



**Notice of Lemon Hill Solar, LLC's  
Filing of Site Permit Application  
with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
MPUC Docket No. IP7156/GS-25-126**

**June 30, 2025**

**To: Persons Interested in the Proposed Construction of an up to 180 megawatt alternating current photovoltaic solar energy generating facility and associated facilities known as the Lemon Hill Solar Project in Haverhill and Viola Townships in Olmsted County, Minnesota; the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities General List; Local Officials; Tribes; and Property Owners**

Lemon Hill Solar, LLC (Lemon Hill), an independent power producer, is proposing to construct and operate an up to 180 megawatt (MW) alternating current photovoltaic solar energy generating facility and associated facilities known as the Lemon Hill Solar Project in Haverhill and Viola Townships in Olmsted County, Minnesota (the Lemon Hill Solar Project, or the Project).

This notice provides formal notice that Lemon Hill Solar filed an Application for a Site Permit (Application) with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the Project (MPUC Docket No. IP7156/GS-25-126) pursuant to the alternative permitting process contained in Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. This notice also provides information on the Project and the permitting process, as well as information on how to register your name with the Commission on the Project contact list to ensure that you receive future notices.

## **PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

The Project is located in Haverhill and Viola Townships in Olmsted County, Minnesota. The Project is situated on approximately 1,945 acres, 966 acres of which are currently designated to host Project infrastructure.

The Project will include: photovoltaic solar modules; inverters; step-up transformers; electrical wiring; single-axis trackers; collector lines; security fencing and gates; access roads; stormwater treatment areas; an operations and maintenance (O&M) facility; Project substation; power transformer(s); a short (<1,500 ft) aboveground 161 kilovolt generation interconnect (gen-tie) line; switchgear; and metering equipment; and ancillary equipment or buildings as necessary. The Project will connect to the grid via an overhead 161 kilovolt gen-tie line to Dairyland's Substation.

The accompanying map outlines the location of the Project.

## **PROPERTY ACQUISITION**

Lemon Hill Solar has, through voluntary agreements, secured 100 percent of the private real estate rights necessary to construct the Project. Lemon Hill Solar will seek permission for certain collector lines to be installed within the public ROW. Lemon Hill Solar's current and future plans do not include the use of eminent domain. If additional property rights are required for the Project, Lemon Hill Solar will seek to negotiate either a lease or easement agreement with each affected landowner.

## **SITE PERMIT PROCESS**

A Site Permit from the Commission is required before the Project can be constructed. The Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Stat. Ch. 216E) and Minn. R. parts 7850.1000 to 7850.5600 establish the requirements for submitting and processing a Site Permit application. The statutes and rules also establish notice requirements for various stages of the process. The Application will be considered by the Commission under the alternative permitting process in Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. The Commission has up to six

months from the time the application is accepted as complete to process and make a decision on the Site Permit according to Minn. Stat. § 216E.04, subd. 7, and Minn. R. 7850.3900, subp. 1. The Commission may extend this time limit for up to three months for just cause or upon agreement of the applicant.

Within 60 days after the Commission accepts the application as complete, the Commission's Energy Infrastructure Permitting staff (EIP) will hold a public information and scoping meeting to provide information and seek comments from the public. At this meeting, members of the public may comment on the scope of the environmental assessment and/or propose additional issues for consideration in the environmental assessment that the EIP will prepare. Once the public meeting is scheduled, notice of the meeting will be provided to persons whose names are on the Project contact list and will be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the Project area.

After the environmental assessment has been completed, EIP will make the document available for public review and a public hearing will be held on the Application. Any person may speak at the public hearing, present documentary evidence, ask questions of Lemon Hill Solar's representatives and EIP staff and submit comments.

Further details regarding upcoming meetings and comment periods on the application will be provided by Lemon Hill Solar, EIP, and/or the Commission in the future.

## **CERTIFICATE OF NEED**

A Certificate of Need is not required from the Commission for the Project. The Project is exempt from Certificate of Need requirements pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.243, subd. 8.

## **HOW TO LEARN MORE**

For more information about the regulatory process or to have your name included on the Project mailing lists, contact:

### **Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Infrastructure Permitting Staff**

Cezar Panait at [cezar.panait@state.mn.us](mailto:cezar.panait@state.mn.us) or (651) 201-2207 or (800) 657-3782  
[www.mn.gov/puc](http://www.mn.gov/puc)

Lauren Agnew at [lauren.Agnew@state.mn.us](mailto:lauren.Agnew@state.mn.us) or (651) 539-1838  
[www.mn.gov/puc](http://www.mn.gov/puc)

There are two options for citizens, landowners, and interested persons to receive Project information:

1. **Sign up for the Project Mailing List.** To sign up to receive notices about Project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.) email [eservice.admin@state.mn.us](mailto:eservice.admin@state.mn.us) or call (651) 201-2246 with the docket number (IP7156/GS-25-126), your name, mailing address and email address. You may request to receive notices by email or U.S. Mail.
2. **Subscribe to the Docket.** To receive email notifications when new documents are filed in the dockets visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to eDockets* and follow the prompts.

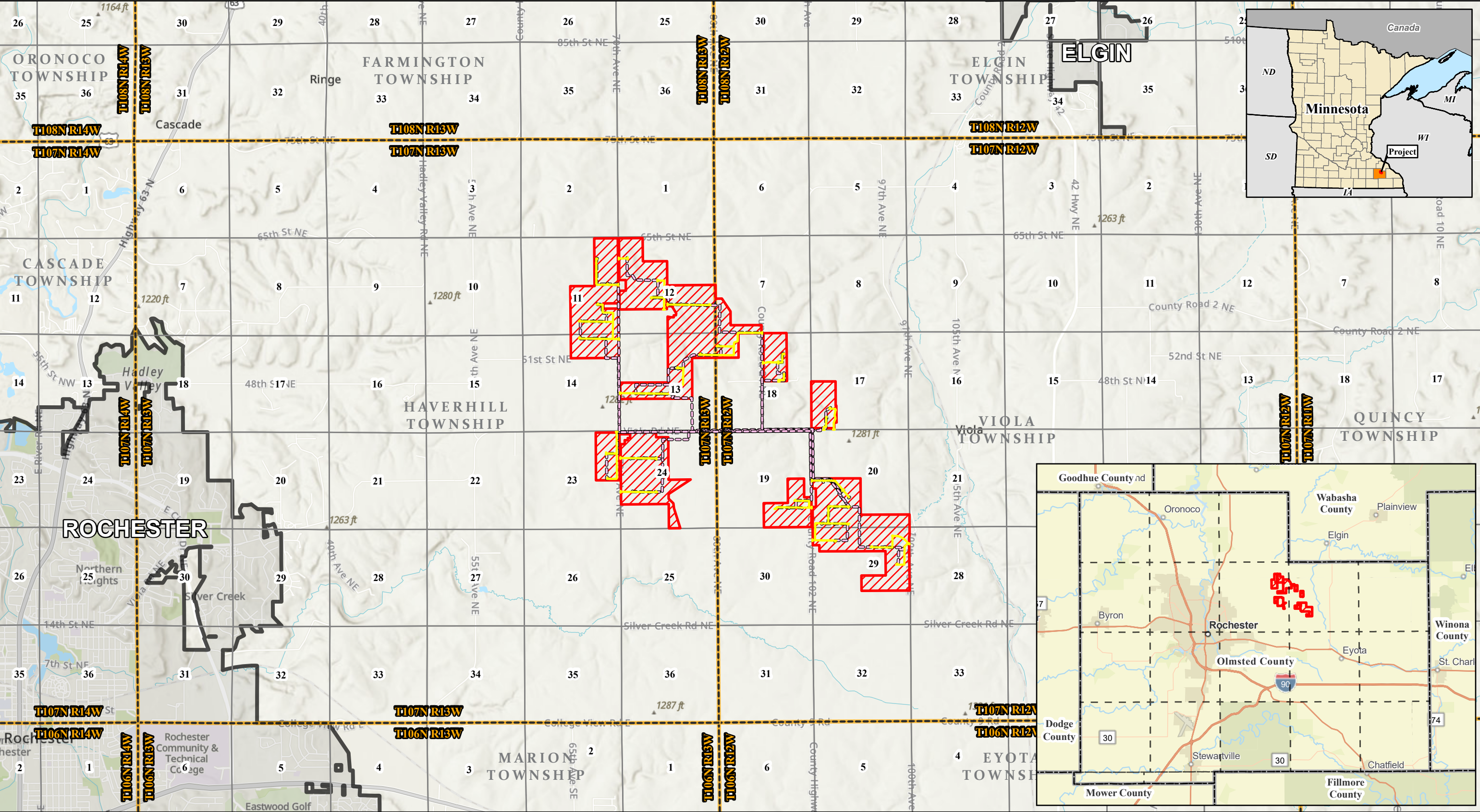
Note – subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

Current information about the Project and Application is available online at Lemon Hill Solar's Project website: <https://www.lemonhillsolar.com/>.

A copy of the Application is also available for review at Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Zane Jones at (734) 709-7358 or by email at [zane@rangerpower.com](mailto:zane@rangerpower.com).





**LEMON HILL SOLAR**  
A RANGER POWER PROJECT

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For Environmental Review Purposes Only