APPLICATION OF
CAVALIER SOLAR A, LLC

For Certificates of Public Convenience and
Necessity for solar generating facilities totaling
up to 240 megawatts in Surry County, and
Isle of Wight County, Virginia

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On October 5, 2020, pursuant to Virginia Code ("Code") §§ 56-46.1, 56-265.2,
and 56-580 D, and 20 VAC 5-302, Cavalier Solar A, LLC ("Cavalier" or "Applicant") filed an
application and supporting documents ("Application") for Certificates of Public Convenience
and Necessity ("CPCNs") with the Commission. Through its Application, Cavalier seeks to
construct and operate solar generating facilities. Contemporaneous with the filing of its
Application, Cavalier filed a Motion of Applicant for Protective Ruling Governing Confidential
Information and the Treatment of Extraordinarily Sensitive Information ("Motion for Protective
Ruling") along with a proposed protective ruling.

Cavalier seeks specifically to construct solar generating facilities totaling up to
240 megawatts (alternating current) in Surry County and Isle of Wight County (the "Solar
Generating Facilities") as well as the necessary transmission lines to interconnect the Solar
Generating Facilities to the transmission grid. Cavalier's proposed interconnection facilities

1 20 VAC 5-302 contains the State Corporation Commission's ("Commission") Filing Requirements in Support of
Applications for Authority to Construct and Operate an Electric Generating Facility.

2 According to the Applicant, Cavalier is a special-purpose entity responsible for developing, constructing, owning
and operating the Project. Application at 5.
include: (a) approximately two miles of 34.5 kilovolt ("kV") medium voltage feeder line to interconnect the Solar Generating Facilities with the collector substation; and (b) an approximately 0.35 mile 500 kV generation-tie line to interconnect the collector substation to the transmission grid at the Septa Substation (the "Interconnection Facilities," and together with the Solar Generating Facilities, the "Project"). The Applicant anticipates an in-service date for the Project of December 31, 2022.4

The Project would be located in southeastern Surry County and northeastern Isle of Wight County.5 The Project, according to Cavalier, would be constructed on approximately 1,776 acres, located in a rural area, on a compilation of parcels consisting of agricultural land and cleared forest and timber land (the "Project Site").6 The Septa Substation, to which the Project will interconnect to the transmission system, is located adjacent to the southeast portion of the Project Site, in Isle of Wight County, on a parcel owned by the Virginia Electric and Power Company.7

According to Cavalier's Application, the electricity, capacity and associated green attributes generated from the Project will be sold pursuant to a long-term power purchase

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3 Application at 4, 7-8. The proposed routes for the Interconnection Facilities are provided in Attachment F to the Application. According to Cavalier's Application, there is potential for the Project to include an intelligent battery system at the Project Site for energy storage. To the extent that the Applicant would elect to move forward with a storage option, the Applicant represents that Cavalier would seek separate Commission approvals (or supplement then existing approvals), if necessary. At this time, the Applicant further represents that it anticipates that any storage included in the Project would use the existing interconnection queue position and point of interconnection location. See Application at 6, n.4.

4 Application at 6.

5 Id.

6 Id.

7 Id. at 7.
agreement with an off-taker located in the transmission region operated by PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. ("PJM").

Cavalier asserts that "there will be minimal adverse environmental effects associated with the Project." Cavalier further asserts that it "will comply with all necessary conditions imposed by the regulatory agencies with oversight responsibilities for all environmental aspects of the Project to ensure protection of public health and the environment."  

Cavalier asserts that the Project is not contrary to the public interest. Cavalier asserts that the Project would also promote the public interest by, among other things, providing economic benefits to Surry and Isle of Wight Counties and the surrounding area. Cavalier further asserts that the Project will have no material adverse effect on the reliability of electric service provided by any regulated public utility and that only relatively minor upgrades to the electric transmission system are required as a result of the Project. Cavalier notes in its Application that as a condition of interconnection with the interstate transmission system, the Applicant will be obligated to complete and/or pay for all required upgrades to the system in accordance with an Interconnection Services Agreement and Interconnection Construction Service Agreement that have been or will be entered into among the Applicant, PJM, and the

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8 Id. at 8.
9 Id. at 9.
10 Id.
11 See, e.g., id. at 10.
12 See, e.g., id. at 10, 12.
13 See, e.g., id.
transmission owner. Cavalier further represents that it is not a regulated utility. As such, Cavalier asserts that business risk associated with the proposed Project will be borne solely by the Applicant, with no impact on rates paid by ratepayers in Virginia.

As provided by § 62.1-44.15:21 D 2 of the Code, the Commission and the State Water Control Board must consult on wetland impacts prior to the siting of electric utility facilities that require a CPCN. As required by Section 3 of the Department of Environmental Quality - State Corporation Commission Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Wetland Impacts Consultation, the Staff of the Commission ("Staff") has advised the Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ"), acting on behalf of the State Water Control Board, that the Applicants filed their Application and that consultation may be required.

In addition to consultation on wetlands, § 56-46.1 G of the Code directs the Commission and DEQ to coordinate the environmental review of proposed electric generation plants and associated facilities. Moreover, § 56-46.1 A of the Code provides for the Commission to receive and to consider reports on the proposed facilities from state environmental agencies. Accordingly, the Staff has requested DEQ to coordinate an environmental review of the Project by the appropriate agencies and to provide a report on the review.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the Application and applicable statutes, finds that: this matter should be docketed; the Applicant should give notice of the

14 Id. at 10.
15 Id. at 11.
17 Letter from Alisson Klaiber, Esquire, State Corporation Commission, dated October 8, 2020, to Bettina Rayfield, DEQ, filed in Case No. PUR-2020-00235.
Application to interested persons and the public; a public hearing should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Application; interested persons and the public should have an opportunity to file comments on the Application or participate as respondents in this proceeding; and the Staff should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations thereon. We further find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to conduct further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Applicant's Motion for Protective Ruling, and to file a final report.

The Commission further takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, and the declarations of emergency issued at both the state and federal levels. The Commission has taken certain actions, and may take additional actions going forward, that could impact the procedures in this proceeding.

Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established

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18 See, e.g., Executive Order No. 51, Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19, issued March 12, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam. See also Executive Order No. 53, Temporary Restrictions on Restaurants, Recreational, Entertainment, Gatherings, Non-Essential Retail Businesses, and Closure of K-12 Schools Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), issued March 23, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam, and Executive Order No. 55, Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), issued March 30, 2020, by Governor Ralph S. Northam. These and subsequent Executive Orders related to COVID-19 may be found at: https://www.govemor.virginia.gov/executive-actions/.

below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2020-00235.

(2) All pleadings in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. For the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.21

(3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.

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20 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*

21 As noted in the Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission's Clerk's Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may not be processed for an indefinite period of time due to the COVID-19 emergency.
(4) As provided by § 12.1-31 of the Code and 5 VAC 5-20-120, Procedure before hearing examiners, of the Commission’s Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission, including ruling on the Applicant’s Motion for Protective Ruling, and to file a final report.

(5) Due to the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, the Commission hereby schedules a telephonic hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Project, as follows:

• A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Project shall be convened telephonically at 10:00 a.m. on March 22, 2021, with no witness present in the Commission’s courtroom.22

• To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.

• On or before March 18, 2021, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission’s website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.

• Beginning at 10:00 a.m. on March 22, 2021, the Commission will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above. This

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22 The Commission will convene counsel of record in this proceeding to attend the public witness hearing virtually.
hearing will not be convened, and the parties will be notified of such, if no person signs up to testify as a public witness.

- This public witness hearing will be webcast at scv.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

(6) A hearing on the Project shall be convened at 10:00 a.m. on March 23, 2021, either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, to receive testimony and evidence offered by the Applicant, respondents, and the Staff on the Project. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

(7) An electronic copy of the Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Applicant, Brian R. Greene, Esquire, GreeneHurlocker, PLC, 4908 Monument Avenue, Suite 200, Richmond, Virginia 23230, or BGreene@GreeneHurlocker.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: scv.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

(8) On or before December 15, 2020, the Applicant shall cause to be sent by first class mail, a copy of the notice and sketch map prescribed in Ordering Paragraph (9) to all owners, as of the date of this Order, of: (1) property contiguous to the Project Site for which a CPCN has been requested, and (2) property within the route of the proposed interconnection facilitie(s), as indicated on the map or sketch of the route filed with the Commission, which requirement shall be satisfied by mailing to such persons at such addresses as are indicated in the land books maintained by the commissioner of revenue, director of finance, treasurer, or other officer of the county or municipality designated as provided by § 58.1-3100 et seq. of the Code.

(9) On or before December 15, 2020, the Applicant shall publish in two (2) successive weeks, the sketch map of the proposed Project, as provided in Attachment R to the Application,
and the following notice as display advertising (not classified) in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in Surry County and Isle of Wight County, Virginia:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF THE APPLICATION OF CAVALIER SOLAR A, LLC FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR 240 MW SOLAR GENERATING FACILITIES IN SURRY COUNTY, AND ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

CASE NO. PUR-2020-00235

On October 5, 2020, pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 56-46.1, 56-265.2, and 56-580 D, and Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") Chapter 20 VAC 5-302, Cavalier Solar A, LLC ("Cavalier" or "Applicant") filed an application ("Application") and supporting documents for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity with the Commission.

Cavalier seeks to construct solar generating facilities totaling up to 240 megawatts ("MW") (alternating current) in Surry County and Isle of Wight County (the "Solar Generating Facilities") as well as the necessary transmission lines to interconnect the Solar Generating Facilities to the transmission grid. Cavalier's proposed interconnection facilities include: (a) approximately two miles of 34.5 kilovolt ("kV") medium voltage feeder line ("Feeder Line") to interconnect the Solar Generating Facilities with the collector substation; and (b) an approximately 0.35 mile 500 kV generation-tie line ("Gen-Tie Line") to interconnect the collector substation to the transmission grid at the Septa Substation (the interconnection facilities together with the Solar Generating Facilities, the "Project"). The Applicant anticipates an in-service date for the Project of December 31, 2022.

The Project would be located in southeastern Surry County and northeastern Isle of Wight County. The Project, according to Cavalier, would be constructed on approximately 1,776 acres, located in a rural area, on a compilation of parcels consisting of agricultural land and cleared forest and timber land (the "Project Site"). The Septa Substation, to which the Project will interconnect to the transmission system, is located adjacent to the southeast portion of the Project Site, in Isle of Wight County, on a parcel owned by the Virginia Electric and Power Company.

According to Cavalier's Application, the electricity, capacity and associated green attributes generated from the Project will be sold pursuant to a long-term power purchase agreement.
with an off-taker located in the transmission region operated by PJM Interconnection, LLC.

Cavalier asserts that "there will be minimal adverse environmental effects associated with the Project." Cavalier further asserts that it "will comply with all necessary conditions imposed by the regulatory agencies with oversight responsibilities for all environmental aspects of the Project to ensure protection of public health and the environment."

Cavalier asserts that the Project is in the public interest. Cavalier asserts, among other things, that the Project would also promote the public interest by providing economic benefits to Surry and Isle of Wight Counties and the surrounding area.

**Description of the Proposed Project**

The Project would be located in Surry County and Isle of Wight Counties, Virginia, on the border between the counties, and the intersection of Beechland Road (Route 626) and White Marsh Road (Route 617) bordering the northwest part of the Project. The Project would interconnect to Virginia Electric and Power Company's Septa Substation located on Mill Swamp Road (Route 626).

The Project would include approximately two miles of 34.5 kV medium voltage Feeder Line and an approximately 0.35-mile 500 kV Gen-Tie Line to interconnect with the transmission system at the Septa Substation. The proposed route for the 34.5 kV Feeder Line begins 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Route 617 (White Marsh Rd.) and Route 626 (Beechland Rd.). From that point, it parallels Route 626 for 0.6 miles. The route then continues 1.4 miles southeast, in parallel with the existing 500 kV electric transmission line right-of-way into the Project collector substation. The minimum structure height for the 34.5 kV Feeder Line route is 45 feet. The maximum structure height is 70 feet. The average structure height is 55 feet.

The proposed route for the 500 kV Gen-Tie Line begins at the Project collector substation. Traveling south, the route runs east for 0.35 mile and enters the north side of the Septa Substation property. The minimum structure height for the 500 kV Gen-Tie Line route is 95 feet. The maximum structure height is 105 feet. The average structure height is 100 feet.
All distances and directions are approximate. A sketch map of the proposed Project accompanies this notice. A more detailed map of the proposed routes may be viewed on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Transmission-Line-Projects

The Commission may consider Project site(s) and/or gen-tie and transmission route(s) not significantly different from the Project Site and/or gen-tie and transmission route(s) described in this notice without additional notice to the public.

A more complete description of the proposed Project may be found in the Application.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on Cavalier's Application. On March 22, 2021, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before March 18, 2021, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On March 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from Cavalier, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

Copies of the Application and other supporting materials may be inspected during regular business hours at the following location:
sPower, LLC  
4200 Innslake Drive  
Suite 302  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

An electronic copy of the Application also may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Applicant, Brian R. Greene, Esquire, GreeneHurlocker, PLC, 4908 Monument Avenue, Suite 200, Richmond, Virginia 23230, or BGreene@GreeneHurlocker.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing, on or before January 19, 2021, a notice of participation. Notices of participation shall include the email addresses of the party or its counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Applicant. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00235. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing.

On or before March 16, 2021, any interested person may file comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00235.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.
Cavalier's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

CAVALIER SOLAR A, LLC

(10) On or before December 15, 2020, the Applicant shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following officials, to the extent the position exists in Surry County and Isle of Wight County: the chairman of the board of supervisors of each county; the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) of every city and town; and the county attorney. Service shall be made by either personal delivery or first-class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either personal delivery or first-class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.23

(11) On or before January 5, 2021, the Applicant shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (9) and (10), including the name, title, and address of each official served with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118, or by filing electronically at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/.

(12) On or before January 5, 2021, the Applicant shall file with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (11) a certificate of mailing of the notice to owners of property prescribed by Ordering Paragraph (8). The certificate shall not include the names and addresses of the owners of property served, but the Applicant shall maintain a record of this information.

23 See Commission's April 1, 2020 Order in Case No. CLK-2020-00007 (see n.19, supra).
(13) On or before March 16, 2021, any interested person may file comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00235.

(14) On or before January 19, 2021, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Applicant. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2020-00235.

(15) Within five (5) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Applicant shall serve upon the respondent a copy of the Application and supporting materials, unless these materials already have been provided to the respondent.

(16) On or before February 9, 2021, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission and serve on the Staff, the Applicant, and all other respondents, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to:
(17) The Staff shall investigate the Application. On or before February 23, 2021, the Staff shall file with the Clerk of the Commission its testimony and exhibits, and each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Staff shall serve a copy thereof on counsel to the Applicant and all respondents.

(18) On or before March 9, 2021, Cavalier shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Applicant shall serve a copy of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents.

(19) Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified herein, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

(20) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production shall be served electronically on the party to whom the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to
the Staff.24 Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 et seq.

(21) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.

24 The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission's website, scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information, by clicking "Docket Search," then clicking "Search by Case Information," and entering the case number, PUR-2020-00235, in the appropriate box.