

Appendix A

Size Determination Request

Minnesota Statute § 216E.021 requires combining proposed solar energy generating systems for permitting purposes when certain conditions exist. The Department of Commerce requires the information requested below to determine 1) whether proposed solar energy generating systems meet the definition of a large electric power generating plant and, therefore, are subject to the Public Utilities Commission's siting authority; or 2) whether large electric power generating plants that are solar energy generating systems should be combined for permitting purposes. Based on the information provided, Commerce staff may require additional information to make a determination.

Instructions: Answer each question completely. Each question and answer must be clearly identified. Attach maps and supporting information as necessary. Return the signed and dated information to:

Ray Kirsch

Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 Seventh Place East, Suite 280
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198

Phone: (651) 539-1841

Fax: (651) 539-0109

Email: raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us

Note: This form can be made available electronically, and submitted as an electronic document.

A. Project Description

Briefly describe the proposed project or projects, including name(s); need for the project(s); number of solar energy generating systems; alternating current nameplate capacity of the individual solar energy generating systems identified; and the combined alternating current nameplate capacity.

Summit Lake Solar, LLC (Summit Lake), a wholly-owned subsidiary of National Grid Renewables, LLC (NG Renewables), proposes to construct the Summit Lake Solar Facility (Solar Facility) and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (collectively, the Project), in Summit Lake and Elk Townships, Nobles County, Minnesota. The Project is needed to help meet Minnesota's carbon-free energy standard and will contribute to Minnesota's Renewable Energy Objectives. It is also needed to meet growing demand for renewable and carbon-free sources of energy.

The Solar Facility is proposed as a solar energy conversion facility with a 200-megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC) nameplate capacity. The BESS will consist of a stand-alone structure with a 200 MW / 800-megawatt hour (MWh) nameplate capacity and ancillary support infrastructure. The BESS will be constructed directly adjacent to the collector substation for the Solar Facility. The Solar Facility and BESS are intended to work independently of each other with the BESS charging and discharging directly from and to the grid.

The approved interconnection capacity for 200 MW solar will come from a single interconnection request as one combined facility. The Project will connect to the Nobles Substation via an approximately 550-foot 345 KV transmission generation tie-line. The Solar Facility and BESS will be financed as a single project, and the power generated by the Solar Facility will be marketed for a single off-taker. The Project will be constructed as part of one continuous process.

B. Project Design and Location

Provide the following information regarding each solar energy generating system:

B-1. Describe the 1) solar generating equipment and associated facilities; 2) project boundary location(s) (county, township, and sections); 3) the area within the project boundary (acres); and 4) area within the project boundary that will be developed for the solar project (acres).

Summit Lake has obtained lease and purchase options for 1,989.6 acres of privately owned land in Township 103N, Range 40W, Sections 18 and 19 in Elk Township, and Township 103N, Range 41W, Sections 10, 12–15, and 22–24 in Summit Lake Township, Nobles County. The Preliminary Development Area will cover approximately 1,567 of those acres, and 422.6 are not currently planned for development. Summit Lake has no plans to expand the Project in the future.

The Solar Facility will utilize PV panels with tempered glass that may vary in size but are generally 4 to 7 feet long by 2 to 4 feet wide and 1 to 2 inches thick. The Solar Facility will also include:

- A tracking rack system
- Inverters and transformers
- Electrical collection system (either below-ground or a hybrid of above- and below-ground)

The BESS will be a modular system comprised of lithium-iron batteries encased in standalone enclosures, located within approximately 16 acres in the south-central portion of the Preliminary Project Development Area. Each enclosure, or module, will be approximately 40 feet long by 10 feet wide by 9.5 feet high. The Project will include approximately 75 modules to start with, with an anticipated 85 modules by the Project's end of life.

The Project will also include the following facilities:

- Access Roads
- Fencing
- Security lighting and cameras
- Collector substation
- Operations and maintenance building
- Parking
- Stormwater ponds
- Weather stations
- Temporary laydown areas

B-2. Describe the anticipated point of electrical interconnection. Describe interconnection requests and the status of each request. Provide any assigned project or queue interconnection numbers.

The Project will interconnect its collector substation to the nobles Substation via an approximately 550-foot 345 kV transmission generation tie-line. Transformers in the Project's collector substation will step up the collection system voltage to 345 kV. Per Minn. Stat. § 216E.01 subd. 4, the gen-tie transmission line does not meet the high voltage transmission line definition because the overall length is less than

1,500 feet. As such, a separate route permit from the Commission will not be required for the gen-tie line. Summit Lake has secured interconnection approval from MISO for the Project, as proposed.

B-3. Provide a map showing the proposed facility boundary, the interconnection site, anticipated solar module layout, and associated facilities. "Associated facilities" includes access roads, operation and maintenance facilities, collector and feeder lines, and substations. Maps should be at 1:24,000 scale using an imagery basemap. The map must include a legend and scale bar.

The attached map shows the Project boundary and point of interconnect. A preliminary design is underway and not yet available at this time.

C. Project Characteristics

Provide the following information regarding each solar energy generating system:

C-1. List and describe the entity responsible for constructing the project.

Summit Lake will be the owner and operator of the Project and will be responsible for constructing the Project. Summit Lake has not yet selected a construction contractor for the Project.

C-2. List and describe the entity responsible for operating and maintaining the project.

Summit Lake will be responsible for operating and maintaining the Project.

C-3. Describe the ownership structure, sales agreement(s), interconnection(s), revenue sharing, debt or equity financing, and any other characteristics of the solar energy generating system. Include a statement indicating whether these characteristics are "independent" or "shared." If shared, indicate with what existing or proposed project.

The Project will be wholly owned and operated by Summit Lake, a subsidiary of NG Renewables. There are no current plans to share revenue, debt, or equity financing with another Project.

C-4. Provide the anticipated schedule for completion, including dates for permitting, construction (start and end dates), and commercial operation.

Summit Lake plans to file its joint site permit applications for the Solar Facility and BESS in early 2025 in the hopes of receiving Commission approval for the Project by early 2026. Construction would begin in fall 2026, with commercial operation by summer 2028.

D. Applicant Information

D-1. Provide the name, address, email, and telephone number of the applicant and any authorized representative.

Summit Lake Solar, LLC
8400 Normandale Lake Blvd., Suite 1200
Bloomington, MN 55437

Authorized Representative:
Alia Mohammad

National Grid Renewables Development, LLC

Phone: 612-474-2681

Email: amohammad@nationalgridrenewables.com

D-2. Provide the name, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the person or persons who would prepare the application to the Public Utilities Commission or to a Minnesota county or local unit of government, if such an application would be prepared by an agent or consultant of the applicant.

Jeremy P. Duehr

Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.

60 South Sixth Street, Suite 1500

Minneapolis, MN 55402

Direct: 612.492.7413

jduehr@fredlaw.com

Monika H. Davis

Senior Project Manager

Merjent

1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

Direct: 612.924.3988

Monika.davis@merjent.com

D-3. Briefly describe the applicant's business entity including its ownership and financial structure.

Summit Lake is a wholly owned subsidiary of NG Renewables.

D-4. Provide the Minnesota Secretary of State organizational ID number for the applicant business entity, all subordinate entities, and all solar developer entities involved with the project.

Summit Lake's Minnesota Secretary of State organizational identification number is

1140506900041 Summit Lake does not have any subordinate entities. Summit Lake is a wholly owned subsidiary of NG Renewables.

D-5. Identify and provide contact information for the person or persons who would be the permittees, if different than the applicant, if the solar energy generating systems were permitted by the Public Utilities Commission or a Minnesota county.

The permittee will be the Applicant, Summit Solar. See D-1 for contact information.

E. Other Projects in Minnesota

E-1. Identify any planned or existing solar energy generating system(s) in Minnesota in which the applicant, or a principal, partner, or affiliate of the applicant, has an ownership or other financial interest. Describe any facilities identified, including their location, alternating current nameplate capacity, and their interconnection requests.

Summit Lake does not have any other currently planned or existing solar energy generation systems in Minnesota. However, NG Renewables has constructed and/or owns an interest in other solar energy generation projects in Minnesota. These include:

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS]

Elk Creek Solar, LLC
Rock County, Minnesota
160 MWAC
GIA secured on September 27, 2022 with ITC Midwest, LLC and MISO.

Lake Charlotte Solar, LLC
Martin County, Minnesota
150 MWAC
GIA secured on August 15, 2024 with Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and MISO.

Pipestone Solar, LLC
Pipestone County, Minnesota
125 MWAC
GIA secured on July 25, 2024 with Northern States Power Company (Xcel Energy), and MISO.
Fillmore County Solar Project, LLC
Fillmore County, Minnesota
45 MWAC
Commercial operation December 13, 2024

Louise Solar Project, LLC
Mower County, Minnesota
50 MWAC
Commercial operation December 15, 2024.

The following existing community solar garden projects were developed by NG Renewables and other developers as part of Xcel's Community Solar Garden program. The project entities were purchased by Nordic Solar, LLC, Phase 2 Nordic Holdco, LLC and Phase 3 Nordic Holdco, LLC and were then constructed and are operating. Individuals that have an ownership interest in NG Renewables have ownership interests in Nordic Solar, LLC, Phase 2 Nordic Solar, LLC and Phase 3 Nordic Holdco, LLC.

SunE Koppelman 1, LLC – Blue Earth County. 5 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity.
Commercial operation Q4 2017.

SunE Rengstorf 1, LLC – Nicollet County. 5 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2017.

DodgeSun, LLC – Dodge County. 5 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2017.

ETCAP NES CS MN 12, LLC – Renville County. 3 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2017.

WasecaSun, LLC – Waseca County. 5 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2018.

ETCAP NES CS MN 08, LLC – Pipestone County. 4.7 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2018.

ETCAP NES CS MN 03, LLC – Sherburne County. 4 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2018.

SunE St. Cloud 1, LLC – Stearns County. 5 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2018.

Lindstrom CSG 1, LLC – Chisago County. 3 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2018.

Crux Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Renville County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Sagittarius Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Meeker County. 0.76 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Aquarius Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Lyon County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Leo Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Murray County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Auriga Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Murray County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Libra Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Pope County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Pisces Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Stearns County. 0.72 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Sagitta Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Chippewa County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Altair Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Waseca County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Aquila Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Pope County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Kaus Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Dodge County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Canopus Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Stearns County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Capricornus Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Stearns County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Arcturus Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Le Sueur County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Cassiopeia Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Pope County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2019.

Deneb Community Solar Gardens, LLC – Kandiyohi County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2019.

Hydra Solar, LLC – Rice County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2020.

Allium Community Solar Garden, LLC – Stearns County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Aster Community Solar Garden, LLC – Kandiyohi County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Bellflower Solar, LLC – Stearns County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Camellia Solar, LLC – Pope County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Coral Bells Solar, LLC – Chisago County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Geranium Solar, LLC – Kandiyohi County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Honeysuckle Solar, LLC – McLeod County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Hyacinth Solar, LLC – Dakota County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Iris Solar, LLC – Nicollet County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Kerria Solar, LLC – Renville County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Lantana Solar, LLC – Pope County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Marigold Community Solar Garden, LLC - Le Sueur County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

Polaris Community Solar Garden, LLC – Rice County. 0.70 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q4 2020.

Primrose Solar, LLC - Blue Earth County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q2 2021.

Westport Community Solar, LLC – Kandiyohi County. 1 MW of nameplate solar-energy capacity. Commercial operation Q1 2021.

E-2. Identify any additional solar energy generating system(s) in Minnesota in which the applicant, or principal, partner, or affiliate of the applicant, has an ownership or other financial interest and is currently under construction or construction is planned to begin within 12 months of the proposed project(s) estimated completion date. Describe any facilities identified, including their location, alternating current nameplate capacity, and their interconnection requests.

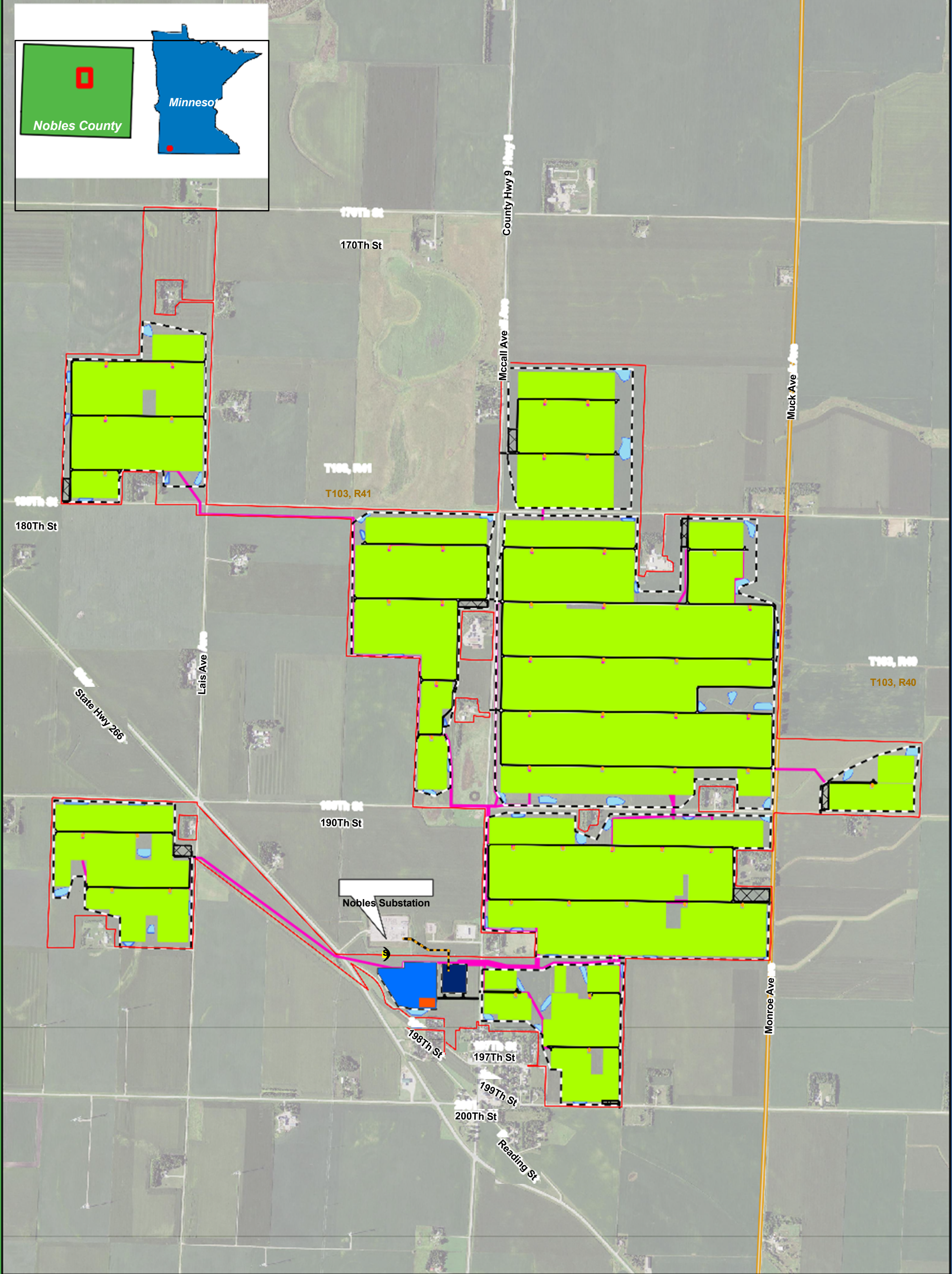
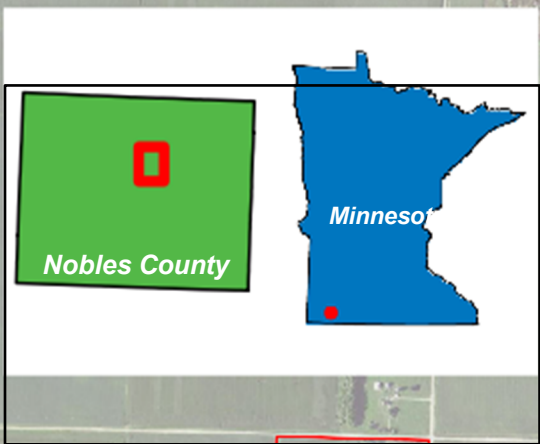
Elk Creek Solar is permitted by the Commission and is currently being marketed to potential off-takers. Elk Creek Solar is anticipating securing separate financing and offtake agreements independent of the Summit Lake Solar project. NG Renewables currently anticipates construction of the Elk Creek Solar project beginning in Q4 2025.

Lake Charlotte Solar plans to submit an application for a site permit in 2025. Charlotte Lake Solar is anticipating securing separate financing and offtake agreements independent of the Summit Lake Solar project. NG Renewables currently anticipates construction of the Lake Charlotte Solar project beginning in August 2027.

Pipestone Solar plans to submit an application for a site permit in 2025. Pipestone Solar is anticipating securing separate financing and offtake agreements independent of the Summit Lake Solar project. NG Renewables currently anticipates construction of the Pipestone Solar project beginning in December 2027.

E-3. Identify any planned or existing solar energy generating system(s) in Minnesota which that shares any of the following with the proposed project: power purchase agreement, interconnection, sales, revenues, debt or equity financing, or other ownership or financial interests. Describe any facilities identified, including their location, alternating current nameplate capacity, and their interconnection requests.

None.



0 1,500 3,000 Feet

1:20,000

Imagery Source: 2021 FSA
Sources: National Grid Renewables, MN Geospatial Commons,
MDNR, ESRI

Figure 3
Preliminary Project Layout
Summit Lake Solar Project
Nobles County, MN

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Existing Substation | Security Fence |
| Land Control Area | Access Road |
| Laydown Area | Solar Array |
| Inverter | Collection and Communication Line |
| BESS Facility | Gen-Tie Line |
| O&M Facility | Stormwater Pond |
| Project Substation | Township |

January 24, 2025

Alia Mohammad
Summit Lake Solar, LLC
8400 Normandale Lake Blvd., Suite 1200
Bloomington, MN 55437

Dear Ms. Mohammad,

Thank you for submitting a solar size determination request for Summit Lake Solar, LLC's proposed 200 megawatt (MW) Summit Lake solar facility in Nobles County.

The Department of Commerce (Department) is responsible for reviewing such requests to determine whether a combination of solar energy generating systems meets the definition of large electric power generating plant such that a proposed project is subject to the siting authority of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

Based on information provided by Summit Lake Solar, LLC, and based on criteria established in Minn. Statute 216E.021, the Department has determined that the Summit Lake solar facility is not associated with other planned solar projects in a way that would require them to be combined into a single project. However, given that the project on its own has a generating capacity of up to 200 MW, the Department determines that the project is subject to the Commission's siting authority and must submit an application for a site permit under the Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Statute 216E).

Per Minn. Statute 216E.021, Minnesota Power has the right to dispute this determination with the chair of the Commission.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Ray Kirsch
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis

cc: Bret Eknes, Public Utilities Commission