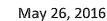


William W. Peaslee General Counsel



lay 27 2016



Ms. Gail Mount North Carolina Department of Commerce Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325

Re: SCH File # 16-E-4600-0107; Application of Albemarle Beach Solar LLC for a Certificate to construct an 80-MW Solar Facility in Washington Co. Docket #SP-6476 Sub 0.

Dear Ms. Mount:

State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

> The above referenced environmental impact information has been reviewed through the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

> Attached to this letter are <u>additional comments</u> made in the review of this document. Because of the nature of the comments, it has been determined that no further State Clearinghouse review action on your part is needed for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act. The attached comments should be taken into consideration in project development.

> > Sincerely,

ptal Bust

Crystal Best State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments cc: Region R

State of North Carolina | Administration 116 West Jones St. | 1301 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, NC 27699-1301 state.clearinghouse@doa.nc.gov | 919 807 2419 T

May 27 2016



## North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

**State Historic Preservation Office** 

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory Secretary Susan Kluttz Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

May 19, 2016

Susan E. Bamann, Ph.D. Commonwealth Heritage Group PO Box 1198 Tarboro, NC 27886

Re: Phase I Archaeological Survey Report, Construct 80 MW Albemarle Beach Solar, SP-6476, Sub 0, Washington County, CH 15-2391

Dear Dr. Bamann:

Thank you for your letter of May 12, 2016 transmitting the Phase I archaeological survey report for the above-referenced project. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

The project area consists of several tracts located on both sides of Mackeys Road at the intersections with Albemarle Beach Road and Cross Road in Washington County. This area has been proposed for development of an 80 MW solar facility. An intensive Phase I archaeological survey was conducted within the area scheduled for this facility.

The field methods employed during this investigation are considered standard and appropriate for adequate coverage of the landscape actually surveyed within the project area. Twenty-four (24) archaeological sites (including 5 isolated finds) were recorded as a result of this survey. These sites include: sites 31WH40\*\* through 31WH63. Of these, all were recommended as ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), except for site 31WH48/48\*\*. This site was recommended for Phase II evaluation to determine the NRHP eligibility status of the prehistoric component. We concur with this recommendation. No further work was recommended for the remaining twenty-three (23) sites. We concur with these recommendations.

Please note, approximately 225 acres within the project area were not surveyed due to agricultural amendments placed on specific fields immediately prior to the field work. These fields are located mainly in high probability areas within well-drained soils. It was recommended that the area would be appropriate for survey later if equipment layout for the solar farm or other ground disturbing activities were planned. Prior to clearance of these 225 acres, we recommend a meeting in the near future of the parties involved to discuss these issues.

Location: 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27601 · Mailing Address: 4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617 Telephone/Fax: (919) 807-6570/807-6599

The report meets our office's guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior. There are no editorial comments or changes recommended for the present version of this document.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or <u>environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</u>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,

Zence Medhill-Early

<sup>%</sup>Ramona M. Bartos

cc: Eric Schudt, Sun Energy 1 State Clearinghouse