STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. SP-8116, SUB 0

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application of Slender Branch Solar, LLC, ORDER ISSUING CERTIFICATE
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and ORDER ISSUING CERTIFICATE
AND ACCEPTING REGISTRATION
OF NEW RENEWABLE ENERGY
Facility in Bladen County, North Carolina OF ACILITY

BY THE COMMISSION: On July 22, 2016, Slender Branch Solar, LLC (Applicant), filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to G.S. 62-110.1(a) for construction of an 80-MW_{AC} solar generating facility to be located along NC Highway 131, east of Faith Lane, west of Twisted Hickory Road, and approximately 3.4 miles north of the intersection of NC Highway 131 and Silver Spoon Road, Bladenboro, Bladen County, North Carolina. The Applicant plans to sell the electricity to Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP).

Contemporaneously with the application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility. The registration statement included certified attestations that: (1) the facility is in substantial compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources; (2) the facility will be operated as a new renewable energy facility; (3) the Applicant will not remarket or otherwise resell any renewable energy certificates sold to an electric power supplier to comply with G.S. 62-133.8; and (4) the Applicant will consent to the auditing of its books and records by the Public Staff insofar as those records relate to transactions with North Carolina electric power suppliers.

On July 26, 2016, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Publication of Notice.

On August 1, 2016, the Applicant filed a certificate of service stating that a copy of the Application and the related public notice were provided to DEP on July 29, 2016.

On September 1, 2016, the State Clearinghouse filed comments. On September 2, 2016, the State Clearinghouse filed additional comments. Because of the nature of the comments, the cover letters indicated that no further State Clearinghouse review action by the Commission was required for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

On September 6, 2016, the Applicant filed an affidavit of publication from the Bladen Journal (Elizabethtown, North Carolina) stating that the publication of notice was completed on August 23, 2016. No complaints have been received.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on October 10, 2016. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the application and determined it to be in compliance with the requirements of G.S. 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-64. The Public Staff further stated that the registration statement contains the certified attestations required by Commission Rule R8-66(b). Therefore, the Public Staff recommended approval of the certificate and registration for the facility.

After careful consideration, the Commission finds good cause to approve the application and issue the attached certificate for the proposed solar photovoltaic electric generating facility. The Commission further finds good cause, based upon the foregoing and the entire record in this proceeding, to accept registration of the facility as a new renewable energy facility. The Applicant shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year and will be required to participate in the NC-RETS REC tracking system (http://www.ncrets.org) in order to facilitate the issuance of RECs.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That the application of Slender Branch Solar, LLC, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, approved.
- 2. That Appendix A shall constitute the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued to Slender Branch Solar, LLC, for the 80-MW_{AC} solar generating facility to be located along NC Highway 131, east of Faith Lane, west of Twisted Hickory Road, and approximately 3.4 miles north of the intersection of NC Highway 131 and Silver Spoon Road, Bladenboro, Bladen County, North Carolina.
- 3. That the registration statement filed by Slender Branch Solar, LLC, for its solar photovoltaic facility located in Bladen County, North Carolina, as a new renewable energy facility, shall be, and is hereby, accepted.
- 4. That Slender Branch Solar, LLC, shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ___11th__ day of October, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

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Slender Branch Solar, LLC 3250 Ocean Park Boulevard, Suite 355 Santa Monica, California 90405

is hereby issued this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PURSUANT TO G.S. 62-110.1

for a 80-MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic electric generating facility

located

along NC Highway 131, east of Faith Lane, west of Twisted Hickory Road, and approximately 3.4 miles north of the intersection of NC Highway 131 and Silver Spoon Road, Bladenboro, Bladen County, North Carolina,

subject to all orders, rules, regulations and conditions as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 11th day of October, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk