Appendix G – Public Scoping Meeting Materials



Rural Utilities Service Environmental Review (NEPA) Process Turning Point Solar Generating Project

Turing Point Solar LLC may submit a loan or loan guarantee application to the Electric Programs of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for the construction of the proposed Turning Point Solar Generating Project in Noble County, Ohio. Prior to making a decision to finance a proposed project, RUS is required to complete an environmental review process in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

RUS has decided to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA). The purpose of an EA is to assess all of the proposed project's potential impacts on the environment and may include:

- Land Use
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Wetlands

- Cultural and Historic Properties
- Socioeconomics
- Visual and Sound Impacts

Public Scoping

The NEPA Scoping process serves multiple goals, including:

- Solicitation of comments from the public & private organizations
- Receipt of new information about alternatives
- Identification of potentially significant environmental impacts

The environmental review process for EAs provides opportunities for the public to review project information (Alternatives Evaluation and Site Selection Study—June 2011) and to comment on the *scope* of issues that RUS address in the EA. Following conclusion of the scoping period, RUS will evaluate comments, consult with agencies, and prepare the EA. Public comments often identify local concerns about a proposed project.

Scoping comments are due on August 15, 2011

To track EA development and access public documentation, visit the following RUS website: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWP-ea.htm

For more information and to submit comments, please contact: Lauren McGee, USDA Rural Utilities Service 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Mail Stop 1571 Washington, DC 20250-1571 Email: lauren.mcgee@wdc.usda.gov; Phone: (202) 720-1482 June 27, 2011 Notice of Intent published in *Federal Register (FR)* and local newspapers

July 14, 2011 Conduct scoping meetings

Review and compile comments

September 2011 Issue Scoping Report

Conduct analyses and prepare EA

Fall 2011

Issue EA and publish Notice of Availability (NOA) of EA in *FR* and local newspapers Comments Due: 30 days after *FR* notice.

Review and respond to comments

Fall/Winter 2011

Issue Environmental Decision—Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Decision to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Publish NOA in *FR* and local newspapers.

Project Area



Project Highlights

- 49.9 MW solar farm located on 771 acres of reclaimed coal strip mine land
- Proposed by Turning Point Solar LLC, a joint venture between Agile Energy, Inc. and New Harvest Ventures, and AEP Ohio in response to renewable energy policies and goals
- The project will utilize proven photovoltaic (PV) panels, which have been operating in projects around the world for over 40 years
- 2-mile transmission line to AEP Ohio's 138/69kV
 South Cumberland substation
- Project intends to commence phased construction in 2012, with all three phases operational by 2015











Site Selection Criteria

- Provide renewable power in AEP Ohio's service territory
- Minimize environmental impacts by utilizing reclaimed strip mine land
- Proximity to major transportation routes and transmission infrastructure
- Consistency with land use and planning policies
- Selected Site #2 after reviewing impacts on all three sites





Permitting/Environmental Review Process

- Environmental Assessment (EA) conducted by URS
 - Review of potential impacts to sensitive plants and wildlife
 - Review of potential impacts to cultural resources
 - Review of environmental and socioeconomic impacts
 - Public review a key component of the RUS process
- Permits for impacts to isolated wetlands from the State of Ohio and jurisdictional wetlands from the Corps of Engineers
- Construction permits for storm water management









Existing Conditions



Viewpoint Location Project Boundary Solar Panel Location
 Photograph Information

 Time of photograph: 2:30 PM

 Date of photograph: 6:30-11

 Weather condition:
 Partly Cloudy

 Viewing direction:
 East

 Latitude:
 39°48'45.41'N

 Longitude:
 81°40'19.98'W

Existing Conditions from Key Observation Point A-3

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar Figure XX



Viewpoint Location
Project Boundary
Solar Panel Location







Viewpoint Location

Project Boundary
Solar Panel Location

Photograph Information Time of photograph: 2:50 PM Date of photograph: 6:30-11 Weather condition: Clear Viewing direction: West Latitude: 39'48'4.78'N Longitude: 81'38'13.4'1'W Existing Conditions from Key Observation Point A-5

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar Figure XX



Viewpoint Location Project Boundary Solar Panel Location

Photograph Information

| ime of photograph. | 2.30 PM |
|--------------------|---------------|
| ate of photograph: | 6-30-11 |
| leather condition: | Partly Cloudy |
| iewing direction: | East |
| atitude: | 39°48'45.41"N |
| ongitude: | 81°40'19.98'W |
| | |

Photographic Simulation from Key Observation Point A-3

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

> > Figure XX

Photograph Information

| nine or protograph. | 2.30 F W |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Date of photograph: | 6-30-11 |
| Weather condition: | Clear |
| Viewing direction: | West |
| Latitude: | 39°48'4.78"N |
| Longitude: | 81°38'13.41'W |
| | |

Photographic Simulation from Key Observation Point A-5

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

> > Figure XX





Simulation



Typical solar panels

Photographic Simulation

Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

