

December 7, 2022

Decision 27721-D01-2022

NU-E Corp 6404 6A Street S.E. Calgary, Alta. T2H 2B7

Attention: Pamela Pelletier

Development Manager

Lethbridge 1 Solar Project Proceeding 27721 Applications 27721-A001 and 27721-A002

Checklist application approval

- 1. NU-E Corp filed a checklist application with the Alberta Utilities Commission to construct and operate Lethbridge 1 Solar Project in the city of Lethbridge. NU-E Corp applied to connect the power plant to the City of Lethbridge Electric Utility's distribution system.
- 2. The Lethbridge 1 Solar Project will consist of 19,450 solar photovoltaic modules with 35 inverters and three transformers, for a total generating capability of 8.75 megawatts. The project will be located on 40 acres of private cultivated land in the city of Lethbridge.
- 3. NU-E Corp submitted documentation of the potential environmental and noise impacts for the project. Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP)¹ determined that the project will pose a low risk to wildlife and wildlife habitat. The project's noise impact assessment concluded that noise levels at nearby dwellings are compliant with Rule 012: *Noise Control*. NU-E Corp conducted a solar glare assessment for the project and confirmed that there are no outstanding concerns. The project will be connected to the City of Lethbridge Electric Utility distribution system. NU-E Corp stated that construction is expected to start in January 2023, the proposed in-service date is July 1, 2023, and the construction completion date is estimated to be in December 2023.²
- 4. The Commission understands that NU-E Corp conducted a solar glare assessment and concluded that there are no outstanding concerns regarding the project. Nevertheless, the Commission requires NU-E Corp to promptly address complaints or concerns from stakeholders

On October 24, 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Parks was renamed the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas. Any references to Alberta Environment and Parks in Rule 033: Post-approval Monitoring Requirements for Wind and Solar Power Plants and elsewhere that relate to forward-looking obligations or commitments between the applicant and Alberta Environment and Parks should be interpreted as meaning Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.

After the project is in-service in July 2023, NU-E Corp plans to conduct system monitoring and optimization until December 2023.

regrading solar glare if NU-E Corp receives any following construction of the power plant. Accordingly, the Commission imposes the following conditions of approval:

- a. NU-E Corp shall ensure that the solar panels used are equipped with an anti-reflective coating.
- b. NU-E Corp shall file a report with the Commission detailing any complaints or concerns about solar glare that are brought to its attention during its first year of operation, as well as NU-E Corp's response. NU-E Corp shall file this report no later than 13 months after the project becomes operational.
- 5. Rule 033: Post-approval Monitoring Requirements for Wind and Solar Power Plants requires approval holders to submit annual post-construction monitoring survey reports to AEP and the Commission. Therefore, the Commission imposes the following condition of approval:
 - c. NU-E Corp shall submit a post-construction monitoring survey report to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas Fish and Wildlife Stewardship and the Commission no later than January 31 of the year following the mortality monitoring period, and on or before the same date every subsequent year for which Alberta Environment and Protected Areas requires surveys pursuant to subsection 3(3) of Rule 033: *Post-approval Monitoring Requirements for Wind and Solar Power Plants*.
- 6. NU-E Corp has provided information respecting the need, extent, location, ownership, and the timing of the power plant. NU-E Corp confirmed that it will fulfill the requirements of all other agencies with jurisdiction over the project. NU-E Corp has confirmed that the power plant will comply with Rule 012: *Noise Control*, no other person is directly and adversely affected by the power plant, and no adverse environmental impact will be caused by the power plant.
- 7. The Commission approves the applications. Approval 27721-D02-2022 and Order 27721-D03-2022 are attached.
- 8. The Commission may, no later than 60 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.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Rita Chan, P.Eng.
Director – Power Plants, Facilities Division
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachments