

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Woodstock Community Energy Initiative LLC, a wholly-owned entity of ECA Solar (collectively, the “Applicant” or “Woodstock Community Energy Initiative LLC” or “ECA Solar”), hereby submits this application for a Conditional Use Permit (Application) to construct, operate, and maintain the Woodstock Community Energy Initiative LLC solar project, a proposed up-to 5 MW_{AC} aggregate commercial solar energy facility (Project) on approximately 30.90 acres (Project Area) of the 88.075 acres (Total Parcel Area), which is located south of US Highway 14, and approximately 350 yards east of North Rose Farm Road, 15015 US-14, Woodstock, IL 60098. As shown on the Conditional Use Permit Plan Set, the Project’s site layout meets the required minimum road right-of-way and property line setbacks outlined in Title 16.56.030.PP, in the McHenry County Unified Development Ordinance.

The Woodstock Community Energy Initiative’s interest in the property is defined by a lease agreement with Chang Family LLC, who currently own the subject parcel (07-36-326-003) that will host the Project’s infrastructure. The Project’s current land usage can be characterized as cultivated cropland. The Project has one proposed access point at an existing drive that connects to US Highway 14. The Project parcels are not within the limits of the City of Woodstock; thus, the Project will fall under the jurisdiction of McHenry County. The applicant has met with McHenry County to solicit feedback on the Project’s design. This feedback has been taken into consideration and is reflected in the Project’s design.

The Project will deliver power to the electrical grid through one point of interconnection via the Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) power lines on the south side of US Highway 14. The Project has the capacity to generate up to 5 MW_{AC} of electricity, which could power up to approximately 1,100 McHenry County homes.

The Applicant has considered the McHenry County Conditional Use Permit process to ensure the Project meets the applicable requirements and submits this Application to obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from McHenry County. Care has been taken to ensure the Project will be in full compliance with all aspects of the State of Illinois’ siting bill for solar, Public Act 102-1123.

1.2 ABOUT ECA SOLAR

ECA Solar was founded in 2014 and is 100% employee-owned. ECA Solar develops, engineers, installs, and operates large-scale solar facilities across the US. ECA Solar takes an institutional approach to the solar energy industry. Our goal is to deploy the highest quality of solar power projects to diversify the electric grid, while remaining risk-averse and prioritizing safety. We value diversity and creativity to achieve the common goal of making solar energy more accessible to everyone. ECA Solar has over 50 projects in operation or construction and over 100 projects in development throughout the US.