facility Owner. The Facility Owner shall not be responsible for drainage tile repairs that the Facility Owner pays the Landowner to perform.

7. Rock Removal

With any excavations, the following rock removal procedures pertain only to rocks found in the uppermost 42 inches of soil, the common freeze zone in Illinois, which emerged or were brought to the site as a result of Construction and/or Deconstruction.

- A. Before replacing any topsoil, Best Efforts shall be taken to remove all rocks greater than 3 inches in any dimension from the surface of exposed subsoil which emerged or were brought to the site as a result of Construction and/or Deconstruction.
- B. If trenching, blasting, or boring operations are required through rocky terrain, precautions shall be taken to minimize the potential for oversized rocks to become interspersed in adjacent soil material.
- C. Rocks and soil containing rocks removed from the subsoil areas, topsoil, or from any excavations, shall be removed from the Landowner's premises or disposed of on the Landowner's premises at a location that is mutually acceptable to the Landowner and the Facility Owner.

8. Repair of Compaction and Rutting

- A. Unless the Landowner opts to do the restoration work on compaction and rutting, after the topsoil has been replaced post-Deconstruction, all areas within the boundaries of the Facility that were traversed by vehicles and Construction and/or Deconstruction equipment that exhibit compaction and rutting shall be restored by the Facility Owner. All prior Cropland shall be ripped at least 18 inches deep or to the extent practicable, and all pasture and woodland shall be ripped at least 12 inches deep or to the extent practicable. The existence of drainage tile lines or underground utilities may necessitate less ripping depth. The disturbed area shall then be disked.
- B. All ripping and disking shall be done at a time when the soil is dry enough for normal tillage operations to occur on Cropland adjacent to the Facility.
- C. The Facility Owner shall restore all rutted land to a condition as close as possible to its original condition upon Deconstruction, unless necessary earlier as determined by the Landowner.
- D. If there is any dispute between the Landowner and the Facility Owner as to what areas need to be ripped/disked or the depth at which compacted areas should be ripped/disked, the appropriate County SWCD's opinion shall be considered by the Facility Owner and the Landowner.

9. Construction During Wet Weather

Except as provided below, construction activities are not allowed on agricultural land during times when normal farming operations, such as plowing, disking, planting or harvesting, cannot take place due to excessively wet soils. With input from the landowner, wet weather conditions may be determined on a field by field basis.

A. Construction activities on prepared surfaces, surfaces where topsoil and subsoil have been removed, heavily compacted in preparation, or otherwise stabilized (e.g. through cement mixing) may occur at the discretion of the Facility Owner in wet weather conditions. B. Construction activities on unprepared surfaces will be done only when work will not result in rutting which may mix subsoil and topsoil. Determination as to the potential of subsoil and topsoil mixing will be made in consultation with the underlying Landowner, or, if approved by the Landowner, his/her designated tenant or designee.

10. Prevention of Soil Erosion

- A. The Facility Owner shall work with Landowners and create and follow a SWPPP to prevent excessive erosion on land that has been disturbed by Construction or Deconstruction of a Facility.
- B. If the Landowner and Facility Owner cannot agree upon a reasonable method to control erosion on the Landowner's property, the Facility Owner shall consider the recommendations of the appropriate County SWCD to resolve the disagreement.
- C. The Facility Owner may, per the requirements of the project SWPPP and in consultation with the Landowner, seed appropriate vegetation around all panels and other facility components to prevent erosion. The Facility Owner must utilize Best Efforts to ensure that all seed mixes will be as free of any noxious weed seeds as possible. The Facility Owner shall consult with the Landowner regarding appropriate varieties to seed.

11. Repair of Damaged Soil Conservation Practices

Consultation with the appropriate County SWCD by the Facility Owner shall be carried out to determine if there are soil conservation practices (such as terraces, grassed waterways, etc.) that will be damaged by the Construction and/or Deconstruction of the Facility. Those conservation practices shall be restored to their preconstruction condition as close as reasonably practicable following Deconstruction in accordance with USDA NRCS technical standards. All repair costs shall be the responsibility of the Facility Owner.

12. Compensation for Damages to Private Property

The Facility Owner shall reasonably compensate Landowners for damages caused by the Facility Owner. Damage to Agricultural Land shall be reimbursed to the Landowner as prescribed in the applicable Underlying Agreement.

13. Clearing of Trees and Brush

- A. If trees are to be removed for the Construction or Deconstruction of a Facility, the Facility Owner shall consult with the Landowner to determine if there are trees of commercial or other value to the Landowner.
- B. If there are trees of commercial or other value to the Landowner, the Facility Owner shall allow the Landowner the right to retain ownership of the trees to be removed and the disposition of the removed trees shall be negotiated prior to the commencement of land clearing.

14. Access Roads

A. To the extent practicable, access roads shall be designed to not impede surface drainage and shall be built to minimize soil erosion on or near the access roads.

- B. Access roads may be left intact during Construction, operation or Deconstruction through mutual agreement of the Landowner and the Facility Owner unless otherwise restricted by federal, state, or local regulations.
- C. If the access roads are removed, Best Efforts shall be expended to assure that the land shall be restored to equivalent condition(s) as existed prior to their construction, or as otherwise agreed to by the Facility Owner and the Landowner. All access roads that are removed shall be ripped to a depth of 18 inches. All ripping shall be performed consistent with Section 8.

15. Weed/Vegetation Control

- A. The Facility Owner shall provide for weed control in a manner that prevents the spread of weeds. Chemical control, if used, shall be done by an appropriately licensed pesticide applicator.
- B. The Facility Owner shall be responsible for the reimbursement of all reasonable costs incurred by owners of agricultural land where it has been determined by the appropriate state or county entity that weeds have spread from the Facility to their property. Reimbursement is contingent upon written notice to the Facility Owner. Facility Owner shall reimburse the property owner within 45 days after notice is received.
- C. The Facility Owner shall ensure that all vegetation growing within the perimeter of the Facility is properly and appropriately maintained. Maintenance may include, but not be limited to, mowing, trimming, chemical control, or the use of livestock as agreed to by the Landowner.
- D. The Deconstruction plans must include provisions for the removal of all weed control equipment used in the Facility, including weed-control fabrics or other ground covers.

16. Indemnification of Landowners

The Facility Owner shall indemnify all Landowners, their heirs, successors, legal representatives, and assigns from and against all claims, injuries, suits, damages, costs, losses, and reasonable expenses resulting from or arising out of the Commercial Solar Energy Facility, including Construction and Deconstruction thereof, and also including damage to such Facility or any of its appurtenances, except where claims, injuries, suits, damages, costs, losses, and expenses are caused by the negligence or intentional acts, or willful omissions of such Landowners, and/or the Landowners heirs, successors, legal representatives, and assigns.

17. Deconstruction Plans and Financial Assurance of Commercial Solar Energy Facilities

- A. Deconstruction of a Facility shall include the removal/disposition of all solar related equipment/facilities, including the following utilized for operation of the Facility and located on Landowner property:
 - 1. Solar panels, cells and modules;
 - 2. Solar panel mounts and racking, including any helical piles, ground screws, ballasts, or other anchoring systems;
 - 3. Solar panel foundations, if used (to depth of 5 feet);

Standard Solar Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement

- 4. Transformers, inverters, energy storage facilities, or substations, including all components and foundations; however, Underground Cables at a depth of 5 feet or greater may be left in place;
- Overhead collection system components;
- 6. Operations/maintenance buildings, spare parts buildings and substation/switching gear buildings unless otherwise agreed to by the Landowner;
- Access Road(s) unless Landowner requests in writing that the access road is to remain;
- 8. Operation/maintenance yard/staging area unless otherwise agreed to by the Landowner; and
- 9. Debris and litter generated by Deconstruction and Deconstruction crews.
- B. The Facility Owner shall, at its expense, complete Deconstruction of a Facility within twelve (12) months after the end of the useful life of the Facility.
- C. During the County permit process, or if none, then prior to the commencement of construction, the Facility Owner shall file with the County a Deconstruction Plan. The Facility Owner shall file an updated Deconstruction Plan with the County on or before the end of the tenth year of commercial operation.
- D. The Facility Owner shall provide the County with Financial Assurance to cover the estimated costs of Deconstruction of the Facility. Provision of this Financial Assurance shall be phased in over the first 11 years of the Project's operation as follows:
 - On or before the first anniversary of the Commercial Operation Date, the Facility Owner shall provide the County with Financial Assurance to cover ten (10) percent of the estimated costs of Deconstruction of the Facility as determined in the Deconstruction Plan.
 - On or before the sixth anniversary of the Commercial Operation Date, the Facility
 Owner shall provide the County with Financial Assurance to cover fifty (50) percent
 of the estimated costs of Deconstruction of the Facility as determined in the
 Deconstruction Plan.
 - 3. On or before the eleventh anniversary of the Commercial Operation Date, the Facility Owner shall provide the County with Financial Assurance to cover one hundred (100) percent of the estimated costs of Deconstruction of the Facility as determined in the updated Deconstruction Plan provided during the tenth year of commercial operation.

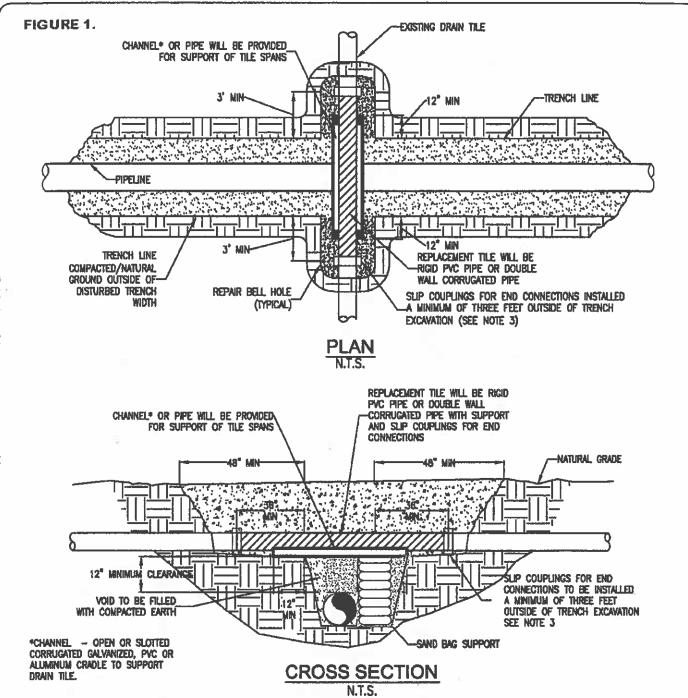
The Financial Assurance shall not release the surety from liability until the Financial Assurance is replaced. The salvage value of the Facility may only be used to reduce the estimated costs of Deconstruction if the County agrees that all interests in the salvage value are subordinate or have been subordinated to that of the County if Abandonment occurs.

Standard Solar Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement

- E. The County may, but is not required to, reevaluate the estimated costs of Deconstruction of any Facility after the tenth anniversary, and every five years thereafter, of the Commercial Operation Date. Based on any reevaluation, the County may require changes in the level of Financial Assurance used to calculate the phased Financial Assurance levels described in Section 17.D. required from the Facility Owner. If the County is unable to its satisfaction to perform the investigations necessary to approve the Deconstruction Plan filed by the Facility Owner, then the County and Facility may mutually agree on the selection of a Professional Engineer independent of the Facility Owner to conduct any necessary investigations. The Facility Owner shall be responsible for the cost of any such investigations.
- F. Upon Abandonment, the County may take all appropriate actions for Deconstruction including drawing upon the Financial Assurance.

Concurrence of the Parties to this AIMA

The Illinois Department of Agriculture andAIMA is the complete AIMA governing the mitigathe Construction and Deconstruction of the sola State of Illinois.	Skystone Solar, LLC concur that this ation of agricultural impacts that may result from r farm project inMcHenry _ County within the
The effective date of this AIMA commences on t	he date of execution.
STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	Skystone Solar, LLC
By: Jerry Costello II, Director	Paul Bottum By Paul Bottum, Authorized Person
Clay Nordsiel	
By Clay Nordsiek, Deputy General Counsel	Address
801 E. Sangamon Avenue, State Fairgrounds, POB 19281 Springfield, IL 62794-9281	30 W Hubbard St., Ste 400 Chicago, IL 60654
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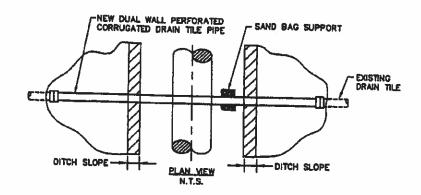


NOTE:

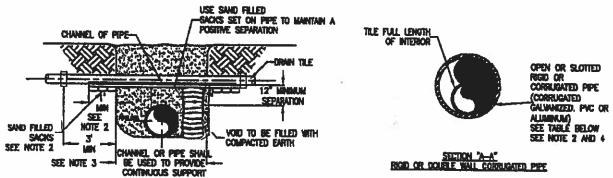
- 1. IMMEDIATELY REPAIR TILE IF WATER IS FLOWING THROUGH TILE AT TIME OF TRENCHING. IF NO WATER IS FLOWING AND TEMPORARY REPAIR IS DELAYED, OR NOT MADE BY THE END OF THE WORK DAY, A SCREEN OR APPROPRIATE 'NIGHT CAP' SHALL BE PLACED ON OPEN ENDS OF TILE TO PREVENT ENTRAPMENT OF ANIMALS ETC.
- 2. CHANNEL OR PIPE (OPEN OR SLOTTED) MADE OF CORRUGATED GALVANIZED PIPE, PVC OR ALUMINUM WILL BE USED FOR SUPPORT OF DRAIN TILE SPANS.
- 3. INDUSTRY STANDARDS SHALL BE FOLLOWED TO ENSURE PROPER SEAL OF REPAIRED DRAIN TILES.

TEMPORARY DRAIN TILE REPAIR

FIGURE 2.



PLAN VIEW



END VIEWS

MINIMUM SUPPORT TABLE						
TILE SIZE	CHANNEL SIZE	PIPE SIZE				
3*	4" @ 5.4 M/II	4" STD. W	/T.			
4*-5*	5° @ 0.7 #/T	8" STD. W	/T.			
8'-9"	7" @ 9.8 W/T	9"-10" STD. W	/T.			
10°	10° (0) 15.3 #/1	12" STD. W	/T.			

NOTE

- 1. TILE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT SHALL MAINTAIN ORIGINAL ALIGNMENT GRADIENT AND WATER FLOW TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSELE. IF THE TILE NEEDS TO SE RELOCATED, THE INSTALLATION ANGLE MAY VARY DUE TO SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND LANDOWNER RECOMMENDATIONS.
- 2. 1'-0" MINIMUM LENGTH OF CHANNEL OR RIGID PIPE (OPEN OR SLOTTED CORRUGATED GALVANIZED. PVC OR ALIMINUM CRADLE) SHALL BE SUPPORTED BY UNDISTURBED SOL, OR IF CROSSING IS NOT AT RIGHT ANGLES TO PIPELINE, EQUIVALENT LENGTH PERPENDICULAR TO TRENCH.

 SHIN WITH SAND BAGS TO UNDISTURBED SOLL FOR SUPPORT AND DRAINAGE GRADIENT MAINTENANCE (TYPICAL BOTH SIDES).
- 3. DRAIN TILES WILL BE PERMANENTLY CONNECTED TO EXISTING DRAIN TILES A MINIMUM OF THREE FEET OUTSIDE OF EXCAVATED TRENCH LINE USING INDUSTRY STANDARDS TO ENSURE PROPER SEAL OF REPAIRED DRAIN TILES INCLUDING SUP COUPLINGS.
- 4. DIAMETER OF RIGID PIPE SHALL BE OF ADEQUATE SIZE TO ALLOW FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE TILE FOR THE FULL LENGTH OF THE RIGID PIPE.
- 5. OTHER METHODS OF SUPPORTING DRAIN TILE MAY BE USED IF ALTERNATE PROPOSED IS EQUIVALENT IN STRENGTH TO THE CHANNEL/PIPE SECTIONS SHOWN AND IF APPROVED BY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES AND LANDOWNER IN ADVANCE. SITE SPECIFIC ALTERNATE SUPPORT SYSTEM TO BE DEVELOPED BY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES AND FURNISHED TO CONTRACTOR FOR SPANS IN EXCESS OF 20", TILE GREATER THEN 10" DAMETER, AND FOR "HEADER" SYSTEMS.
- 6. ALL MATERIAL TO BE FURNISHED BY CONTRACTOR.
- 7. PRIOR TO REPAIRING TILE, CONTRACTOR SHALL PROBE LATERALLY INTO THE EXISTING TILE TO FULL WIDTH OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY TO DETERMINE IF ADDITIONAL DAMAGE HAS OCCURRED. ALL DAMAGED/DISTURBED TILE SHALL BE REPAIRED AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO ITS ORIGINAL OR BETTER CONDITION.

PERMANENT DRAIN TILE REPAIR



Exhibit I





04/23/2025

IDNR Project Number: 2512270

Date:

Applicant: Skystone Solar, LLC

Contact: Paul Bottum
Address: 30 W Hubbard St

Ste 400

Chicago, IL 60654

Project: Skystone Solar, LLC

Address: 11305 Ballard Rd, Woodstock

Description: 3.35MWac Community Solar facility

Natural Resource Review Results

Consultation for Endangered Species Protection and Natural Areas Preservation (Part 1075)

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database shows the following protected resources may be in the vicinity of the project location:

Blanding's Turtle (Emydoidea blandingii) Brassy Minnow (Hybognathus hankinsoni)

An IDNR staff member will evaluate this information and contact you to request additional information or to terminate consultation if adverse effects are unlikely.

Location

The applicant is responsible for the accuracy of the location submitted for the project.

County: McHenry

Township, Range, Section:

43N, 7E, 4

IL Department of Natural Resources Contact

Isabella Newingham 217-785-5500

Division of Ecosystems & Environment



Government Jurisdiction

McHenry County Adam Wallen 2200 North Seminary Av Woodstock, Illinois 60098

Disclaimer

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database cannot provide a conclusive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of natural resources in Illinois. This review reflects the information existing in the Database at the time of this inquiry, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, compliance with applicable statutes and regulations is required.

Terms of Use

By using this website, you acknowledge that you have read and agree to these terms. These terms may be revised by IDNR as necessary. If you continue to use the EcoCAT application after we post changes to these terms, it will mean that you accept such changes. If at any time you do not accept the Terms of Use, you may not continue to use the website.

- 1. The IDNR EcoCAT website was developed so that units of local government, state agencies and the public could request information or begin natural resource consultations on-line for the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act. EcoCAT uses databases, Geographic Information System mapping, and a set of programmed decision rules to determine if proposed actions are in the vicinity of protected natural resources. By indicating your agreement to the Terms of Use for this application, you warrant that you will not use this web site for any other purpose.
- 2. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this website are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and/or the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.
- 3. IDNR reserves the right to enhance, modify, alter, or suspend the website at any time without notice, or to terminate or restrict access.

Security

EcoCAT operates on a state of Illinois computer system. We may use software to monitor traffic and to identify unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information, to cause harm or otherwise to damage this site. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this server is strictly prohibited by law.

Unauthorized use, tampering with or modification of this system, including supporting hardware or software, may subject the violator to criminal and civil penalties. In the event of unauthorized intrusion, all relevant information regarding possible violation of law may be provided to law enforcement officials.

Privacy

EcoCAT generates a public record subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Otherwise, IDNR uses the information submitted to EcoCAT solely for internal tracking purposes.





EcoCAT Receipt

Project Code 2512270

APPLICANT	DATE
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Skystone Solar, LLC Paul Bottum 30 W Hubbard St Ste 400 Chicago, IL 60654 4/23/2025

DESCRIPTION	FEE	CONVENIENCE FEE	TOTAL PAID
EcoCAT Consultation	\$ 125.00	\$ 2.81	\$ 127.81

TOTAL PAID \$ 127.81

Illinois Department of Natural Resources One Natural Resources Way Springfield, IL 62702 217-785-5500 dnr.ecocat@illinois.gov



One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271 http://dnr.state.il.us

Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director

JB Pritzker, Governor

April 24, 2025

Paul Bottum Skystone Solar, LLC 30 W Hubbard St Ste 400 Chicago, IL 60654

RE: Skystone Solar, LLC

Project Number(s): 2512270

County: McHenry

Dear Applicant:

This letter is in reference to the project you recently submitted for consultation. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely. Therefore, consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated.

However, the Department recommends:

Establishing pollinator-friendly habitat as groundcover wherever feasible. Solar Site Pollinator Establishment Guidelines can be found here: https://dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/pollinatorscorecard.html

The site should be de-compacted before planting.

Long term management of the site should be planned for prior to development to ensure successful native pollinator habitat establishment and prevent the spread of invasive species throughout the lifetime of this project. An experienced ecological management consultant should be hired to assist with long-term management.

Required fencing, excluding areas near or adjacent to public access areas, should have a 6-inch gap along the bottom to prevent the restriction of wildlife movement. Woven wire or a suitable habitat wildlife friendly fence should be used. Barbed wire should be avoided.

Trees should be cleared between November 1st and March 31st. All night lighting should follow IDA guidance.



Illinois Department of **Natural Resources**

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271 http://dnr.state.il.us

Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director

JB Pritzker, Governor

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Isabella Newingham

sadella Vuningham

Division of Ecosystems and Environment

217-785-5500



Exhibit J

Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, Historic and Architectural Resources Geographic Information Systems(HARGIS) – preliminary SHPO review

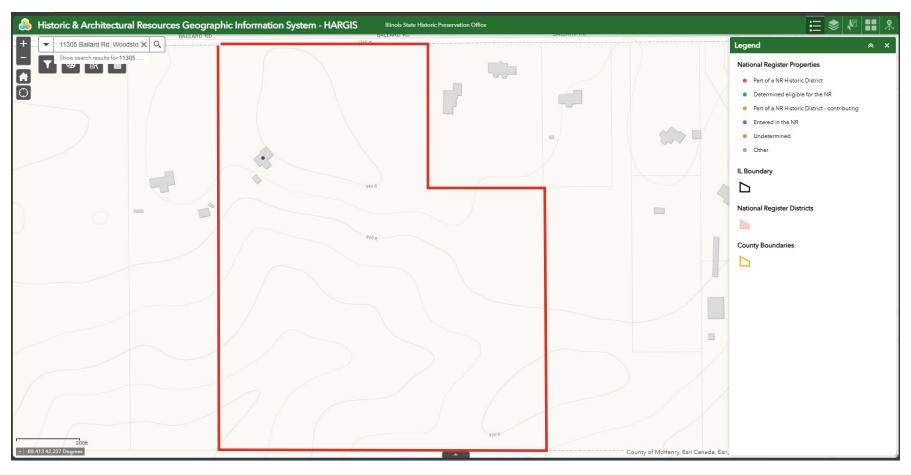




Exhibit K



Construction, Maintenance, and Traffic

Construction Timeline

The construction is expected to take approximately 20-26 weeks using standard solar construction procedures. ComEd's engineering, procurement, and construction of the interconnection facilities will take 6-12 months total and will be completed in coordination with solar farm construction. Finally, the solar farm will go through 1-3 months of commissioning before reaching commercial operation.

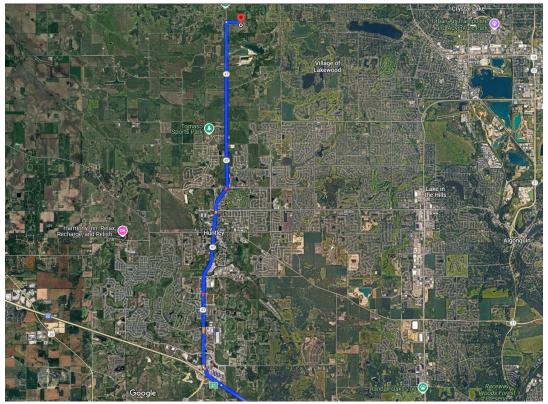
Traffic Overview

Anticipated construction traffic includes:

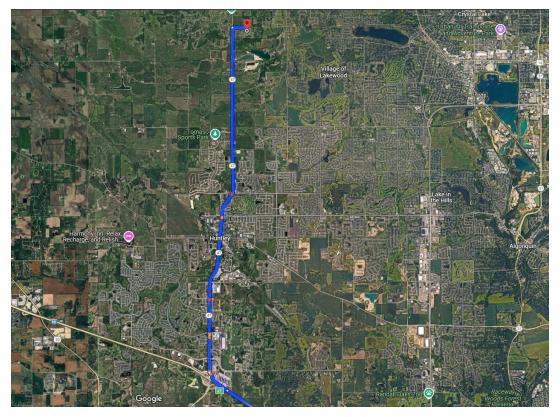
- 1. Major Deliveries during the first 1-2 months:
 - a. 18-wheeler 50' trailers or flat beds for:
 - i. 3-4 deliveries for modules once a day for a week
 - ii. 1 delivery for inverters
 - iii. 1 delivery for transformers
 - iv. 1 delivery for switchgear
 - v. 1 delivery for other electrical equipment
 - vi. 3-4 deliveries for racking once a day for a week
 - b. (2) 5-ton pile drivers
 - c. (2) 5-ton construction extension fork lifts
 - d. (2) 20-30-ton excavators
- Construction duration/personnel 20-24 workers on site per day for 4-6 months during construction period. Construction Managers and workers usually drive passenger vehicles.
- 3. There will be no overweight/heavyweight loads exceeding 80,000 pounds during the delivery of the material and equipment for the construction of the site.



Skystone Solar Haul Route



Entrance Route: Interstate 90 -> Exit 47 -> IL-47 N -> Ballard Rd East



Exit Route: Ballard Rd West -> IL-47 S -> Interstate 90