STATE OF VERMONT PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

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Docket No. 7844

Petition of Charlotte Solar, LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the installation and operation of a 2.2 MW solar electric generation facility located at the north side of Hinesburg/Charlotte Road in Charlotte, Vermont

Entered: 1/22/2013

<u>CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD ISSUED</u> <u>PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A. SECTION 248</u>

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the Public Service Board ("Board") of the State of Vermont this day found and adjudged that:

1. The installation and operation of a 2.2 MW solar electric generation facility located at the north side of Hinesburg/Charlotte Road in Charlotte, Vermont (the "Project") by Charlotte Solar, LLC ("Charlotte Solar"), in accordance with the evidence and plans submitted in this proceeding, will promote the general good of the State, subject to the following conditions:

i. Construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project shall be in accordance with the plans and evidence as submitted in the proceeding. Any material deviation from these plans or a substantial change to the Project must be approved by the Board. Failure to obtain advance approval from the Board for a material deviation from the approved plans or a substantial change to the Project may result in the assessment of a penalty pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 30 and 247.

ii. Charlotte Solar shall pay the entire cost of any distribution system upgrades necessary to interconnect the Project with Green Mountain Power Corporation's distribution system.

iii. Charlotte Solar shall pay for all costs necessary for Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. ("VELCO") to complete a study regarding whether a Direct Transfer Trip signal is required to accommodate the Project and will pay all costs necessary to implement the recommendations of this additional study. Charlotte Solar shall submit the results of the study to the Department of Public Service ("Department") and the Board for review prior to commencing construction of the Project.

iv. All construction activities shall comply with the Construction General Permit issued by the Agency of Natural Resources ("ANR").

v. All construction activities shall comply with the site-specific Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Plan developed for the Project.

vi. At the time the Project ceases to operate, Charlotte Solar shall decommission the Project. Decommissioning shall include the removal of the solar panels, support structures, electrical lines, inverters, transformers, concrete pads, and fencing, and the reclamation of the Project Site to restore its agricultural potential, which includes plowing the Project Site to a depth of 8 inches, preparing the Project Site for re-seeding or planting, and adding soil amendments as prescribed pursuant to the Agency of Agriculture's Acceptable Agricultural Practices.

vii. Prior to the commencement of construction, Charlotte Solar shall submit a revised decommissioning plan and its initial Letter of Credit to the Board and Department for review and for Board approval. Charlotte Solar shall file an annual decommissioning fund ("Fund") status report with the revised estimated cost of decommissioning and the new Fund total by January 1 of each year.

viii. Prior to proceeding with construction, Charlotte Solar shall obtain all necessary permits and approvals. Construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project shall be in accordance with such permits and approvals, and with all other applicable regulations, including those of ANR.

ix. Charlotte Solar shall reduce the footprint of the solar array (12.6 acres) as depicted in the Revised Site Plan (Exhibit CSF-LC/JM-12a-b) by 10%. The reduction shall be at the southern portion of the project, such that the amount of open meadow in front of the Project will increase. Charlotte Solar shall submit a Second Revised Site Plan to the Board for review and approval prior to commencing construction of the Project.

x. Within 30 days of completing construction of the Project, Charlotte Solar shall notify the parties and the Board to schedule a post construction site visit. As

a result of any such review, the Board may require Charlotte Solar to install additional aesthetic mitigation measures, if warranted.

xi. Charlotte Solar shall implement all mitigation steps agreed to in the Stipulation with the Town of Charlotte. The Second Revised Site Plan submitted pursuant to condition ix., above, shall incorporate all site parameters agreed to under Paragraph 1 of the Stipulation, except that the southern boundary of the array shall be shifted northward to reflect the required 10% reduction in size.

2. This Certificate of Public Good shall not be transferred without prior approval of the Board.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this <u>22nd</u> day of <u>January</u>, 2013.

s/James Volz)
) PUBLIC SERVICE
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s/David C. Coen) Board
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) OF VERMONT
s/John D. Burke)

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: January 22, 2013

ATTEST: <u>s/Susan M. Hudson</u> Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)