



Concord Monarch GP2 Ltd.

Monarch Solar Project Amendment

March 23, 2021

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 26362-D01-2021

Concord Monarch GP2 Ltd.

Monarch Solar Project Amendment

Proceeding 26362

Application 26362-A001

March 23, 2021

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The Commission may, within 30 days of the date of this decision and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected decision on its website.

1 Decision summary and background

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission approves an application from Concord Monarch GP2 Ltd. to amend its power plant approval and finalize its generation equipment for the Monarch Solar Project.

2. Pursuant to Approval 25711-D02-2020,¹ Concord has approval to construct and operate the Monarch Solar Project power plant, located near the town of Monarch.

3. On March 3, 2021, Concord applied by letter of inquiry to reduce the land required for the power plant from the southwest, southeast and northwest quarters of Section 19, Township 10, Range 22, west of the Fourth Meridian to just the southwest quarter of Section 19, Township 10, Range 22, west of the Fourth Meridian, and submitted its final selection of generation equipment. Concord submitted the following in support of its application:

- A noise impact assessment summary form that concluded the project amendments would be in compliance with Rule 012: *Noise Control*.
- A solar glare assessment report that concluded the project amendments would be unlikely to create hazardous glare conditions for nearby dwellings or transportation routes.² Compared to glare predictions from the original application,³ the project amendments would result in slight glare increases at two nearby dwellings,⁴ and would decrease or eliminate glare at all transportation routes and other dwellings.
- Confirmation that the amendments and equipment selected would not increase the land and environmental impacts from what was approved for the base reference case by the Commission.
- A copy of its safety compliance assessment and correspondence from CP Rail that it had no outstanding safety concerns regarding the project.

2 Findings

4. Based upon the information provided, Concord has demonstrated that the requested amendments are of a minor nature, no person is directly and adversely affected by the

¹ Power Plant Approval 25711-D02-2020, Proceeding 25711, Application 25711-A001, July 27, 2020.

² Exhibit 26362-X0007, Attachment F - Monarch Solar - SGHAR (2021.02.26).

³ Exhibit 24009-X0021, Monarch Solar IR1_FINAL, PDF pages 12 to 34.

⁴ Project amendments would increase yellow glare at D3 from 3,120 to 3,243 minutes per year and increase yellow glare at D4 from 3,222 to 3,573 minutes per year. Exhibit 26362-X0007, Attachment F - Monarch Solar - SGHAR (2021.02.26), PDF page 22.

amendments and no significant adverse noise or environmental impact will be caused by the proposed alterations, thereby meeting the requirements of sections 11 and 12 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Regulation*.

5. The Commission accepts the modelling results of the solar glare assessment that indicate the project amendments would decrease or eliminate glare at all transportation routes and all dwellings, except two dwellings, and that the glare increases at these two dwellings are small (i.e., there is no material change at these two dwellings). Overall, the Commission accepts the conclusion of the solar glare assessment that the project is unlikely to create hazardous glare conditions for nearby dwellings or transportation routes.

6. The Commission is satisfied that Concord has complied with conditions 3 a and 3 c of Approval 25711-D02-2020.

3 Decision

7. Pursuant to sections 11 and 19 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants Concord Monarch GP2 Ltd. the approval set out in Appendix 1– Power Plant Approval 26362-D02-2021 – March 23, 2021, to construct and operate the Monarch Solar Project (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 23, 2021.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Vera Slawinski
Commission Member