

**Round Hill Solar, LLC
Decommissioning Plan
Round Hill Solar Electric Power Plant
Augusta County, VA**

As required by Augusta County, VA as a condition of a Special Use Permit to construct the Round Hill Solar Electric Power Plant, (the Facility), Facility Owner Round Hill Solar, LLC submits this Decommissioning Plan in accordance with the 2018 Augusta County Solar Energy Systems Zoning Ordinance.

Discontinuation or Abandonment of Project:

Thirty (30) days prior to such time that the Project is scheduled to be abandoned or discontinued, the owner or operator shall notify the Director of Community Development of the proposed date of abandonment or discontinuation of operations. Any project that has been inoperable or unutilized for a period of 12 consecutive months shall be deemed abandoned and subject to the requirements of Section 25-70.8 of the Ordinance. Notification shall be provided by U.S. mail.

Within 365 days of the date of abandonment or discontinuation, the owner or operator shall complete the physical removal of the Project and site restoration. This period may be extended at the request of the owner or operator with approval from the Board of Supervisors.

Decommissioning of the Project shall include the following:

- a. Physical removal of all solar energy equipment and above-ground appurtenant structures from the subject property including, but not limited to, buildings, machinery, equipment, cabling and connections to transmission lines, equipment shelters, security barriers, electrical components, roads, unless such roads need to remain to access buildings retrofitted for another purpose, or the landowner submits a request to the Board of Supervisors that such roads remain.
- b. Below-grade structures, such as foundations, underground collection cabling, mounting beams, footers, and all other equipment installed with the system shall be completely removed. However, these structures may be allowed to remain if a written request is submitted by the landowners and a waiver is granted by the Board of Supervisors.
- c. Compacted soils shall be decompacted as agreed to by the landowner.
- d. Trenches or other borings or excavations made in association with the facility shall be filled and compacted.

e. Restoration of the topography of the Project site to its pre-existing condition, except that any landscaping or grading may remain in the after-condition if a written request is submitted by the landowner and a waiver is granted by the Board of Supervisors.

f. All wetland protections, natural vegetation, erosion control, and stormwater features shall remain in place.

g. The Applicant or owner shall provide a decommissioning plan to staff and obtain all required permits prior to conducting decommissioning activities.

h. Components of the Facility removed from the site as a part of decommissioning shall be handled and disposed of in compliance with all applicable legal requirements (local, state, and federal law and regulations). Applicant shall emphasize the feasible and cost-effective re-use or recycling of components, including any "extended producer responsibility" programs offered by vendors of the particular component, over landfill disposal.

i. Proper disposal of all solid or hazardous materials and wastes from the site in accordance with local, state, and federal solid waste disposal regulations.

Surety for Decommissioning.

Prior to the issuance of a Building Permit for a solar energy system, the applicant shall:

a. Submit to the Zoning Administrator an itemized cost estimate of the work to be done to completely remove the entire solar energy system plus twenty-five percent (25%) of said estimated costs as a reasonable allowance for administrative costs, inflation, and potential damage to existing roads or utilities.

b. Submit a bond, irrevocable Letter of Credit, or other appropriate surety acceptable to the County in the amount of the estimate as approved by the Zoning Administrator shall:

1. Secure the cost of removing the system and restoring the site to its original condition to the extent reasonably possible; and
2. Include a mechanism for a Cost of Living Adjustment after ten (10) and fifteen (15) years.

c. The applicant will ensure the bond, irrevocable Letter of Credit, or other surety shall remain in full force and effect until the Community Development Department has inspected the site and

verified that the solar energy system has been removed. At which time the Community Development Department shall promptly release the bond, irrevocable Letter of Credit, or other surety.