

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. SP-20162, SUB 0

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Wilkes Solar, LLC, for a)	ORDER ISSUING CERTIFICATE
Certificate of Public Convenience and)	AND ACCEPTING REGISTRATION
Necessity to Construct a 75-MW Solar)	OF NEW RENEWABLE ENERGY
Facility in Wilkes County, North Carolina)	FACILITY

BY THE COMMISSION: On March 6, 2020, Wilkes Solar, LLC (Applicant), filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1(a) for the construction of an 75-MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility to be located at 502 Robin Hill Road, North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina. The Applicant plans to sell the electricity produced by the facility to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC).

Contemporaneous with the filing of the application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a renewable energy facility or 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 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 N.C.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 March 10, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Publication of Notice.

On March 17, 2020, the Applicant filed a verified certificate of service stating that the application and the related public notice were provided to Duke Energy Progress on March 17, 2020.

On March 19, 2020, the Applicant filed a revised verified certificate of service stating the application and related public notice were provided to DEC on March 17, 2020.

On April 14, 2020, the State Clearinghouse filed comments. The cover letter indicated that, because of the nature of the comments, no further State Clearinghouse review action by the Commission was required for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

On April 24, 2020, the Applicant filed an affidavit of publication from the *Wilkes Journal-Patriot* (North Wilkesboro, North Carolina) stating that the publication of notice was completed on April 8, 2020.

On June 26, 2020, at the request of the Public Staff, the Applicant filed a confidential updated site map showing the locations of the site access points. On June 29, 2020, the Applicant filed the same map as non-confidential.

On July 1, 2020, the Public Staff filed a letter summarizing the record in this proceeding and stating that the Public Staff has reviewed the application and determined that it complies with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-64. The Public Staff with its letter a proposed order through which the Public Staff further recommends that the Commission accept the registration statement. In its proposed order the Public Staff also recites that it inquired of the Applicant whether the project was planned for participation in the Competitive Procurement of Renewable Energy (CPRE) Program pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-110.8, and the Applicant responded that this project was bid into the most recent CPRE Program Tranche 2.

After careful consideration, the Commission finds good cause to approve the application and issue the attached certificate for the proposed solar PV 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 a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, issued to Wilkes Solar, LLC, for the construction of a 75-MW_{AC} solar PV electric generating facility located at 502 Robin Hill Road, North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina;

2. That Appendix A hereto shall constitute the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued for the facility;

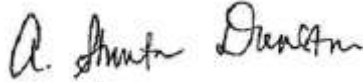
3. That the registration statement filed by Wilkes Solar, LLC, for its solar PV electric generating facility to be located at 502 Robin Hill Road, North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina, as a new renewable energy facility, shall be, and is hereby, accepted; and

4. That Wilkes 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 10th day of September, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Shonta Dunston".

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. SP-20162, SUB 0

Wilkes Solar, LLC
1115 E. Morehead Street, Suite 200
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

is hereby issued this

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
PURSUANT TO N.C. GEN. STAT. § 62-110.1**

for an 75-MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic electric generating facility

located

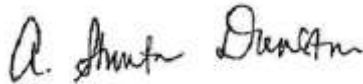
at 502 Robin Hill Road, North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina.

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 10th day of September, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Shonta Dunston".

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk