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.

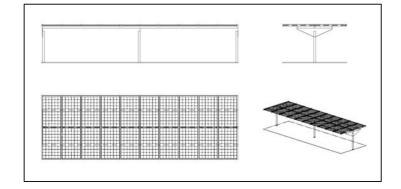
# **Project Area LEGEND** - Location of Existing Transmission Line - Study Area Attachment B Route 83 (Renrock Road) and County Highway 20, Brookfield Township, Noble County, Ohio 1,000 4,000 Feet 2,000 **URS**

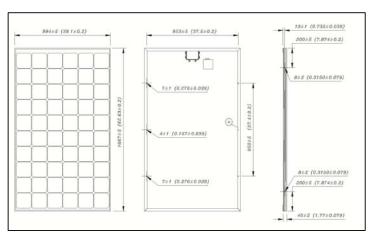
## **Project Highlights**

- 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





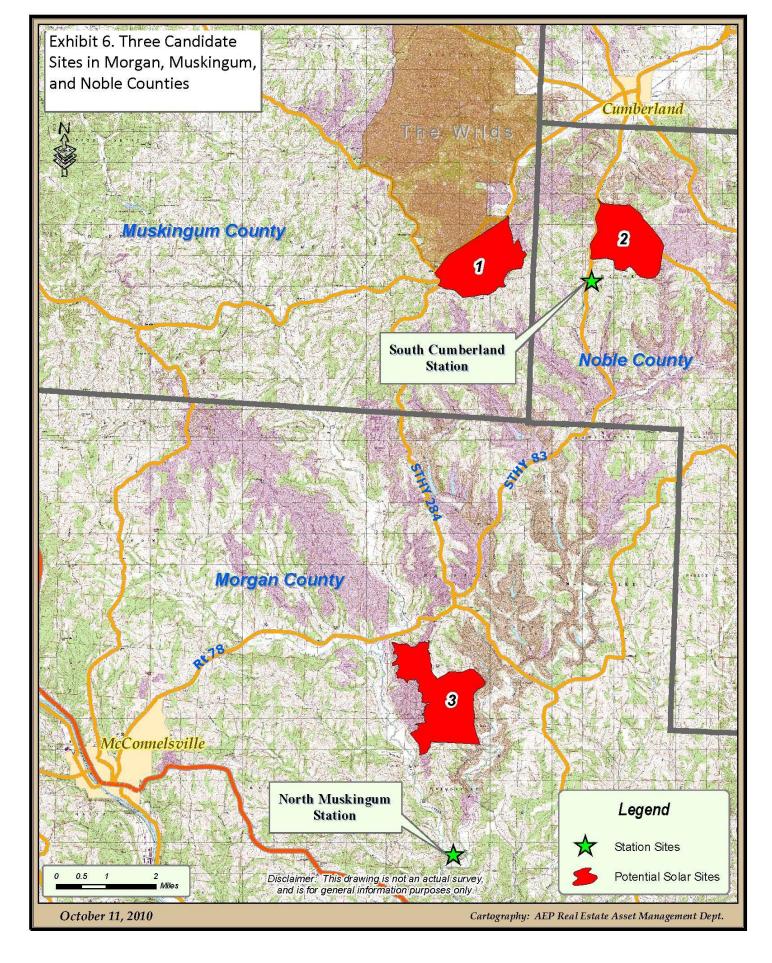






## **Site Selection Criteria**

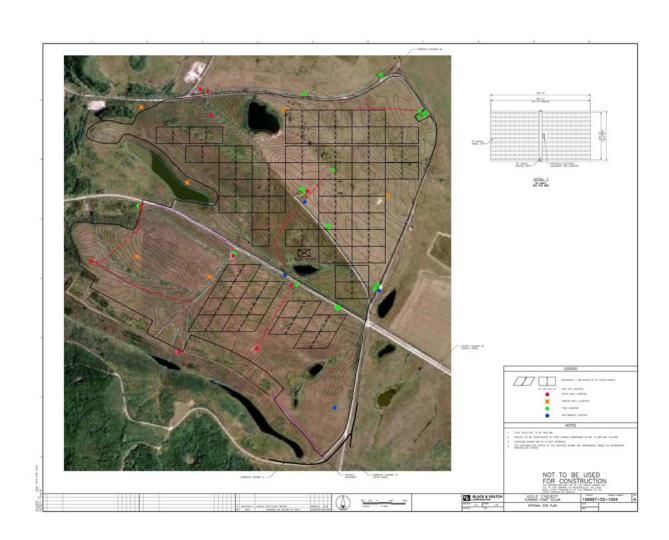
- Provide renewable power in AEP Ohio's service territory
- Minimize environmental impacts by utilizing reclaimed strip mine land
- Proximity to major transportation routes and transmission infrastructure
- Consistency with land use and planning policies
- Selected Site #2 after reviewing impacts on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







Legend

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: 81'40'19.95'W

Existing Conditions from Key Observation Point A-3

Agile Energy Turning Point Solar



County Rd 20

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

Weather condition: Partly Cloudy
Viewing direction: East
Latitude: 39°48'45.41"N
Longitude: 81°40'19.98"W

Photographic Simulation from Key Observation Point A-3

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

> > Figure XX





Legend

Viewpoint Location

Project Boundary

Solar Panel Location

Photograph Information Time of photograph: 2:50 PM Date of photograph: 6-30-11 Weather condition: Clear

Date of photograph: 6-30-11
Weather condition: Clear
Viewing direction: West
Latitude: 39°48'4.78"N
Longitude: 81°38'13.41"W

Existing Conditions from Key Observation Point A-5

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar



Rd 20

Legend

Viewpoint Location
Project Boundary
Solar Panel Location

Figure XX

Photograph Information Time of photograph: 2:50 PM Date of photograph: 6-30-11

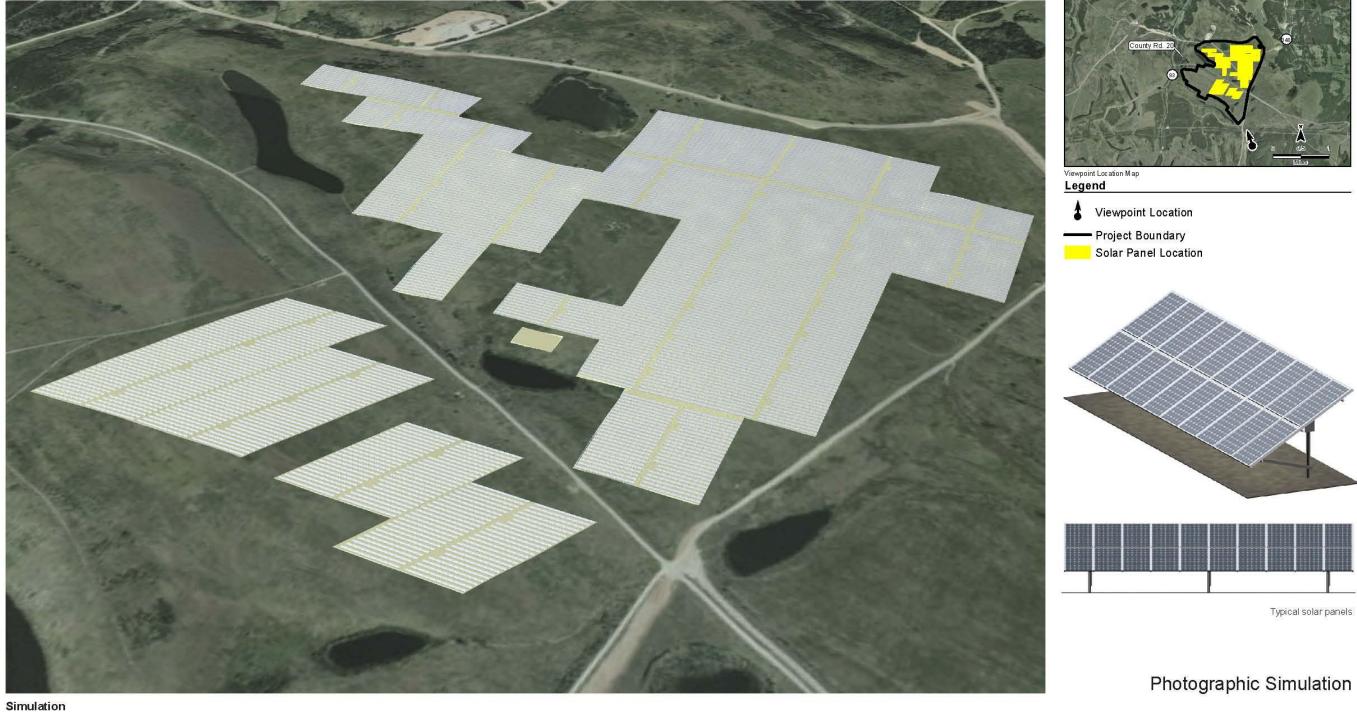
Date of photograph: 6-30-11
Weather condition: Clear
Viewing direction: West
Latitude: 39\*48'4.76"N
Longitude: 81\*38'13.41"W

Photographic Simulation from Key Observation Point A-5

> Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

> > Figure XX





Agile Energy Turning Point Solar

