

SP-5434, Sub 0

BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

March 30, 2015

Gail L. Mount
Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
430 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

Re: Docket No. SP- 5434, Sub 0
Johannes Gutenberg Solar, LLC – Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience
and Necessity

Dear Clerk Mount:

Enclosed for Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC's Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. Application Exhibits 5, 7(i), 7(ii), 7(iii), and 8(i) are marked confidential and are submitted under seal because these documents contain propriety and confidential information pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-1.2.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Juergen Fehr

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JF', is written over the printed name 'Juergen Fehr'.

Enclosure

OFFICIAL COPY

Mar 30 2015

**State of North Carolina
Utilities Commission
Raleigh**

Docket No. SP- 5434, Sub 0

Before the North Carolina Utilities Commission

**In the Matter of Application of)
Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC for a)
Certificate of Public Convenience)
and Necessity)**

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND
NECESSITY**

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC ("Johannes Gutenberg" or the "Applicant") hereby applies to the North Carolina Utilities Commission (the "Commission") pursuant to G.S. §110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64 for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing the construction of a 74.9 - megawatt ("MW") solar facility (the "Facility") to be located in Northampton County.

In support of its application, Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC provides the Commission the attached eight exhibits in compliance with Rule R8-64.

**Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 1**

(i) The Applicant's full and correct name, business address and business telephone numbers are:

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
7804 - C Fairview Road #257
Charlotte, NC 28226

e-mail: interconnection@geenexsolar.com
Phone: (704) 907-7163

(ii) Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC is a North Carolina limited liability company with its principal place of business in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Articles of Incorporation were filed on September 17, 2014. The facility owner, applicant and Juergen Fehr, an individual duly authorized to act as corporate agent for the purpose of the application have the same address, telephone number, and electronic mailing address.

(iii) The Facility will be a 74.9 MW AC photovoltaic (PV) array. The source of its power is solar energy.

(iv) Site Owner. The Facility will be located on a minimum of six parcels.

Applicant has executed the following leases:

1. 4 D Farms LLC
2. Thomas Robinson & Katherine Harris
3. Michael H. Wray, Kay W. Wray, David M. Dunlow and Debra B. Dunlow

Applicant has executed an option to purchase with Swain Hunter Stephenson.

Applicant may execute a lease with Paul Stephenson, Linda Stephenson & Sarah Baird.

**Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 2**

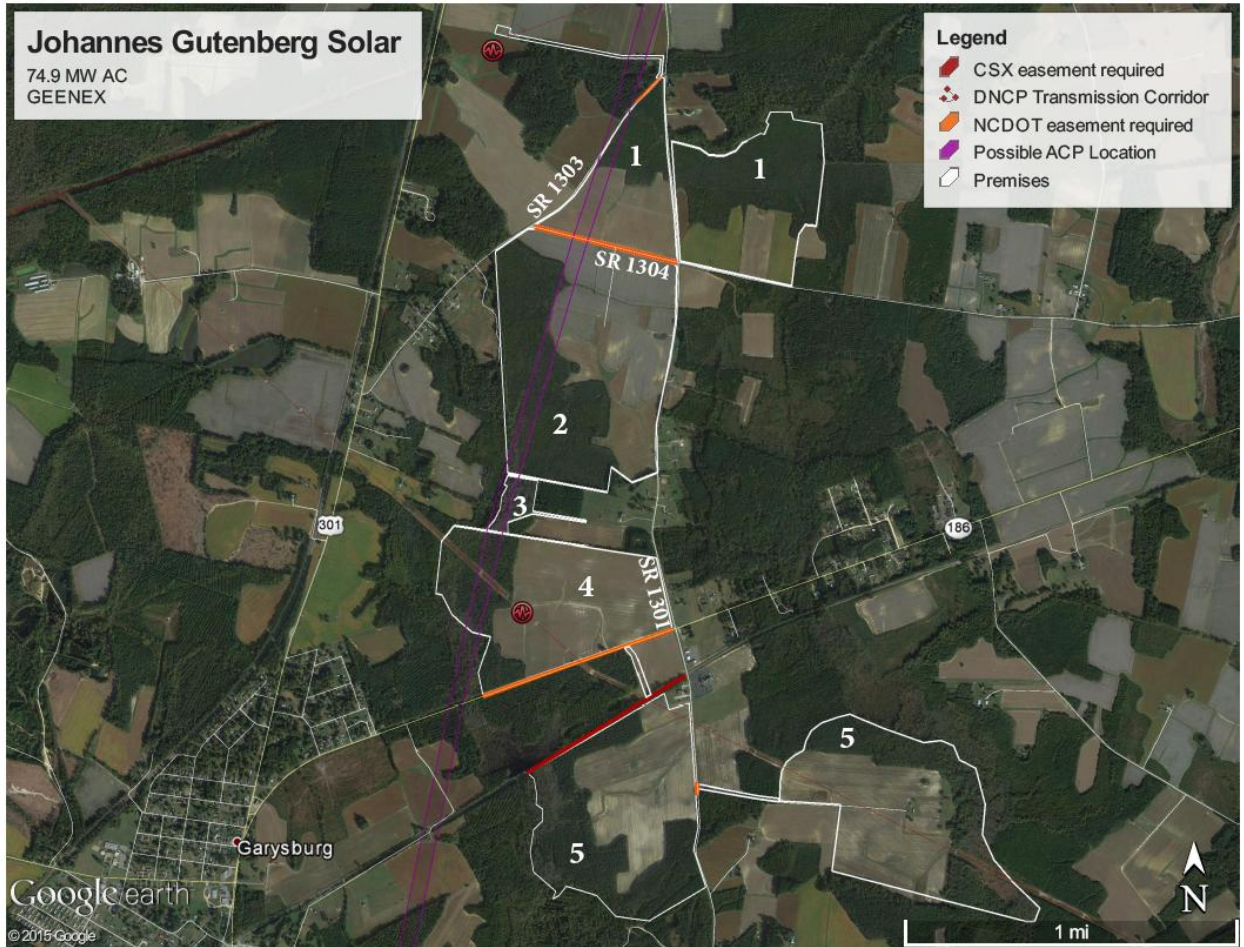
(i) See map as Attachment 1 to Exhibit 2 showing an aerial view of the site with the landowners identified and general location of Facility. See map as Attachment 2 to Exhibit 2 showing the location of major equipment (solar panels). The final site layout will depend on design considerations, consultation with PJM and Dominion North Carolina Power (DNCP), potential easement for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, potential lease of Stephenson Property and required permits.

(ii) The final E911 address is obtained after the zoning permit is received. The site is located just east and west of Cornwallis Road (SR-1301) within approximately 1.5 mile radius of the intersection of Cornwallis Road and Highway 186 in an unincorporated area of Northampton County and Garysburg Township Extra Territorial Jurisdiction. The site is approximately 1 mile east of Garysburg. The latitude is 36°27'42.91"N and the longitude is 77°32'16.18"W.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
CPCN Attachment 1 to Exhibit 2

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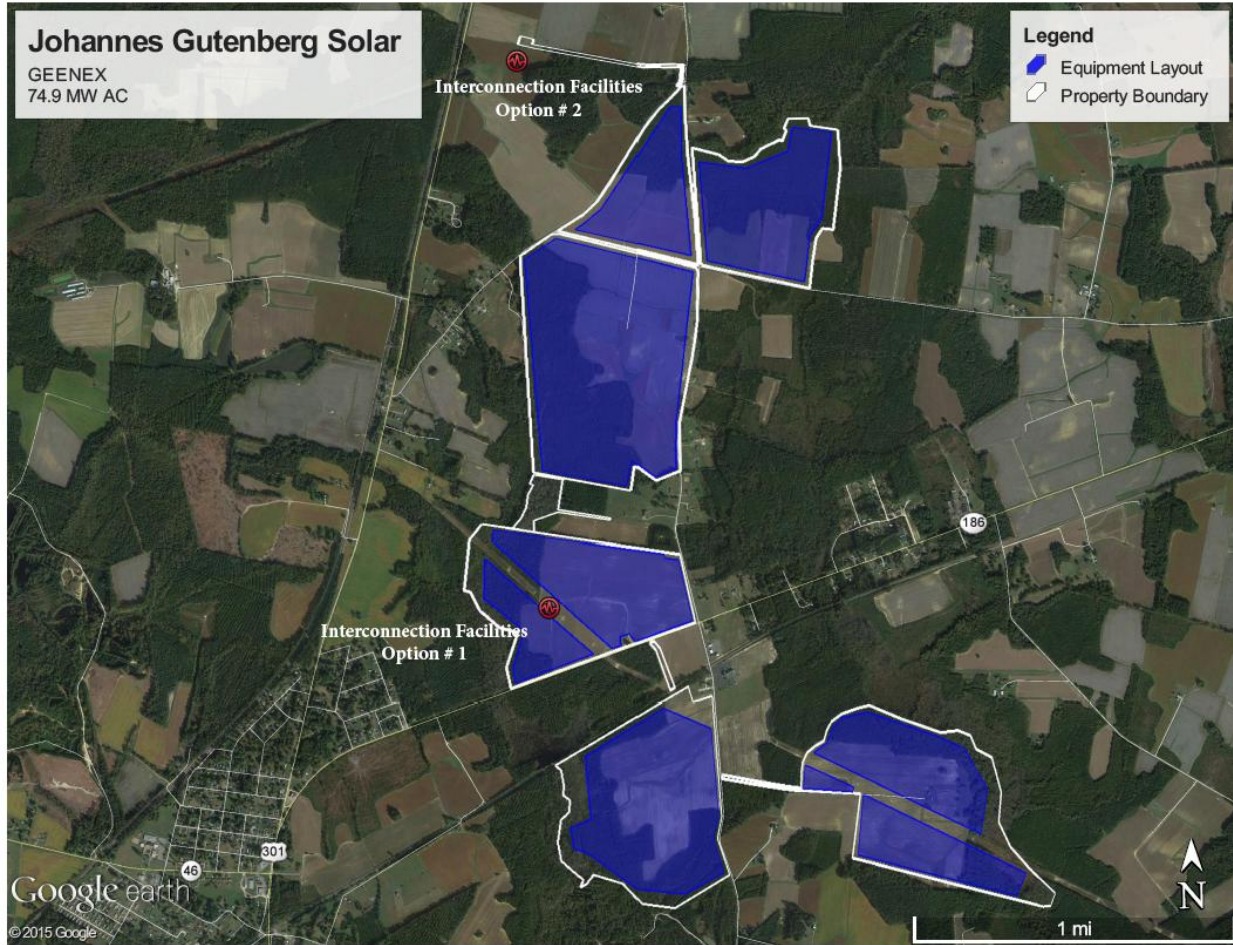
Mar 30 2015



Number	Site Owner
1.	Paul Stephenson, Linda Stephenson & Sarah Baird
2.	4D Farms LLC
3.	Option to Purchase - Swain Hunter Stephenson
4.	Thomas Robinson & Katherine Harris
5.	Michael H. Wray, Kay W. Wray, David M. Dunlow and Debra B. Dunlow

Note: "Possible ACP Location" refers to the current proposed path of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
CPCN Attachment 1 to Exhibit 2



Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 3

- (i) The facility will generate 74.9 MW electricity. The source of power is solar.
- (ii) The facility will consist of approximately three hundred and five thousand (305,000) 310 to 330 W photovoltaic (PV) modules affixed to single-axis tracking system and ground-mounted racks. The system will utilize forty one (41) 1.833 MW inverters.
- (iii) The facility's nameplate capacity is 74.9 MW. The gross capacity is 74.9 MW and net projected maximum capacity is 74.9 MW. With full solar resources, the dependable capacity is 74.9 MW. The dependable capacity will be reduced when the solar resources are diminished.
- (iv) The Facility is projected to come on line by June 1, 2016.
- (v) The Applicant plans to sell the output pursuant to a negotiated Power Purchase Agreement to DNCP or one or more wholesale or retail customer in deregulated states that allow for such sales, or to sell the output in the PJM market.
- (vi) If required, any wheeling will be arranged per the PJM Open Access Transmission Tariff to meet the needs of the yet to be determined buyer.
- (vii) If needed non-firm energy is expected to be acquired through PJM or DNCP.
- (viii) The service life of the project is expected to be a minimum of twenty five years.
- (ix) The projected year one annual sales of the facility is approximately 167,000,000 kWh/yr.
- (x) The applicant plans to produce renewable energy certificates that are eligible for compliance with North Carolina's renewable energy and energy efficiency portfolio standard.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 4

(i) The Applicant intends to file for a self-certification as a Qualifying Facility (QF) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Application is seeking the benefits of 16 U.S. C. 824a-3 with the exception of the right to sell energy or capacity from its Facility to DNCP. Applicant is aware that FERC entered an Order granting DNCP's application to terminate its obligation to purchase from QFs with a net capacity in excess of 20 MW on July 17, 2008. Therefore, the Applicant is seeking only certain benefits of a QF, including but not limited to the right to interconnect and purchase certain service and the right for relief from regulatory burdens such as compliance with certain requirement of the Public Utility Holding Act. The following is a complete list of all federal and state licenses, permits and exemptions required for construction and operation of the generating facility:

- North Carolina Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources (NCDENR) Approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans.
- North Carolina Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources (NCDENR) - Stormwater Management Permit
- N. C. Department of Transportation – Driveway Permit
- N. C. Department of Transportation - Utilities Encroachment Easement
- Garysburg Township - Conditional Use Permit
- Northampton County - Conditional Use Permit
- Northampton County - Building Permit/Electric Permit
- FERC Form 556

(ii) None of the above have been obtained at this time. The Applicant will file a copy of the federal and state licenses, permits and exemptions with the Commission when they are obtained.

CONFIDENTIAL
Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 5

The projected cost of the Facility is filed under seal as **Confidential Attachment 1 to Exhibit 5** because it constitutes confidential and proprietary information within the scope of G.S. § 132-1.2.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 6

(i) Geenex Energy LLC (Geenex), the parent of Johannes Gutenberg Solar, develops solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities with the primary intention of selling to third parties that become the long-term operator and owners of the facilities. In 2014, Geenex LLC developed, built and sold HXOap Solar One LLC, a 20 MW AC project located in Halifax County. The project negotiated PPA with Dominion and is currently owned and operated by Duke Renewables LLC. Geenex is developing over 200 MW of solar PV facilities in North Carolina and is leading the effort of building the Center for Energy Education, a not-for-profit dedicated to the advancement of renewable energies by creating awareness in the Community, providing information, training and education to students and serving as a hub for the industry in eastern North Carolina near Roanoke Rapids.

The company works closely with Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) companies, equipment manufacturers, landowners, owners and operators of utility scale solar PV systems and industry consultants.

Georg Veit, *Chief Executive Officer*

Driven by the vision of combining the strengths of the US and Germany, he established a team of industry professionals and raised the necessary capital to develop utility scale and commercial systems, which led to the founding of Geenex in 2012. Since starting Geenex, he lead all major contract negotiations for the first Geenex system in North Carolina and the successful 20 MW Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), the EPC, Construction Finance and Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) for HXOap Solar One.

Mr. Veit has a breadth of experience; having worked with Feed-in tariff and tax incentive financial scenarios, overdeveloped and nascent markets as well as residential, commercial and utility sized systems. This perspective gives Geenex the ability to maneuver through the ever-fluctuating variables encountered during PV project development. As a personal owner of multiple PV systems, Mr. Veit and Geenex are committed to developing and constructing the most reliable projects with the best possible returns.

Juergen Fehr, *Chief Operating Officer*

Mr. Fehr has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and Business Administration (eidg.dipl.BF) and has more than 20 years of Industry experience. Upon completion of his business degree in Switzerland he joined a Swiss semiconductor equipment manufacturer as Product engineer and Key account manager, working closely with several US semiconductor entities. In '98 he joined an Austrian company, specialized in industrial metal manufacturing. Jürgen moved to the US in '99 where he held the position of Marketing Product Manager with focus of new product introductions and market analysis. His deep understanding of process management and his work history with international corporations provided essential guidance in strategic planning and sourcing. By 2011 he joined an international PV panel manufacturer as President and CEO and established their first US entity for manufacturing and distribution in the America with full P&L responsibility. With joining Geenex as COO he brings over 15 years' experience in all aspect necessary to operate a successful organization. His wide range of knowledge in the US Solar Industry is providing ample experience to the Geenex team.

Christopher Robotham, *Director of Project Finance*

Mr Robotham has been working with Geenex from the beginning, working on project development, evaluation and finance. After passing the first year of a law degree with honors Mr. Robotham moved to study Political Science, receiving his MA at the prestigious Otto-Suhr-Institut for political science in Berlin.

Parallel to his academic work, his professional career has taken him from the office of Rita Süßmuth former President of the German federal parliament, to the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA). Here he was in charge of coordinating the Match Operations Unit at one of the world's biggest sports federations. Equally at ease working in English, German and French, Mr. Robotham's strong knowledge base in environmental and Energy policy led to him joining Geenex since its foundation.

Water Putnam, *Project Development Associate*

Passion for sustainability drives Walter to devote his time developing clean energy plants and having a positive impact on the environment. Walter's primary focus at Geenex is on early-stage project development which encompasses site selection, lease negotiations, acquisition, permitting and local outreach. His efforts resulted in a pipeline of over 200 MW of solar PV projects. Prior to working at Geenex, Walter was a founding partner at Shift Equity which focused on renewable energy project feasibility and environmental commodities. Walter is a native North Carolinian and a proud graduate of Appalachian State University where he received Bachelor's of Science Degree in Appropriate Technology and a minor in Entrepreneurship. Walter is an alum of the E4 Carolinas Emerging Leaders Program.

Donna Robichaud, *President of QF Solutions, LLC, Consultant to Geenex*

Donna is an energetic, seasoned, energy professional that founded QF Solutions LLC after twenty- three years at Duke Energy. The primary focus of QF Solutions is providing strategic consulting services for renewable project development, market analysis, negotiations for power purchase agreements, origination, strategic partnering, wholesale and retail electric rate analysis, project pro-forma, interconnection agreements, renewable public policy, PURPA regulations and growth strategies. While at Duke, Donna held various roles which included leading efforts to build a combustion turbine plant, developing a carbon offset business, developing, managing and leading operations for district cooling, combined heat and power, and other energy infrastructure projects of which became the foundation for Duke Renewables. During her last few years at Duke in the franchised business unit, Donna's group managed interconnections applications, company owned solar facilities, other renewable development and third party power renewable purchase agreements. Donna holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Math, Physics, and Mechanical Engineering, Masters in Business Administration.

(ii) No regulated utility will be involved in the actual operation of the Facility.

(iii) The Applicant request a waiver of the requirement to obtain a statement from the electric utility to which the applicant plans to sell the electricity to be generated because Geenex has not yet determined what entity or entities the output of the Facility will be sold. As noted in response to item V in Exhibit 3, the Applicant is pursuing several options for sale of the output, only one of which is a negotiated PPA with DNCP.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 7

- (i) The most current balance sheet for Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC, the parent company of the Applicant, is filed under seal as **Confidential Attachment 1 to Exhibit 7** because it constitutes confidential and proprietary information within the scope of G.S. § 132-1.2.
- (ii) The most current income statement of Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC, the parent company of the Applicant, is filed under seal as **Confidential Attachment 2 to Exhibit 7** because it constitutes confidential and proprietary information within the scope of G.S. § 132-1.2.
- (iii) The project financial model is filed under seal as **Confidential Attachment 3 to Exhibit 7** because it constitutes confidential and proprietary information within the scope of G.S. § 132-1.2.
- (iv) There are no confirmed financing arrangement at this time.

Johannes Gutenberg Solar LLC
Application Exhibit 8

(i) A simulation reflecting the anticipated kilowatt and kilowatt-hour outputs, on-peak and off-peak, for each month of the year, including a statement of the specific on-peak and off-peak hours underlying the quantification, is filed under seal as **Confidential Attachment 1 to Exhibit 8** because it constitutes confidential and proprietary information within the scope of G.S. § 132-1.2.

(ii) The Facility is a solar photovoltaic array and the energy input is solar. The output of the electrical generation will be sold under a PPA to either DNCP or to one or more retail in deregulated states that allow for such sales or wholesale customers or will be sold into the PJM market.

(iii) No fuel supply arrangement are required for the Facility.

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of)
Johannes Gutenberg Solar, LLC for a)
Certificate of Convenience and Public)
Necessity)

VERIFICATION

I, Juergen Fehr, Manager of Johannes Gutenberg Solar, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, verify that the contents of this Application for a Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience filed in this docket are true to the best of my knowledge. I am duly authorized to act on behalf of said limited liability company.


Juergen Fehr

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 30 day of March, 2015.


Notary Public (signature)
(Typed/ Printed Name)

My Commission Expires:

March 11, 2018