AGREEMENT

BY AND BETWEEN

THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AND

SOMERS SOLAR, LLC

Dated: _______, 2025

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This Renewable Energy Standard ("RES") Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into as of _______, 2025 (the "Effective Date") by and between the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA"), a public benefit corporation, having a principal business address of 17 Columbia Circle, Albany, New York 12203, and Somers Solar, LLC ("Seller"), a Delaware LLC, having a principal business address of 2045 Lincoln Highway, Edison, New Jersey 08817. NYSERDA and Seller are each referred to herein as a "Party" and are collectively referred to herein as the "Parties."

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission ("PSC") through its "Order Adopting a Clean Energy Standard" ("2016 CES Order") established a Clean Energy Standard Program, including a Renewable Energy Standard ("RES"); and

WHEREAS, the RES requires each New York electric load-serving entity to serve its retail customers by procuring new renewable resources, evidenced by the proffer of RES Tier-1 Renewable Energy Certificates; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 CES Order directs and authorizes NYSERDA, as the central procurement administrator of the RES program, to procure Tier-1 RECs for sale to New York electric load-serving entities; and

WHEREAS, in July 2019 New York State enacted the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("CLCPA"), which requires the PSC to develop a program for achieving 70% of statewide electrical generation from "renewable energy systems" as defined in the CLCPA and codified at § 66-p(1)(b) of the Public Service Law;

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2020² the PSC authorized NYSERDA to procure both "Fixed RECs" and "Index RECs," the price of which are indexed to reference energy and capacity prices;

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2020³ the PSC authorized modifications to the Clean Energy Standard;

WHEREAS, NYSERDA has conducted a competitive solicitation in the form of RESRFP24-1 to procure Tier-1 RECs and has invited bidders to submit either Fixed REC or Index REC bids; and

¹ See Case 15-E-0302, <u>Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard</u>, "Order Adopting a Clean Energy Standard," issued and effective August 1, 2016.

² *Id.* "Order Modifying Tier 1 Renewable Procurements," issued and effective January 16, 2020 ("Index REC Order").

³ *Id.* "Order Adopting Modifications to the Clean Energy Standard," issued and effective October 15, 2020 ("2020 CES Order").

WHEREAS, NYSERDA RESRFP24-1 provided, among other things, that this Agreement would be employed to govern the rights and obligations of the Parties; and

WHEREAS, Seller has participated in RESRFP24-1 and has been selected by NYSERDA with respect to Somers Solar ("Bid Facility") on the basis of an Index REC Price; and

WHEREAS, Seller agrees to sell to NYSERDA, and NYSERDA agrees to purchase from Seller, the Tier-1 RECs associated with the energy production of the Bid Facility described in the Bid Proposal submitted in response to RESRFP24-1 during the Contract Delivery Term, on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Agreement has been entered into by the Parties to define, among other things, their rights and obligations concerning the Tier-1 RECs associated with the generation of electric energy by the Bid Facility, the delivery by Seller of Tier-1 RECs to NYSERDA, and payments by NYSERDA to Seller during the term of this Agreement.

Article I

Definitions

The terms defined in the recitals, the preamble, this Article I, or any other Articles of this Agreement, whenever used in this Agreement (including in any Exhibit hereto), shall have the respective meanings indicated in such provisions for all purposes of this Agreement (each such meaning to be equally applicable to the singular and the plural forms of the respective terms so defined). All references herein to a Section, Article or Exhibit are to a Section, Article or Exhibit of or to this Agreement, unless otherwise indicated. The words "hereby," "herein," "hereof," "hereunder" and words of similar import refer to this Agreement as a whole (including any Exhibit) and not merely to the specific section, paragraph or clause in which such word appears, unless so specified. The words "include," "includes," and "including" shall be deemed, in every instance, to be followed by the phrase "without limitation." Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, all references to "dollars" and "\$" shall be deemed references to the lawful money of the United States of America.

<u>Actual Annual Eligible Production</u>: The amount, in MWh, of the Actual Eligible Production that the Bid Facility produces during a Contract Year.

Actual Eligible Production: The Actual Eligible Production shall equal the Actual Production.

<u>Actual Production</u>: The amount, in MWh, of the total electric energy production of the Bid Facility during any period within the Contract Delivery Term as measured at the Injection Point.

Affiliate: With respect to any Person, each Person that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such designated Person. For purposes of this definition, "control" (including, with correlative meanings, the terms "controlled by" and "under common control with"), as used with respect to any Person, will mean (a) the direct or indirect right to cast at least 50% of the votes exercisable at an annual general meeting (or its equivalent) of such Person or, if there are no such rights, ownership of at least 50% of the equity or other ownership interest in such Person, or (b) the right to direct the policies or operations of such Person.

Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan: A plan developed by Seller and submitted to NYSERDA in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.11 of this Agreement and RESRFP24-1 that proposes a viable co-utilization of the Bid Facility site with the agricultural production of "crops, livestock, or livestock products," as that phrase is defined by New York State Agriculture and Markets Law (AML) § 301(2) for the duration of the Contract Delivery Term.

<u>Agricultural Mitigation Payment</u>: The one-time "Mitigation Fund Payment", if any, for the Bid Facility, as defined in and calculated as set forth in Attachment G to RESRFP24-1, which amount for the Bid Facility will not exceed the estimated Mitigation Fund Payment set forth in Exhibit H, unless the Bid Facility layout is substantively revised or expanded to increase the Bid Facility area's footprint in MSG 1-4 lands.

<u>Annual Operating Report</u>: An operating report submitted by Seller to NYSERDA on an annual basis, in a form substantially similar to Exhibit I to this Agreement that includes information depicting the performance of the Bid Facility for the reporting year, major operations and maintenance activities performed and planned, planned or unplanned outages, and curtailment directives, or dispatch issues.

Annual REC Cap: An amount of Tier-1 RECs equal to the product of (x) the Bid Quantity and (y) one and two-tenths (1.2), rounded down to the nearest whole REC. The Annual REC Cap shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement, as such Schedule may be modified or amended from time to time in accordance with Section 5.02(b).

<u>Applicable Class Year</u>: The Class Year in which the Bid Facility has been placed for purposes of the NYISO interconnection process.

<u>Applicable Zone</u>: The NYISO load zone that includes the Delivery Point. The Applicable Zone shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

<u>Applicable Law</u>: All applicable provisions of all constitutions, treaties, statutes, laws (including the common law), rules, regulations, ordinances, and codes and any order, writ, injunction, decree, judgment, award, decision, or determination of any court of jurisdiction or any federal,

state, municipal or other governmental department, commission, board, bureau, agency, authority or instrumentality, including the NYISO tariffs.

<u>Award Notification Date</u>: For purposes of this Agreement, the Award Notification Date will be as stated in Schedule 2 of this Agreement.

<u>Bid Capacity</u>: Bid Capacity shall equal (i) the gross generating capacity of the entire Bid Facility as bid to NYSERDA in MWac multiplied by (ii) the Bid Quantity Percentage. The Bid Capacity shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

<u>Bid Facility</u>: The electric generating station that has been identified and described in the Application for Qualification submitted by Seller through which the Bid Facility was found to be qualified for participation in RESRFP24-1, as such Bid Facility may be mutually modified from time to time in accordance with Section 2.12.

<u>Bid Proposal</u>: Documents submitted by Seller in response to RESRFP24-1 and received by NYSERDA.

<u>Bid Quantity</u>: The amount stated in the Bid Proposal of Tier-1 RECs the Bid Facility expects to proffer as performance under this Agreement during each Contract Year during the Contract Delivery Term. The Bid Quantity shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

<u>Bid Quantity Percentage</u>: The percentage of the Bid Facility's Actual Annual Eligible Production committed to performance under this Agreement. For all transactions contemplated and consummated under this Agreement, the Bid Quantity Percentage shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

<u>Business Day</u>: Any day except a Saturday, Sunday or a New York State or NERC recognized holiday.

<u>Capacity Accreditation Factor (CAF)</u>: The Capacity Accreditation Factor for the CARC to which the Bid Facility has been assigned as determined by NYISO in accordance with the New Capacity Accreditation Rules.

<u>Capacity Accreditation Resource Class (CARC)</u>: The Capacity Accreditation Resource Class assigned to the Bid Facility as determined by the NYISO based on technology type and location under the New Capacity Accreditation Rules.

<u>Change of Control</u>: Any transfer, sale, assignment, pledge, or other disposition of shares of or equity interests in Seller having the result (directly or indirectly and either immediately or after giving effect to the exercise of any options that have vested) of changing the entity or entities which possess the power (directly or indirectly and either immediately or after giving effect to

the exercise of any options that have vested) to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of Seller (from the entity or entities possessing such power as to Seller as of the Effective Date), whether such change is voluntary or involuntary on the part of Seller; provided, however, that a Change of Control with respect to Seller shall not include any transfer, sale assignment, pledge or other disposition if: (a) such transfer, sale, assignment, pledge or other disposition is in connection with a financing of the Bid Facility, or is the result of the exercise of remedies by financing parties providing a financing; (b) such transfer, sale, assignment, pledge or disposition is pursuant to a tax equity financing of the Bid Facility, or is the result of the exercise of remedies by a tax equity investor upon a default under such tax equity financing documents; or (c) following such transfer, sale assignment, pledge or other disposition, the management and policies of Seller continue to be directly or indirectly controlled solely by an entity or entities that possessed such power as to Seller as of the Effective Date.

<u>Climate Resiliency Plan</u>: The Climate Resiliency Plan described in Section 6.08 of this Agreement.

<u>Construction Activities</u>: The physical activities associated with the construction of any on-site structure or civil site works including, but not limited to, the clearing, grubbing, grading, staging, installation, erection and placement of the Bid Facility and electrical interconnection, as well as start-up and commissioning of the Bid Facility.

Commercial Operation: A state of operational readiness of the Bid Facility under which (i) the Bid Facility has been mechanically constructed and interconnected, (ii) generating capacity is available to physically produce and deliver electric energy to the Injection Point and associated Tier-1 RECs, and (iii) all rights, abilities, permits and approvals to schedule and deliver energy to the Injection Point have been obtained; provided, however, that for the avoidance of doubt, delivery of electric energy for testing or other purposes prior to achievement of the foregoing clause (iii) shall not constitute Commercial Operation.

<u>Commercial Operation Milestone Date</u>: The Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date, unless and until the Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date is extended in accordance with the terms of Article II and Article XV of this Agreement, in which case the Commercial Operation Milestone Date shall be the applicable Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date determined in accordance with Article XV and Schedule 2.

<u>Contract Delivery Term</u>: The period commencing on the first day of the month after the month in which the Bid Facility commences Commercial Operation and terminating on the last day of the Contract Tenor.

Contract Security: Has the meaning set forth in Section 15.01 of this Agreement.

<u>Contract Tenor</u>: The duration, in Contract Years, of the Contract Delivery Term. The Contract Tenor shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

<u>Contract Year</u>: A 12-month period commencing with the beginning of the Contract Delivery Term and each anniversary thereof within the Contract Delivery Term.

<u>Delivery Point</u>: For Bid Facilities located within the NYCA, the generator bus or location where (a) the administrator of the wholesale power market or (b) the operator of the transmission/distribution utility, public authority or municipal electric company, measures or otherwise determines energy production from the Bid Facility.

<u>Disadvantaged Communities</u>: The term "Disadvantaged Communities" shall have the meaning established by the New York Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act in § 75-0101(5) of the New York Environmental Conservation Law.

<u>Disadvantaged Community Commitments</u>: Shall be those commitments to provide benefits to Disadvantaged Communities contained in the Seller's Bid Proposal as described in Section 6.10 of this Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, a community that meets the definition of a Disadvantaged Community as of the Effective Date will be deemed to constitute a Disadvantaged Community with respect to the Disadvantaged Community Commitments set forth in Section 6.10 of this Agreement, and a community that meets the definition of a Disadvantaged Community as of the date of any substitute Disadvantaged Community Commitment made under Section 6.10 will be deemed to constitute a Disadvantaged Community with respect to such replacement Disadvantaged Community Commitment.

Economic Benefits Start Date: June 2, 2017⁴.

<u>Eligible Co-Agricultural Expenses</u>: Expenses that (i) are included in an Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan that has been accepted by NYSERDA in writing, (ii) the Seller can demonstrate would not have been incurred but for the implementation of the Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan, and (iii) are incurred prior to the fifth anniversary of the Bid Facility entering Commercial Operation.

Expected Dollars/MW: The total dollar amount of Incremental Economic Benefits per MW of Bid Capacity, as presented in the Bid Proposal and accepted by NYSERDA, expected to accrue to New York as a result of the development, construction, modification and operation of the Bid Facility from the Economic Benefits Start Date through the end of the first three (3) Contract Years. The Expected Dollars/MW under this Agreement shall be as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement.

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⁴ The date NYSERDA issued its 2017 Renewable Energy Standard Request for Proposals (RESRFP17-1).

Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW: The total dollar amount of Incremental Economic Benefits per MW of Bid Capacity, as presented in the Bid Proposal and accepted by NYSERDA, expected to accrue specifically to New York State Certified MWBEs and New York State Certified SDVOBs. The amount of Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW under this Agreement is set forth in Schedule 1 to this Agreement.

Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars/MW: The total dollar amount per MW of Bid Capacity associated with expenditures for iron and steel components permanently incorporated into the Bid Facility manufactured in the United States using iron or steel from steel mills located in the United States. The amount of Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars/MW is set forth in Schedule 1 to this Agreement.

Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: The First Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Second Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Third Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Fourth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Fifth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date or Sixth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, as applicable in accordance with Article XV.

Incremental Economic Benefits: Incremental Economic Benefits are financial expenditures benefitting New York State within the categories specified in Section IV of RESRFP24-1 that a Seller can demonstrate: (1) were incurred on or after the Economic Benefits Start Date, and (2) would not have accrued but for an award under a NYSERDA competitive solicitation to procure Tier-1 RECs or in anticipation of the potential for such an award. Economic benefits previously claimed with respect to a Bid Facility that are subject to a pending award under a previous solicitation or that is the subject of a current NYSERDA Agreement are not Incremental Economic Benefits.

<u>Index REC Price</u>: A price in dollars per Tier-1 REC that nets the as-bid Index REC Strike Price monthly against the sum of the Reference Energy Price and the Reference Capacity Price, as determined pursuant to Section 4.01 of this Agreement.

<u>Index REC Strike Price</u>: The as-bid value for each Contract Year as submitted in the Bid Proposal and as stated in Schedule 1 of this Agreement, subject to adjustment pursuant to Article V of this Agreement.

<u>Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date</u>: The Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement.

<u>Injection Point</u>: For Bid Facilities located within the New York Control Area, the Injection Point shall be the Delivery Point.

<u>Installed Capacity</u>: Installed Capacity shall equal (i) the gross generating capacity of (a) a new Bid Facility, or (b) for a Bid Facility that is the subject of an Upgrade or a Repowering, such Bid Facility, after completion of such Upgrade or Repowering, in MWac in accordance with its Statement of Qualification (SoQ) and Operational Certification, multiplied by (ii) the Bid Quantity Percentage.

<u>Knowledge</u>: With respect to a fact or circumstance, means the knowledge of a Party after conducting (a) a reasonable review of its books, records and properties relating to matters relevant to such particular fact or circumstance and (b) a reasonable inquiry of each of its employees, officers, directors, agents and vendors who would reasonably be expected to have actual knowledge of such fact or circumstances as a result of such other person's position or duties.

Material Modification: Any modification to the technology, major equipment (e.g., turbines, strings, modules, inverters, racking system), interconnection attributes (e.g., electrical configuration, CRIS/ERIS rights, kV line, withdrawal from queue, NYISO Zone), metering or tariff type (including any addition of behind the meter load), or to the size or location of the Bid Facility or its point of interconnection that materially changes the characteristics of such Bid Facility compared with those described in the Bid Proposal that were subject to eligibility screening and evaluation in RESRFP24-1. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following shall not constitute Material Modifications: (i) changes required by a permitting or regulatory authority to the location of equipment installed within the Bid Facility's site, (ii) changes to balance of system components or changes in original equipment manufacturer that do not change the type of equipment being utilized, or (iii) changes in the information included in the Bid Proposal relating to Permitting Viability, Project Development, Financing and Creditworthiness, Community Engagement, Carbon Emissions and Embodied Carbon, Climate Resiliency, or Incremental Economic Benefits.

Mineral Soil Groups (MSG) 1-4: Soils with a mineral soil group value of 1, 2, 3, or 4 as assigned by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets in the Agricultural Land Classification System for New York. For the purposes of this Agreement, MSG 1-4 have been established in 'NYSERDA 2024 Soils Data.' Exhibit H depicts the Bid Facility as bid to NYSERDA with the NYSERDA 2024 Soils Data MSG 1-4 overlay.

Monthly REC Price: A price in dollars per Tier-1 REC for each month of the Contract Delivery Term. The Monthly REC Price shall be as calculated pursuant to Section 4.01 of this Agreement.

<u>Mutual Termination Agreement</u>: The Termination Agreement by and between Seller and NYSERDA, dated as of the Termination Agreement Date as stated in Schedule 2 of this Agreement, terminating a previous RES Agreement.

<u>MW</u>: A megawatt of alternating current electric energy generating capacity.

<u>MWBE</u>: Minority and/or Women-Owned Businesses Enterprises, as such term is as defined under New York State Executive Law Article 15-A.

<u>MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW Shortfall</u>: The amount, if any, by which the Verified MWBE and SDVOB Dollars is less than the product of the Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW and the Installed Capacity.

MWh: A megawatt-hour of electric energy.

New Capacity Accreditation Rules: NYISO's tariff revisions to its Services Tariff to adopt a marginal capacity accreditation market design, approved by the federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Docket No. ER22-772) on May 10, 2022.

New York Control Area (NYCA): The control area that is under the control of the NYISO which includes transmission facilities listed in the ISO/TO Agreement Appendices A-1 and A-2, as may be amended from time-to-time.

<u>New York Generation Attribute Tracking System (NYGATS)</u>: The tracking system that records electricity generation attribute information within New York State, and processes generation attribute information from energy imported and consumed within New York State, as a basis for creating generation attribute certificates, including Tier-1 RECs. NYGATS will create exactly one Tier-1 REC per MWh of RES eligible generation.

NYGATS Forward Certificate Transfer: An automated monthly Transfer of Tier-1 RECs over the duration of the Contract Delivery Term as further prescribed in the NYGATS Operating Rules.

<u>NYGATS Operating Rules</u>: The NYGATS Operating Rules, the General Terms of Use and other guidelines posted to the NYGATS website at: https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/NYGATS/Registration-Documents as may be amended from time to time insofar as such amendments do not unreasonably interfere with the operation of the Agreement.

<u>NYISO</u>: The New York Independent System Operator, Inc., the administrator of the wholesale power markets in New York and manager of the physical electrical operations of the NYCA.

NYSERDA NYGATS Account: The NYGATS account established by NYSERDA into which Seller shall transfer Tier-1 RECs as performance under this Agreement.

Operational Certification: Verification by NYSERDA that the Bid Facility has been constructed and/or will operate in accordance with the Bid Proposal, as such Bid Facility may be modified with mutual consent from time to time in accordance with Section 2.12 in advance of

Operational Certification, for which a Provisional Statement of Qualification (PSoQ) was granted in accordance with the NYGATS Operating Rules, and for which an award was made.

<u>Permitted Transferee</u>: (A) Affiliate of Seller or (B) any Person who: i) meets, or whose parent entity meets, the minimum eligibility criteria for creditworthiness and demonstrated experience set out in RESRFP24-1; and ii) as of the date of a Change of Control, has not been a party adverse to NYSERDA in any litigation, arbitration, or formal dispute resolution proceeding within the preceding five (5) years and is not currently a party adverse to NYSERDA in any pending litigation, arbitration, or formal dispute resolution proceeding, where "adverse" means prosecuting or defending a direct claim against NYSERDA or participating in any litigation in support of a party that is prosecuting or defending a direct claim against NYSERDA.

<u>Person</u>: Means a natural person, corporation, electric cooperative, partnership, limited liability company, trust, association, joint venture, real estate or investment trust or business trust (including any beneficiary thereof), unincorporated association, municipal corporation, municipally-owned utility, municipality or other governmental authority, and any other form of business or legal entity.

<u>Prevailing Wage</u>: Shall have the meaning set forth at and shall be interpreted in accordance with Section 18.10 of this Agreement.

<u>Project Labor Agreement or PLA</u>: A pre-hire collective bargaining agreement between Seller, as owner of the Bid Facility, or a third party acting on Seller's behalf, and a bona fide building and construction trade labor organization which has established itself, and/or its affiliates, as the collective bargaining representative for all persons who will perform work constructing the Bid Facility, and which provides that only contractors and subcontractors who sign a pre-negotiated agreement with the labor organization can perform such construction work on the Bid Facility.

Quantity Obligation: Shall mean, for any period during the Contract Delivery Term, the number of Tier-1 RECs equal to the product of (a) the Bid Quantity Percentage multiplied by (b) the Actual Eligible Production; subject, however, to adjustments pursuant to Article V (Adjustments); and provided that the Quantity Obligation in any Contract Year shall not exceed the Annual REC Cap for such Contract Year; and provided, further, that in the event of a discrepancy in measurement between the amount of Tier-1 RECs generated by the Bid Facility for any period and the Actual Eligible Production (in MWh) for that period (for example, due to rounding or meter adjustments), the Quantity Obligation shall be calculated based upon the amount of Tier-1 RECs generated by the Bid Facility for that period rather than the Actual Eligible Production for such period.

<u>Reference Capacity Price</u>: An amount based on an index of NYISO Capacity Market prices for the Applicable Zone calculated as set forth in Section 4.01 of this Agreement.

<u>Reference Energy Price</u>: An amount based on an index of NYISO Energy Market prices for the Applicable Zone calculated as set forth in Section 4.01 of this Agreement.

<u>Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)</u>: A cooperative effort among certain U.S. States, including New York State, to cap and reduce power sector CO2 emissions.

<u>RESRFP24-1 Launch Date</u>: The RESRFP24-1 Launch Date, as stated in Schedule 2 of this Agreement.

<u>SDVOB</u>: Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses as defined under the Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business Act of New York State.

Statement of Qualification (SoQ): A confirmation by NYSERDA that the energy production of the Bid Facility is eligible for the creation by NYGATS of Tier-1 RECs in accordance with NYSERDA's New York State Clean Energy Standard RES Tier 1 Certification Submission Instructions and Eligibility Guidelines, specifically Section 7.2 Demonstration of Commercial Operation. In order for the NYGATS certificates associated with the Bid Facility to be flagged with Tier 1 RES eligibility, the associated energy must be delivered into the NYCA in accordance with the delivery requirements specified in the Clean Energy Standard Final Phase 1 Implementation Plan and the NYGATS Operating Rules.

<u>Termination Agreement Contract Security</u>: All cash or other instrument(s) delivered to or maintained by NYSERDA as contract security in accordance with the Mutual Termination Agreement.

<u>Tier-1 Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) or Tier-1 REC</u>: The electronic record of generation data created by NYGATS and representing all of the attributes of one MWh of electricity generation from a RES Tier-1 Bid Facility registered with NYGATS. The attributes represented in each Tier-1 REC include all environmental characteristics, claims, credits, benefits, emissions reductions, offsets, allowances, and allocations, however characterized, denominated, measured or entitled, attributable to the generation of Actual Eligible Production by a Bid Facility, including but not limited to: (i) any direct emissions or any avoided emissions of pollutants to the air, soil or water including but not limited to sulfur oxides (SOx), nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter and other pollutants; (ii) any direct or avoided emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and other greenhouse gases ("GHGs") that have been or may be determined by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to contribute to the actual or potential threat of altering the Earth's climate by trapping heat in the atmosphere; (iii) all set-aside allowances and/or allocations from emissions trading programs made unnecessary for compliance in such program as a result of performance under this Agreement, including but not limited to allocations available under 6 NYCRR §§ 204, 237 and 238; and (iv) all credits, certificates, registrations, recordations, or other memorializations of whatever type or sort, representing any of the above. For greater clarity, Tier-1 Renewable

Energy Certificate attributes shall not include (i) federal, state, or local tax benefits, tax credits, or tax incentives related to the Bid Facility or its generation of electricity or (ii) any energy, capacity, reliability or other power products, such as ancillary services.

<u>Transfer/Transferred</u>: The delivery of Tier-1 RECs to the NYSERDA NYGATS Account designated by NYSERDA.

<u>U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars Shortfall</u>: The amount, if any, by which the Verified U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars is less than the product of the Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars/MW and the Installed Capacity in MWdc.

<u>Verified MWBE and SDVOB Dollars</u>: The total dollar amount of Incremental Economic Benefits that accrued specifically to New York State certified MWBEs and New York State certified SDVOBs, as certified by the Seller and verified by NYSERDA, as a result of the development, construction, modification, operation, and maintenance of the Bid Facility.

<u>Verified Total Dollars</u>: The total dollar amount of Incremental Economic Benefits verified by NYSERDA to have accrued to New York as a result of the development, construction, modification, and operation of the Bid Facility from the Economic Benefits Start Date through the end of the first three (3) Contract Years.

<u>Verified U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars</u>: The total dollar amount of expenditures through the date on which the Bid Facility achieves Commercial Operation for iron and steel components that are permanently incorporated into the Bid Facility manufactured in the United States using iron or steel from steel mills located in the United States, certified by Seller and verified by NYSERDA as set forth in Section 18.15, calculated at the commencement of the Contract Delivery Term. Only expenditures substantiated by a U.S. Iron and Steel Manufacturer Certification, as found in Exhibit K to this Agreement, shall be eligible to be considered Verified U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars.

Article II

Purchase and Sale of Tier-1 Renewable Energy Certificates

Section 2.01. On the terms and subject to the conditions and provisions of this Agreement, Seller agrees to sell, assign, convey, deliver and Transfer to NYSERDA, and NYSERDA agrees to purchase from Seller, all right, title and interest in the Tier-1 RECs associated with the Quantity Obligation generated by the Bid Facility and delivered to the Delivery Point during each month of the Contract Delivery Term. Seller will retain ownership and all rights to any Tier-1 RECs produced by the generation of electric energy from the Bid Facility prior to commencement of the Contract Delivery Term.

Section 2.02. Such right, title and interest shall include perpetual and exclusive rights to the Tier-1 RECs and the underlying attributes, including but not limited to the exclusive rights to claim or represent, consistent with New York State Environmental Disclosure rules: (a) that the energy associated with Tier-1 RECs was generated by the Bid Facility; and (b) that New York State and/or the RES Program is responsible for the environmental benefits including reductions in emissions and/or other pollution or any other environmental benefit resulting from the generation of the energy associated with the Tier-1 RECs. For the avoidance of doubt, the only products Seller is selling and NYSERDA is buying under this Agreement are Tier-1 RECs and all rights, title, and interest associated with them. Seller is not selling to NYSERDA and NYSERDA is not purchasing any other product, including electric energy, capacity, or ancillary services associated with the Bid Facility.

<u>Section 2.03</u>. Seller shall apply for Operational Certification after the Bid Facility has received a Statement of Qualification and register the Bid Facility in NYGATS in accordance with the NYGATS Operating Rules. Seller shall enter into a NYGATS Forward Certificate Transfer set up to Transfer the Tier-1 RECs to the NYSERDA NYGATS Account on a monthly basis in a percentage equal to the Bid Quantity Percentage. In addition to the NYGATS Forward Certificate Transfer, Seller shall also Transfer any Tier-1 RECs resulting from any adjustments carried out pursuant to Section 5.01, up to the Annual REC Cap. At the time of Transfer by Seller to NYSERDA, the Tier-1 RECs shall be free and clear of all liens, judgments, encumbrances and restrictions. Seller shall not discontinue its election to utilize a NYGATS Forward Certificate Transfer without prior written permission from NYSERDA. Seller will continue to be responsible for providing the Static Data and Dynamic Data required of Projects, as those terms are defined in the NYGATS Operating Rules, notwithstanding the Seller's NYGATS Forward Certificate Transfer obligation. Seller shall retain all right, title, and interest in, and shall be free to sell, assign, transfer, or otherwise convey or deliver free of any encumbrance any Tier-1 RECs produced by the Bid Facility prior to commencement of the Contract Delivery Term or produced in excess of the Annual REC Cap.

Section 2.04. Reserved.

Section 2.05. In the event that Seller becomes entitled to or must apply for or take some other action under any emission-trading, emissions recordation or other regime other than the RES in order to secure a claim, title, credit, ownership, or rights of any type, nature or sort ("Title") to any attributes associated with the Tier-1 RECs, or any certification, registration, verification or other memorialization of the creation of such attributes by the Bid Facility to which Seller may be entitled, Seller shall (a) notify NYSERDA of such opportunity; and, if requested to do so by NYSERDA, Seller shall (b) take all commercially reasonable actions necessary to apply for and secure such Title, to the maximum extent to which Seller is entitled; (c) provide NYSERDA with evidence of taking such action; and (d) convey such Title to NYSERDA whenever so secured.

Section 2.06. NYSERDA's obligations under this Agreement are expressly conditioned on the Bid Facility, from the Effective Date through completion of the Contract Delivery Term, (a) qualifying as a "Renewable Energy System" as defined on the Effective Date in § 66-p(1)(b) of the Public Service Law and the 2020 CES Order, and (b) complying with the "Additional Eligibility Requirements" identified in Appendix A of the 2016 CES Order. Notwithstanding the foregoing, NYSERDA's obligation to purchase Tier-1 RECs under this Agreement will not be reduced or eliminated if the above-referenced definition of "Renewable Energy System" or the "Additional Eligibility Requirements" are changed after the Effective Date in a manner that renders the Bid Facility unable to comply.

Section 2.07. Commercial Operation Milestone Date. NYSERDA's obligations to purchase Tier-1 RECs and to make payment under this Agreement are conditioned on the commencement by the Bid Facility of Commercial Operation with an Installed Capacity of not less than 80% of the Bid Capacity on or before the Commercial Operation Milestone Date. The Commercial Operation Milestone Date shall be as stated in Schedule 2 of this Agreement. Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date pursuant to Article XV.

Section 2.08. NYSERDA shall be free to sell, assign, transfer or otherwise subject to any encumbrance, any of the Tier-1 RECs NYSERDA acquires under this Agreement, at any time and from time to time, to any entity and on such terms and conditions as NYSERDA may desire. Any financial or other consideration received by NYSERDA from any such action shall inure solely to NYSERDA's benefit, to be applied as determined by NYSERDA as the central procurement administrator of the RES Program, or the benefit of NYSERDA's successor, and shall not affect Seller's rights or obligations under the terms of this Agreement.

Section 2.09. Verification/Metering. The Actual Production of the Bid Facility must be capable of accurate and verifiable measurement at the Injection Point by the local ISO, transmission utility, public authority, or municipal electric company, through a dedicated generation meter as described in Section 2.10 of this Agreement. Unless specifically agreed to by NYSERDA in writing, the Bid Facility must be separately metered and must be functionally represented by a single and discrete Injection Point.

Section 2.10. Dedicated Generation Meter. Seller must provide, install, and maintain a dedicated generation meter at the Injection Point that shall comply with the requirements and standards stated in the NYGATS Operating Rules at Section 5.3. Revenue Metering Standards. Data collected from the meter will be available to NYSERDA and will be used by NYSERDA to verify the Actual Production.

Section 2.11. Reserved.

Section 2.12. Modification of Bid Facility. Seller shall not, without NYSERDA's prior written consent, make any Material Modifications to the Bid Facility. Seller shall provide NYSERDA with written notice prior to any Material Modification of the Bid Facility, which notice shall include a written description of the planned modification. NYSERDA shall not unreasonably withhold, condition, or delay such a request and shall use reasonable efforts to approve or reject any such request within thirty (30) days after its receipt of the written request. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent that the Installed Capacity is less than the Bid Capacity, Seller and NYSERDA shall act in accordance with Sections 2.07, 5.02(d), 13.01(e), 15.06 and 15.07.

Article III

Bid Facility Electricity Delivery Requirements.

<u>Section 3.01</u>. <u>Bid Facilities in the NYCA</u>. The electricity associated with the Tier-1 RECs for Bid Facilities located within the NYCA must be either:

- (a) delivered into a market administered by the NYISO for end-use in New York State; or
- (b) delivered through a wholesale meter under the control of a utility, public authority, or municipal electric company such that it can be measured, and such that consumption within New York State can be tracked and verified by such entity or by the NYISO; or
- (c) delivered through a dedicated generation meter in accordance with Section 2.10 and tracked and verified in accordance with the NYGATS Operating Rules.

Section 3.02. Reserved.

Section 3.03. Bilateral Sales. Nothing in this Agreement shall be read to prohibit bilateral sales by Seller for electric energy, capacity, or ancillary services produced by the Bid Facility. Tier-1 eligible electric energy from the Bid Facility sold on a bilateral basis will produce Tier-1 RECs and NYSERDA will purchase such Tier-1 RECs in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, provided that the energy is delivered and sold into the NYCA in accordance with this Article.

Article IV

Pricing and Payment

Section 4.01. Determination of Monthly REC Price for Index REC.

- (a) For a Bid Facility selected on the basis of an Index REC Price bid, the Monthly REC Price shall equal the Index REC Strike Price minus the Reference Energy Price minus the Reference Capacity Price, subject to the condition that the Monthly REC Price may not exceed the Index REC Strike Price. In the event that the calculation of the Monthly REC Price results in an amount that exceeds the Index REC Strike Price for a given month, then the Monthly REC Price shall equal the Index REC Strike Price for that month.
 - (i) Reserved.
 - (ii) The Reference Energy Price for each month shall be calculated by NYSERDA using data published by NYISO for its day-ahead energy market. NYSERDA shall:
 - (A) identify the location-based marginal price ("LBMP") for each hour of the month in the Applicable Zone; and
 - (B) calculate the around-the-clock simple (not load-weighted) average of each such hourly LBMP during the entire month to determine the Reference Energy Price.
 - (iii) The Reference Capacity Price for each month shall be calculated by NYSERDA using data published by NYISO for its spot market unforced capacity ("UCAP") prices. NYSERDA shall:
 - (A) identify the UCAP price (in dollars per kW-month) as published by NYISO for such month in the Applicable Zone ("Reference UCAP Price");
 - (B) calculate the product of:⁵
 - (1) the Reference UCAP Price (\$/kW-month);
 - (2) Reserved;

⁵ Because the Relative UCAP Production Factor (rUPF) value will be set to 1 for the duration of the contract tenor, no reference to the rUPF is needed.

- (3) the Installed Capacity (MW);
- (4) a conversion factor of 1,000 kW/MW; and
- (5) the Bid Facility's Capacity Accreditation Factor, as determined by the NYISO.
- (C) divide the total amount of dollars calculated in (B) by the total amount of Tier-1 RECs produced by the Bid Facility for the subject month (including any Tier-1 RECs produced in excess of the Annual REC Cap or otherwise not committed for sale to NYSERDA under this Agreement) multiplied by the Bid Quantity Percentage to determine the Reference Capacity Price.
- (b) The following formulae depict the calculation of the Monthly REC Price in accordance with Section 4.01(a).

Monthly REC Price =
$$SP^{Index} - REP - RCP$$

where:

SP^{Index} = Index REC Strike Price (\$/MWh)

REP = Reference Energy Price (\$/MWh)

RCP = Reference Capacity Price (\$/MWh)

$$RCP = \frac{RUP \times IC \times 1,000 \times CAF}{Total RECs \times BQP}$$

where:

RUP = Reference UCAP Price ($\frac{k}{w}$ -month) described in Section 4.01(a).

IC = Installed Capacity (MW)

Total RECs = Total amount of Tier-1 RECs produced by the Bid Facility in the subject month.

BQP = Bid Quantity Percentage

1,000 = kW to MW conversion factor

CAF = Applicable Capacity Accreditation Factor, as defined in Article I

Section 4.02. Reserved.

Section 4.03. Invoices.

- (a) Within fifteen (15) days after NYSERDA has received the information for the Bid Facility necessary to compute a Monthly REC Price, NYSERDA shall inform Seller in writing of the Monthly REC Price for that month.
- (b) Seller shall submit monthly invoices throughout the Contract Delivery Term of this Agreement for the Tier-1 RECs Transferred by Seller into the NYSERDA NYGATS Account and associated with the Actual Eligible Production delivered to the Delivery Point in each month during the Contract Delivery Term. Payments will commence after the Bid Facility achieves Operational Certification, retroactive to the commencement of the Contract Delivery Term. Invoices shall not be submitted before NYSERDA provides Seller with the Monthly REC Price for a given month in accordance with Section 4.03(a) of this Agreement; invoices submitted before NYSERDA provides Seller with the Monthly REC Price for a given month shall not be considered proper invoices for purposes of NYSERDA's Prompt Payment Policy. Invoices shall be submitted electronically to NYSERDA's online invoice system at: https://services.nyserda.ny.gov/Invoices/ or, if this Bid Facility is managed through NYSERDA's Salesforce application, via NYSERDA's Salesforce Portal with Seller's log-in credentials. Invoices shall include a statement of the amount due and payable by NYSERDA to Seller, which amount shall be calculated in accordance with Section 4.04. Invoices must reflect the quantity of Tier-1 RECs Transferred to the NYSERDA NYGATS Account for the month that is the subject of the invoice. With the exception of an invoice submitted in accordance with Article V of this Agreement, NYSERDA shall have no obligation to pay any invoice submitted more than sixty (60) calendar days after NYSERDA provides Seller with the Monthly REC Price for a given month for which payment is requested. NYSERDA may request additional information and data, as specified in Section 6.01, sufficient for NYSERDA to verify compliance with the Bid Facility Electricity Delivery Requirements (Article III) and other requirements as may be outlined in this Agreement.

Section 4.04. Payment.

(a) The amount payable for each month shall be calculated as: (i) the number of Tier-1 RECs associated with the Quantity Obligation for such month generated by the Bid Facility and delivered to the Delivery Point that are Transferred into the NYSERDA NYGATS Account in accordance with Section 2.01 multiplied by (ii) the Monthly REC Price for the vintage month of the Tier-1 RECs Transferred. NYSERDA will not pay for Tier-1 RECs beyond the Annual REC Cap for any Contract Year, and Seller may dispose of such excess Tier-1 RECs in any manner in its sole discretion.

- (b) Payments will commence after the Bid Facility achieves Operational Certification, retroactive to the commencement of the Contract Delivery Term. NYSERDA agrees to grant or deny Operational Certification within thirty (30) days after Seller has submitted a fully complete Operational Certification application and the Bid Facility is registered in NYGATS. In the event that NYSERDA determines that Seller's Operational Certification application is incomplete or deficient, NYSERDA shall notify Seller and provide Seller with an opportunity to submit a modified Operational Certification application.
- (c) If, for any month, the amount payable to Seller is a negative amount because the Monthly REC Price for that month was negative, NYSERDA shall make no payment to Seller for that month and instead shall record a debit in such amount ("Monthly Debit"). Any Monthly Debit shall be deducted from each subsequent month's payment by NYSERDA until the Monthly Debit is fully recovered. Any Monthly Debit that goes unrecovered for twelve months shall be settled by Seller in cash within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of such twelve-month period, except that all Monthly Debits outstanding at the conclusion of the Contract Delivery Term shall be settled by Seller in cash within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the Contract Delivery Term.

(d) Reserved.

Section 4.05. Prompt Payment Policy. NYSERDA will make payments to Seller in accordance with and subject to its Prompt Payment Policy Statement, attached hereto as Exhibit C. Such payments shall be made by check or wire transfer to an account designated by Seller. NYSERDA shall have no obligation to pay any invoice not accompanied by all information requested by NYSERDA in accordance with Section 6.01.

Section 4.06. Reserved.

Section 4.07. Changes in Law.

(a) In the event that a change in Applicable Law after the Effective Date changes, or on the date such change takes effect ("Change in Law Date") will change, the price structure or methodology, settlement, zonal structure, or terminology used in either the NYISO Energy Market or NYISO Capacity Market such that the calculation of Reference Energy Price or Reference Capacity Price becomes impossible or no longer reasonably reflects the objective of providing a market-based index of energy and/or capacity prices in the Applicable Zone, in each case as they existed on the Effective Date, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to

amend this Agreement, prospective from the Change in Law Date, to make such conforming changes as are necessary to achieve that objective.

(b) In the event that a change in Applicable Law after the Effective Date eliminates the NYISO Capacity Market entirely and without replacement, the Parties agree the Reference Capacity Price shall be zero. In the event that a change in Applicable Law after the Effective Date replaces the NYISO Capacity Market with a new resource adequacy construct, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith to amend this Agreement, prospective from the Change in Law Date, to make such conforming changes as are necessary to replace the current Reference Capacity Price formula with a formula that reasonably comprises an index of prices available to generators in the Applicable Zone under the new resource adequacy construct.

Article V

<u>Adjustments</u>

Section 5.01. True-Up Adjustments. NYSERDA may (and, at the request of Seller, shall) review past invoices, including, but not limited to, the calculation of the Monthly REC Price to determine if a true-up adjustment is necessary. In the event of such request by the Seller, NYSERDA shall not be obligated to conduct a review of any period prior to the immediately preceding calendar year. If necessary, NYSERDA shall adjust, including by means of set-off, payments to subsequent invoices consistent with adjustments by NYGATS based on NYISO or other local control area billing settlement true-up procedures, based on actual metered production data measured at the Delivery Point, actual and verified data reflecting compliance with the electricity delivery requirements set forth in Article III, and/or based on the number of Tier-1 RECs Transferred.

<u>Section 5.02</u>. <u>Other Adjustments</u>. NYSERDA's contractual Payment obligations under this Agreement shall be subject to adjustment under the following circumstances:

- (a) Reserved.
- (b) Should Seller fail to Transfer Tier-1 RECs to the NYSERDA NYGATS Account in a number equal to at least 80% of the Bid Quantity, for three (3) consecutive Contract Years, the Bid Quantity shall be adjusted for the remainder of the Contract Delivery Term to an amount equal to (x) the highest Actual Annual Eligible Production associated with Tier-1 RECs Transferred to NYSERDA during any Contract Year over that three-year period multiplied by (y) the Bid Quantity Percentage, rounded down to the nearest whole REC.

- (c) Should Seller fail to reasonably demonstrate to NYSERDA that the Verified Total Dollars divided by Installed Capacity is at least 85% of the Expected Dollars/MW, the Monthly REC Price payable for the remainder of the Contract Delivery Term shall be adjusted by NYSERDA, upon Notice to Seller. Such reduction in the Monthly REC Price will be made by multiplying the Monthly REC Price each month (beginning with the first month of the fourth Contract Year) by a percentage equal to (i) the Verified Total Dollars divided by the Bid Facilities, divided by (ii) the Expected Dollars/MW.
- (d) In the event that upon or after achieving Commercial Operation, the Installed Capacity differs from the Bid Capacity, Seller agrees that NYSERDA may at its option upon reasonable Notice to Seller modify the Contract by adjusting, in a manner that reasonably preserves the commercial arrangement between the Parties, the Bid Quantity, Bid Quantity Percentage, or other relevant terms in Schedule 1 to reflect a change in the Installed Capacity. In making such an adjustment, NYSERDA may consider an independent engineer's production estimate furnished by Seller substantially in the form of the resource assessment described in Appendix 1 of RESRFP24-1.

(e) Reserved.

(f) In the event of an MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW Shortfall or a U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars Shortfall, Seller shall pay to NYSERDA (or an account specified by NYSERDA) the amount of the applicable MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW Shortfall and/or U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars Shortfall within six (6) months of NYSERDA's notification to Seller of any such shortfall. In the event such amount is not paid within such period, NYSERDA may, in its sole discretion, set off amounts due to NYSERDA under this Section 5.02(f) from payments owed to Seller under Article IV of this Agreement.

Section 5.03. Reserved.

Section 5.04. LPO Financing. In the event that the Bid Facility obtains financing from or supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Program Office, the Index REC Strike Price or Fixed REC Price shall be reduced by one percent (1%).

Article VI

Records, Reports and Other Seller Commitments

Section 6.01. Provision of Data.

(a) Seller shall, at NYSERDA's written request, provide NYSERDA access to generation and delivery data, including detailed monthly market accounting settlement or other pertinent data from the administrator(s) of the energy market into which energy from the Bid Facility was delivered, from the entity or party in control of any meter through which the energy associated with the Quantity Obligation was delivered, and from the administrator of any attribute accounting system operating in such control area. Seller may be required to waive confidentiality, as to NYSERDA, for the direct transfer to NYSERDA by an energy market administrator or the operator of the transmission and/or distribution system into which the energy from the Bid Facility is delivered of transactional and/or delivery information and data pertinent to the verification of attribute creation and electricity delivery.

(b) Reserved.

(c) Upon commissioning of the Bid Facility, Seller agrees to make commercially reasonable efforts to work with NYSERDA to validate a final accounting of the Bid Facility's (i) carbon footprint and (ii) energy and carbon payback periods. Seller further agrees to public disclosure of NYSERDA's determination of the Bid Facility' carbon footprint, and energy and carbon payback periods, provided that Seller shall have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on NYSERDA's determination prior to such public disclosure.

Section 6.02. Progress Reports.

(a) Beginning on the first such date following the Effective Date, and continuing until the commencement of the Contract Delivery Term, Seller shall provide quarterly written progress reports to NYSERDA, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA ("Progress Reports"), no later than March 1 (for the preceding period of November 16 through February 15), June 1 (for the preceding period of February 16 through May 15), September 1 (for the preceding period of May 16 through August 15), and December 1 (for the preceding period of August 16 through November 15), which reports shall be in electronic form, through a method specified by NYSERDA, and which shall describe at a minimum the following:

- (i) Seller's progress in obtaining and securing all required environmental or other permits and/or local approvals;
- (ii) The status of all development and/or construction planning or activities with regard to the Bid Facility, including the status of Payment-in-lieu of Taxes (PILOT)/Host Community Agreement (HCA) negotiations, site diligence, and financing;
- (iii) The status of the interconnection process between the Bid Facility and the administrator of the control area;
- (iv) Purchases, delivery, and/or installation of any major equipment associated with the Bid Facility;
- (v) An estimated date for Commercial Operation and a schedule of key milestones leading up to Commercial Operation;
- (vi) Seller's plan to meet or exceed the Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW requirement and progress to date as well as compliance with Section 18.14 of this Agreement;
- (vii) Information as NYSERDA may reasonably request from time to time to identify and substantiate the economic benefits of the Bid Facility to Disadvantaged Communities, including but not limited to project spending by function and geographic area, the employment of contractors and subcontractors with a principal place of business in Disadvantaged Communities, and the hiring of workers that reside in Disadvantaged Communities;
- (viii) In a form substantially similar to Exhibit O to this Agreement, information relating to the engagement of contractors and subcontractors engaged in work related to the Bid Facility, with specific emphasis on those that are New York State Certified MWBEs and New York State Certified SDVOBs registered with the Department of State,⁶ including identifying information for such firms, the scope of engagement for such firms, the expenditure on such firms, the time period in which such firms were engaged, and additional reporting metrics set forth under New York State Labor Law Section 224-d (7), including but not limited to Seller's diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts;

⁶ A database listing registered MWBEs is available here: <u>https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/SearchCertifiedDirectory.asp?XID=5255&TN=ny</u> A database listing SDVOBs is available here: https://online.ogs.ny.gov/SDVOB/search

- (ix) Seller's plan to meet or exceed the Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars /MW requirement and progress to date;
- (x) Seller's progress in implementing and achieving commitments outlined in the Smart Solar Siting Scorecard submitted with Seller's Bid Proposal, with substantiating documentation as NYSERDA may reasonably require. NYSERDA may at any time respond to such progress updates from Seller with a request for further information, and Seller shall promptly comply with such request; and]
- (xi) Any material changes to the Climate Resiliency Plan.

Such Progress Reports shall also include an updated project schedule with key milestones identified, copies of any permits or approvals granted and/or copies of any correspondence of any type denying or refusing any permit or approval.

NYSERDA may, after its receipt of a Progress Report or other notification from Seller indicating a Material Modification of the Bid Facility, request that Seller provide an independent engineer's or similar third party's written assessment of the long-term expected energy production of the Bid Facility. NYSERDA shall deliver any such request in writing. Seller shall provide such assessment within a reasonable time of such request from NYSERDA.

Seller shall notify NYSERDA within ten (10) days of having Knowledge of any event that could reasonably cause a material delay in any of the activities listed above. During the period in which Construction Activities are ongoing, Seller shall include with each Progress Report either (a) a written attestation prepared by a New York State independent certified public accountant or other qualified party, in a form to be agreed upon, confirming that Seller is in compliance with the Prevailing Wage requirement set forth in Section 18.10, or (b) a written certification signed by Seller's contractor providing construction services for the Bid Facility, certifying that such services were performed in compliance with the Prevailing Wage requirement set forth in Section 18.10.

- (b) Seller shall continue to report on information listed under Sections 6.02(a)(vi), 6.02(a)(vii), and 6.02(a)(viii) throughout the Contract Delivery Term.
- (c) Seller shall provide NYSERDA with an Annual Operating Report on March 15 of each year within the Contract Delivery Term and one year thereafter covering the activities of the immediately preceding Calendar Year in which any Tier-1 RECs were Transferred to NYSERDA. Annual Operating Reports shall be submitted in a form substantially similar to Exhibit I to this Agreement, as may be modified by NYSERDA from time to time. To maximize efficiencies,

NYSERDA will consider accepting, upon Seller request, Annual Operating Report formats that differ from that contained under Exhibit I to match the format of existing reporting formats utilized by Seller.

Section 6.03. Community Outreach. Each Progress Report shall include detail regarding the status of any ongoing communication with host communities and local governments, including community outreach events, open houses, town/planning board meetings, progress achieved in accordance with the community outreach plan provided in the Bid Proposal, status of organized support and opposition groups, and identification of potential host community issues.

Section 6.04. Economic Benefits Report. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the third anniversary of the commencement of the Contract Delivery Term, Seller shall submit an Economic Benefits Report prepared by a New York State independent certified public accountant, demonstrating the actual Incremental Economic Benefits and Verified MWBE and SDVOB Dollars that resulted from the construction and operation of the Bid Facility. To fulfill this requirement, Seller's independent certified public accountant will be required to prepare an "agreed upon procedures" report in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Economic Benefits Audit Protocol and Economic Benefits Verification Standards that were released with the Notice of Qualification provided to Seller as part of RESRFP24-1. The Economic Benefits Report will be funded at Seller's expense.

<u>Section 6.05</u>. <u>Additional Documents</u>. Within sixty (60) Business Days of Notice of Award under RESRFP24-1, Seller shall have provided to NYSERDA:

- (a) certificates, dated as of the most recent practicable date prior to the Effective Date, issued by the Delaware Secretary of State confirming the corporate good standing of Seller and for foreign corporations and companies a copy of the Application for Authority to do business in New York State as filed with the New York State Department of State;
- (b) a certificate of an appropriate officer of Seller, dated as of the most recent practicable date prior to the Effective Date, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA and certifying: (i) the names and signatures of the officers of Seller authorized to sign any documents to be delivered hereunder, and (ii) the accuracy and completeness of resolutions of Seller, authorizing and approving all matters in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby.

Seller shall promptly provide NYSERDA with updated and corrected versions of the above-referenced certificates upon any change in the information provided therein.

<u>Section 6.06</u>. <u>Maintenance of Records</u>. Seller shall keep, maintain, and preserve throughout the term of this Agreement and for a period of seven (7) years following the

expiration of this Agreement, full and detailed books, accounts, and records pertaining to Seller's performance under the Agreement, including without limitation, all bills, invoices, payrolls, subcontracting efforts and other data evidencing, or in any material way related to, the direct and indirect costs and expenses incurred by Seller in the course of such performance. The foregoing records may be kept, maintained, or preserved on any information storage device, or one or more electronic networks or databases, provided that such records can be converted into clearly legible form within a reasonable time. Seller may destroy or otherwise dispose of a record falling within the scope of this Section no earlier than seven (7) years following the creation thereof with the written consent of NYSERDA, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld.

Section 6.07. Site Control. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the Effective Date, Seller shall provide documentation demonstrating rights-of-way or full control of the acreage needed for the Bid Facility, including any interconnection facilities; provided, however, NYSERDA shall not unreasonably deny a request by Seller for an extension of time upon a demonstration of its commercially reasonable efforts to obtain such rights-of-way or full control.

Section 6.08. Climate Resiliency Plan. As soon as reasonably practicable following the Effective Date, but in any case no later than the time of Operational Certification, Seller shall submit to NYSERDA a Climate Resiliency Plan that demonstrates how the potential impacts of climate change over the Contract Delivery Term have been evaluated and incorporated into the Bid Facility's siting, design, technology selection, construction, and operation plan to ensure reliability and maintain expected performance ("Climate Resiliency Plan"). The Climate Resiliency Plan will include the following elements except to the extent NYSERDA confirms that any particular element is not reasonably necessary to meet the purposes of the Climate Resiliency Plan described above (such confirmation not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed):

(a) Identification of the key climate hazards and risks the Bid Facility may face based on its location and anticipated useful life. The level of exposure to climate hazards will be project and location specific. Main climate hazards in New York State include but are not limited to extreme storms, high winds, sea level rise, extreme heat and cold, increased temperature, and increased rainfall. Sellers may reference existing resources for climate risk and resiliency assessment and adaptation, including NYS Climate Impacts Assessment, NYS DEC Flood Risk Management Guidance, NYS DOH Heat Vulnerability Index, NYS Future Coastal Floodplain Mapper, Northeast Regional Climate Center intensity-duration-frequency curves for heavy precipitation, Columbia's Hudson River Flood Map, NYSIO's Climate Change Impact and Resilience Study and others. All referenced resources in the Climate Resiliency Plan should be included by citation, for which purpose NYSERDA recommends utilizing the guidelines outlined in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition.

- (b) An assessment of how the identified climate risks could impact the Bid Facility's energy production, reliability, and operational lifetime (considering direct and indirect impacts).
- (c) Specific design features, adaptive strategies, and/or operational plans the Seller has incorporated into the project to mitigate the identified climate risks and enhance resilience.
- (d) Quantitative metrics, modeling, or examples illustrating the effectiveness of the proposed resilience measures where possible.
- (e) A plan for continuous monitoring of climate data/projections and implementing adaptive management if future climate changes diverge from initial assumptions.

To the extent a similar plan or analysis has been presented to and accepted by, or prepared by, (i) an unaffiliated financing, insurance or similar third party as part of financing, insurance or similar purposes or (ii) a regulatory authority, a copy of that plan or analysis, along with any supplements reasonably required by NYSERDA in accordance with the purposes described above, may be provided to NYSERDA in lieu of the creation of separate documentation and shall constitute the Climate Resiliency Plan for purposes of this Section 6.08.

Any material updates to the Climate Resiliency Plan shall be noted in the progress reports as required by Section 6.02. Seller shall undertake all activities and perform all obligations described in the Climate Resiliency Plan, except to the extent that such activities or obligations are impractical in light of project objectives or unnecessary to protect environmental resources, in which case Seller shall provide a description of such circumstances to NYSERDA.

Section 6.09. Reserved.

Section 6.10. Specific Disadvantaged Community Commitments. Seller agrees to fulfill all specific Disadvantaged Community Commitments identified in Exhibit M to this Agreement.

- (a) With NYSERDA's consent, Seller may substitute a Disadvantaged Community Commitment identified in Section 6.10(a) with a substitute Disadvantaged Community Commitment of equal or greater value to Disadvantaged Community(ies) in New York State.
- (b) Should Seller fail to fulfill any Disadvantaged Community Commitment Seller is obligated to fulfill under Section 6.10(a) or 6.10(b) of this Agreement, Seller shall make payment to NYSERDA in the amount of the unfulfilled dollar value of such commitment, or propose a replacement Disadvantaged Community

Commitment in the event that there is no dollar value associated with such commitment, no later than sixty (60) days after the Bid Facility achieves Commercial Operation or the date identified in such commitment, whichever is later.

(c) Seller shall verify any payments made towards any Disadvantaged Community Commitments incurred prior to the third anniversary of Commercial Operation pursuant to Section 6.04 of this Agreement. Seller shall report any payments made towards any Disadvantaged Community Commitments not covered or in addition to those verified under Section 6.04 of this Agreement 60 days following the fourth anniversary of Commercial Operation and annually thereafter throughout the Contract Delivery Term.

Section 6.11. Agricultural Mitigation Payment.

- (a) Seller agrees to make the Agricultural Mitigation Payment to a fund designated by NYSERDA within sixty (60) days of the date upon which the Bid Facility is granted Operational Certification. The final amount of the Agricultural Mitigation Payment shall be determined by NYSERDA in cooperation with Seller through the Operational Certification process. Seller agrees to adhere to the Agricultural Mitigation Payment calculation methodology, as depicted for the proposed Bid Facility in Exhibit H and detailed in RESRFP24-1. Seller shall provide all reasonably necessary information requested by NYSERDA in order for NYSERDA to submit notices of intent and related documentation pursuant to AML §305 (4).
- (b) Seller may request to defer payment of the Agricultural Mitigation Payment by submitting to NYSERDA an acceptable Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan. In order to be eligible to defer the Agricultural Mitigation Payment until ninety (90) calendar days after the fifth anniversary of Commercial Operation, Seller must submit an Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan to NYSERDA at least one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days prior to commencement of Construction Activities related to the Bid Facility. The Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan shall be subject to NYSERDA's review and acceptance, in consultation with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.
- (c) In accordance with an accepted Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan, the Seller will be required to submit annual reports to NYSERDA at the first, second, third, and fourth anniversary of Commercial Operation, and will be required to submit a final report on the implementation of the Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan on the fifth anniversary of Commercial Operation. Annual and final reports must include, at a minimum, proposed Eligible Co-Agricultural Expenses, gross

expenditures, gross revenues, net revenues, lessons learned, and photo documentation of the practices discussed. The accepted Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan and all final reports may be made public by NYSERDA.

- (d) For each dollar of gross expenditure made by the Seller, and verified by NYSERDA, for Eligible Co-Agricultural Expenses included within an Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan that has been accepted by NYSERDA, Seller may reduce the amount of the deferred Agricultural Mitigation Payment by \$0.85 provided Seller has adhered to the requirements of this Section 6.11 and the terms of the accepted Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan.
- (e) If the Bid Facility is subject to the jurisdiction of the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (ORES), and the Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan is approved by ORES as a permit condition, Section 6.11(b) above notwithstanding, NYSERDA will accept the Agricultural Co-Utilization Plan as approved and modified by ORES but may require additional reporting or other non-substantive supplemental modifications.

Section 6.12. Outages. Seller agrees to provide NYSERDA with as much advanced notice as possible for any planned outages or material reductions in output of the Bid Facility during the Contract Delivery Term, but, in any event, not less than five (5) Business Days' notice. During the Contract Delivery Term, Seller agrees to notify NYSERDA of any unplanned outages or reductions in output of the Bid Facility no more than two (2) Business Days after the discovery thereof.

Section 6.13. Failure to Report. In the event that at any time after the Effective Date Seller (a) fails to provide information expressly required by this Agreement to be reported to NYSERDA (for example, Progress Reports required under Section 6.02 or Annual Operating Reports required under Section 6.02(c)), or (b) fails to provide information reasonably requested by NYSERDA in connection with the matters contemplated by this Agreement, in either case within the time period required by this Agreement or otherwise reasonably required by NYSERDA and, following written notice of such failure, Seller does not cure the failure within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 15 Business Days, NYSERDA shall be permitted to (x) draw from Seller's Contract Security (or, if elected by Seller, Seller shall pay NYSERDA), or (y) retain from any amounts due to Seller under this Agreement, an amount equal to \$10,000 per uncured failure to provide information; provided that the amount shall increase to \$20,000 per uncured failure after the first three instances this provision is triggered. The payments contemplated in this Section 6.13 for reporting failures are designed to help compensate NYSERDA for, among other things, the damages that result from the failure to timely submit information to NYSERDA and do not constitute a penalty payment.

Section 6.14. Construction Mitigation for Agricultural Lands. Seller agrees to adhere to the guidelines applicable to a Project Company as set forth in Exhibit E, and detailed in RESRFP24-1, except to the extent compliance either (i) is waived by the siting authority with jurisdiction over the Bid Facility or (ii) otherwise conflicts with Applicable Law.

Article VII

Audit

Section 7.01. Audit. NYSERDA shall have the right from time to time and at all reasonable times during the term of the Agreement and a period of seven (7) years thereafter to inspect and audit any and all books, accounts and records pertaining to Seller's performance under this Agreement, at the office or offices of Seller where they are then being kept, maintained and preserved in accordance with Section 6.06. If such books, accounts and records are not kept at an office within the State of New York, within a reasonable time of a request by NYSERDA, Seller shall make such books, accounts and records available to NYSERDA at NYSERDA's offices or at an agreed upon location within the State of New York. Any payment made under this Agreement shall be subject to retroactive adjustment (reduction or increase) regarding amounts included therein which are found by NYSERDA on the basis of any audit of Seller by an agency of the United States, the State of New York or NYSERDA not to constitute a properly invoiced amount.

Section 7.02. Facility Audit. NYSERDA may require periodic audits of the Bid Facility to verify that the Bid Facility remains eligible under the RES as described in Section 2.06 of this Agreement and to verify whether the Bid Facility has been Materially Modified from the date of Operational Certification. NYSERDA shall provide Seller with reasonable notice of any request to visit the Bid Facility. NYSERDA and/or its designee shall have reasonable access to the Bid Facility for both such purposes, and NYSERDA shall comply with Seller's security and safety policies and procedures for the Bid Facility to the extent applicable in any such audit.

Article VIII

Assignment and Change of Control

Section 8.01. General Restrictions. Except as specifically permitted by this Article VIII, (a) the assignment, transfer, conveyance, or other disposal of this Agreement or any of Seller's rights, obligations, interests or responsibilities hereunder, in whole or in part, without the prior express written consent of NYSERDA is prohibited and shall be void and of no effect as to NYSERDA and (b) any Change of Control without the prior express written consent of NYSERDA shall constitute an Event of Default under this Agreement. Any such consent shall

not be unreasonably withheld. Seller agrees to reimburse NYSERDA for NYSERDA's reasonable costs and expenses incurred by its use of outside attorneys, consultants, accountants and advisors in connection with any of Seller's requests for NYSERDA's consent made pursuant to this Section 8.01, without regard to whether such consent is provided. NYSERDA shall provide an invoice to Seller for such charges, with appropriate documentation, and Seller shall pay such invoice within thirty (30) days. Without limiting NYSERDA's right to reasonably withhold any requested consent, any NYSERDA consent will, in any event, be conditioned on (x) the execution and delivery by Seller and its proposed assignee of an instrument of assignment pursuant to which such assignee assumes all of Seller's duties and obligations under this Agreement, in a form substantially similar to Exhibit G, and (y), if required to maintain compliance with Article XV, delivery by such assignee of Contract Security to NYSERDA in substitution of the Contract Security provided by Seller hereunder, and (z) the execution and delivery by Seller and NYSERDA of mutual releases of liability with respect to this Agreement, in each case, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA.

Section 8.02. Permitted Assignments by Seller. Notwithstanding Section 8.01, NYSERDA's consent shall not be required for Seller to either (a) pledge or assign the Bid Facility, this Agreement, or the accounts, revenues, or proceeds from this Agreement in connection with financing arrangements, or (b) assign the Bid Facility and this Agreement to an Affiliate if the then-current Contract Security remains in place. Upon Seller's reasonable request, NYSERDA shall execute a consent to assignment associated with a financing in a form reasonably acceptable to NYSERDA and Seller.

Section 8.03. Change of Control. NYSERDA's consent shall not be required for any Change of Control that constitutes a disposition to a Permitted Transferee. If Seller provides NYSERDA with written notice of its intent to effectuate a Change of Control setting forth a description of the transferee describing how it fits within the definition of Permitted Transferee and NYSERDA does not respond within fifteen (15) Business Days, NYSERDA shall be deemed to have confirmed that the proposed Change of Control does not require NYSERDA's consent.

Section 8.04. Change in Tax Identification Number. Within five (5) days after any change in the Seller's federal tax identification number Seller must (i) notify NYSERDA of such change and (ii) provide NYSERDA with a replacement W-9 form. If Seller is a disregarded entity, the requirements of this Section shall apply to any changes to the W-9 Seller has filed with NYSERDA for payment purposes.

Section 8.05. Advance Notice. Subject to any requirements to comply with Applicable Law, including the U.S. securities laws, Seller agrees to provide NYSERDA ten (10) Business Days' Notice, in accordance with Section 19.01 of this Agreement, (i) any assignment, transfer, conveyance, or other disposal of this Agreement or any of Seller's rights, obligations, interests or responsibilities hereunder, in whole or in part and (ii) any Change of Control in which Seller has

or should reasonably have actual knowledge of such transaction likely to cause the Change of Control, in each case regardless of whether or not NYSERDA's consent is required hereunder. NYSERDA agrees to execute a confidentiality agreement, as reasonably determined by Seller as necessary, to protect the disclosures required by this Section.

<u>Section 8.06</u>. <u>Non-Compliant Assignments</u>. Any assignment in violation of this Article 8 shall be void *ab initio* with respect to this Agreement.

Article IX

Seller's Representations, Warranties and Guarantees

<u>Section 9.01</u>. <u>Seller Representations, Warranties and Guarantees</u>. As a material inducement to NYSERDA to enter into this Agreement, Seller makes the following representations, warranties and guarantees, as of the Effective Date, all of which shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement:

- (a) that Seller (i) is a limited liability company duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its organization; (ii) has or will have all requisite limited liability company power, and has or will have all material governmental permits necessary to own its assets or lease and operate its properties and carry on its business as now being or as proposed to be conducted, to construct, finance, own, maintain and operate the Bid Facility, to execute and deliver this Agreement, and to consummate the transactions contemplated herein; and (iii) is qualified to do business and is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the nature of the business conducted by it makes such qualification necessary;
- (b) that Seller has all necessary power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and all other agreements contemplated herein and hereby and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby. The execution and delivery by Seller of this Agreement and all other agreements contemplated herein and hereby and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby have been or, if not yet executed and delivered, will be when executed and delivered, duly authorized by Seller, and no other actions or proceedings on the part of Seller are necessary to authorize this Agreement or any other agreement contemplated herein and hereby or the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby;
- (c) that the execution, delivery and performance by Seller, the entry into this Agreement by Seller, and the consummation of the transactions contemplated by

this Agreement will not (i) violate Applicable Law or any provision of the limited liability company agreement or other governing documents of Seller; (ii) violate, conflict with, result in a breach of or constitute (alone or with notice or lapse of time or both) a default or an event of default under any indenture, agreement (including the limited liability company agreement of Seller), mortgage, deed of trust, note, lease, contract or other instrument to which Seller is a party or by which it or any of its property is bound; or (iii) result in the creation or imposition of any lien upon any property or assets of Seller;

(d) that Seller has provided to NYSERDA:

- (i) certificates, dated no earlier than thirty [30] days prior to the Effective Date, issued by the Delaware Secretary of State confirming the corporate good standing of Seller and for foreign corporations and companies a copy of the Application for Authority to do business in New York State as filed with the New York State Department of State;
- (ii) a certificate of an appropriate officer of Seller, dated as of the Effective Date, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA and certifying: (i) the names and signatures of the officers of Seller authorized to sign any documents to be delivered hereunder, and (ii) the accuracy and completeness of resolutions of Seller, authorizing and approving all matters in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby.
- (e) that the attributes included in the Tier-1 RECs committed to be Transferred to NYSERDA under this Agreement have not been committed to be, nor will they be sold, retired, claimed or represented as part of electricity output or sales, or used to satisfy obligations in any other jurisdiction;
- (f) that this Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by Seller and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of Seller enforceable against Seller in accordance with the terms herein;
- (g) as of the Effective Date, there is no action, suit or claim at law or in equity, or before or by a governmental authority pending, or to Seller's Knowledge, threatened against Seller that may adversely affect Seller's performance of this Agreement or NYSERDA's rights hereunder;
- (h) as of the Effective Date, that Seller has no Knowledge that any information or document or statement furnished by Seller in connection with this Agreement or the documents submitted to NYSERDA under RESRFP24-1 contain any untrue

statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statement, in light of the circumstances under which it was made, not misleading;

- (i) that the Bid Facility has accepted its finalized System Upgrade Facilities cost allocation (or equivalent), remains in the interconnection queue, and has not been voluntarily withdrawn therefrom, and that Seller has taken no actions with a view toward voluntarily withdrawing the Bid Facility from the interconnection queue;
- (j) Seller certifies that all information provided to NYSERDA with respect to State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k is complete, true and accurate;
- (k) that Seller is familiar with and will comply with NYSERDA's Code of Conduct for Contractors, Consultants, and Vendors with respect to the performance of this Agreement, the current version of which is attached hereto as Exhibit N and made available here: https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyserda/files/About/Board-Governance/NYSERDA-Code-of-Conduct-Contractors.pdf (the "Code of Conduct"), and Seller will use commercially reasonable efforts to comply with updates made from time to time to the Code of Conduct by NYSERDA; and
- (l) that Seller will comply with all Applicable Law except where the failure to so comply would not result in a material adverse effect on Seller's ability to perform under this Agreement.

Section 9.02. Nature of Representations, Warranties and Guarantees. The representations, warranties and guarantees set forth in this Article are made as of the Effective Date, except to the extent that such representation and warranty states that it is permitted or required to be made only as of a specific date. If at any time during the Contract Delivery Term, Seller has actual knowledge of any event or information that causes any of the representations and warranties of an ongoing nature in this Article IX to be untrue or misleading, Seller shall provide NYSERDA with prompt written notice of the event or information, the representations and warranties affected, and the corrective action Seller shall take. The notice required pursuant to this Section shall be given as soon as practicable after the occurrence of each such event.

Section 9.03. <u>Limitation on Representations, Warranties and Guarantees</u>. Except as expressly set forth herein, there is no warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose with respect to the Tier-1 RECs transferred hereunder, and any and all implied warranties are disclaimed.

Article X

NYSERDA's Representations, Warranties and Guarantees

<u>Section 10.01</u>. <u>NYSERDA Representations, Warranties and Guaranties</u>. As a material inducement to Seller to enter into this Agreement, NYSERDA makes the following representations, warranties and guarantees, as of the Effective Date, all of which shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement:

- (a) that NYSERDA is an instrumentality of the State of New York and a public authority and public benefit corporation, created under the New York State Public Authorities Law, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of New York;
- (b) that NYSERDA has all necessary power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and all other agreements contemplated herein and hereby and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby. The execution and delivery by NYSERDA of this Agreement and all other agreements contemplated herein and hereby and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby have been or, if not yet executed and delivered, will be when executed and delivered, duly authorized by NYSERDA, and no other actions or proceedings on the part of NYSERDA are necessary to authorize this Agreement or any other agreement contemplated herein and hereby or the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby;
- (c) that the execution, delivery and performance by NYSERDA of this Agreement will not (i) violate Applicable Law; (ii) violate, conflict with, result in a material breach of or constitute (alone or with notice or lapse of time or both) a material default or event of default under any indenture, agreement, mortgage, deed of trust, note, lease, contract or other instrument to which NYSERDA is a party or by which NYSERDA or any of its property is bound; or (iii) result in the creation or imposition of any lien upon any property or assets of NYSERDA;
- (d) that this Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by NYSERDA and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of NYSERDA enforceable against NYSERDA in accordance with the terms herein;
- (e) that NYSERDA is familiar with and in compliance with all Applicable Law, except where the failure to so comply would not result in a material adverse effect on NYSERDA's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement; and

(f) that there is no action, suit or claim at law or in equity, or before or by a governmental authority pending or, to the Knowledge of NYSERDA, threatened against NYSERDA or affecting any of its properties, funding or assets which could reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse effect on NYSERDA's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

Section 10.02. Nature of Representations, Warranties and Guarantees. The representations, warranties and guarantees set forth in this Article are made as of the Effective Date, except to the extent that such representation and warranty states that it is permitted or required to be made only as of a specific date. If at any time during the Contract Delivery Term, NYSERDA has actual knowledge of any event or information that causes any of the representations and warranties in this Article X to be untrue or misleading, NYSERDA shall provide Seller with prompt written notice of the event or information, the representations and warranties affected, and the corrective action NYSERDA shall take. The notice required pursuant to this Section shall be given as soon as practicable after the occurrence of each such event.

Article XI

Indemnification

Section 11.01. Indemnification. Seller shall protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless NYSERDA and the State of New York from and against all liabilities, losses, claims, damages, judgments, penalties, causes of action, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' and/or experts' fees and expenses "Loss") imposed upon or incurred by or asserted against NYSERDA or the State of New York resulting from, arising out of or relating to Seller's breach of this Agreement or to the extent caused by any alleged negligence, unlawful act or omission, or intentional misconduct of Seller in the course of the development of the Bid Facility, or the production or delivery of Tier-1 RECs under this Agreement. Seller shall have no obligation to protect, defend, indemnify, or hold harmless NYSERDA or the State of New York with respect to any claims asserted against NYSERDA or the State of New York challenging (a) the legal validity of (i) this Agreement, (ii) the purchase or sale of Tier-1 RECs, or (iii) the competitive solicitation process held by NYSERDA to procure Tier-1 RECs; or (b) the administration of NYGATS and/or Clean Energy Standard program (including any dispute arising out of the resale of Tier-1 RECs by NYSERDA). The obligations of Seller under this Article shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement and shall not be limited by the amount of Seller's insurance coverage.

For the avoidance of doubt, Seller shall protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless NYSERDA and the State of New York from and against all Loss imposed upon or incurred by or asserted against NYSERDA or the State of New York resulting from, arising out of or relating to

failure by Seller or any of Seller's affiliates, contractors, subcontractors, agents or other representatives to pay the correct amount of wages, including, but not limited to prevailing wages, overtime, spread of hours, on call pay, call-in pay, scheduling pay, shift or other differential pay, frequency of pay, holiday pay, sick pay or leave, vacation pay, disability or family or parental leave pay, fringe or any other benefits or any claims any kind of wages or benefits allegedly due to any employees or contractors under state, federal or local laws of any kind, notwithstanding whether or not such a failure to pay the correct amount of wages is the result of alleged negligence or omission by NYSERDA or Seller.

Section 11.02. Indemnification Procedures. NYSERDA shall give reasonable notice to Seller of any claim or notice of the commencement of any action, administrative or legal proceeding or investigation as to which indemnification under this Article may apply or promptly after NYSERDA has actual knowledge of any other Loss that would result in a claim for indemnification, provided that any failure by NYSERDA to provide such timely notice shall not affect Seller's indemnification obligations under this Article XI, except to the extent that Seller is materially prejudiced by such failure. NYSERDA shall reasonably cooperate with Seller in the defense of any such claim. Seller shall use counsel reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA to defend any such claim (with consent to counsel not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed) and shall control the defense of any such claim. NYSERDA may participate in the defense of any such claim at its own expense. Seller may not agree to any settlement or compromise of any claim without NYSERDA's prior written consent (which consent may not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed) that is not an unconditional release of NYSERDA from any and all liabilities upon the payment of money that will be paid by Seller.

Section 11.03. Failure to Defend. If Seller fails to assume the defense of a claim meriting indemnification, NYSERDA may at the expense of Seller contest, settle or pay such claim, and Seller shall promptly reimburse NYSERDA for all costs reasonably incurred and documented by NYSERDA associated therewith.

Article XII

Insurance

Section 12.01. Maintenance of Insurance; Policy Provisions. Seller, at no cost to NYSERDA, shall maintain or cause to be maintained, on or before the date upon which Construction Activities begin and continuing throughout the duration of the Contract Delivery Term, insurance of the types and in the amounts specified in Section 12.02 (Types of Insurance). All such insurance shall be evidenced by insurance policies, each of which shall:

(a) name or be endorsed to cover NYSERDA and the State of New York as additional insureds;

- (b) provide that such policy may not be cancelled or modified until at least 30 days after receipt by NYSERDA of written notice thereof; and
- (c) be reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA in all other respects.

Section 12.02. Types of Insurance. Seller shall be required to maintain commercial general liability insurance for bodily injury liability, including death, and property damage liability, incurred in connection with the performance of this Agreement, with minimum limits of \$2,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of personal injury or sickness or death of any one person; \$2,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of personal injury, sickness or death in any one accident or disaster; and \$2,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of property damage in any one accident or disaster.

Section 12.03. Delivery of Policies; Insurance Certificates. Prior to the commencement of Construction Activities, Seller shall deliver to NYSERDA certificates of insurance issued by the respective insurers, indicating the Agreement number thereon, evidencing the insurance required by this Article XII and bearing notations evidencing the payment of the premiums thereon or accompanied by other evidence of such payment satisfactory to NYSERDA. In the event that any policy furnished or carried pursuant to this Article XII will expire on a date prior to the expiration date of this Agreement, Seller, not less than 15 days prior to such expiration date, shall deliver to NYSERDA certificates of insurance evidencing the renewal of such policies, and Seller shall promptly pay all premiums thereon due. In the event of threatened legal action, claims, encumbrances, or liabilities that may affect NYSERDA hereunder, or if deemed necessary by NYSERDA due to events rendering a review necessary, upon request Seller shall deliver to NYSERDA a certified copy of each policy.

Article XIII

Events of Default

<u>Section 13.01</u>. <u>Event of Default</u>. For the purposes of this Agreement, "Event of Default" shall mean any of the following:

(a) Representations and Warranties. Any representation or warranty made in this Agreement that shall prove to have been false or misleading in any material respect as of the time made or deemed to be made, except for such representations or warranties that are qualified by a standard of materiality, in which case such representations and warranties shall prove to have been false or misleading in any respect, and such false or misleading representation, warranty, or guarantee is not fully cured within ten (10) days after the responsible Party discovers its error,

provided, however, that such period shall be extended for an additional period of up to sixty (60) days if the responsible Party is unable to cure within the initial ten (10) day period so long as such cure is diligently pursued by the responsible Party until such breach has been corrected; or

- (b) <u>Voluntary Proceedings</u>. A Party shall (i) apply for or consent to the appointment of, or the taking of possession by, a receiver, custodian, trustee or liquidator of such Party or of all or a substantial part of its property; (ii) make a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; (iii) commence a voluntary case under the Bankruptcy Code; (iv) file a petition seeking to take advantage of any other law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, winding-up, or composition or readjustment of debts; (v) acquiesce in writing to, any petition filed against it in an involuntary case under the Bankruptcy Code; or (vi) take any corporate action for the purpose of effecting any of the foregoing; or
- (c) <u>Involuntary Proceedings</u>. A proceeding or case shall be commenced against a Party, without its application or consent, in any court of competent jurisdiction, seeking (i) its liquidation, reorganization, dissolution or winding-up, or the composition or readjustment of its debts; (ii) the appointment of a trustee, receiver, custodian, liquidator or the like with respect to all or any substantial part of its assets; or (iii) similar relief under any law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, winding-up, or composition or adjustment of debts, and such proceeding or case shall continue un-dismissed, or an order, judgment or decree approving or ordering any of the foregoing shall be entered and continue un-stayed and in effect, for a period of 60 or more days; or an order for relief against a Party, shall be entered in an involuntary case under the Bankruptcy Code; or
- (d) <u>Unauthorized Transfer</u>. The transfer or attempted transfer by Seller to any transferee other than NYSERDA of any Tier-1 RECs associated with the Quantity Obligation or of any attribute included in any Tier-1 REC Transferred to NYSERDA, unless such transfer or attempted transfer is caused by an administrative or operational error and is corrected within five (5) calendar days following the earlier of Seller's discovery of same or Seller's receipt of notice of default by NYSERDA; or
- (e) <u>Commercial Operation</u>. Failure of the Bid Facility to commence Commercial Operation at a minimum of 80% of the Bid Capacity on or before the Commercial Operation Milestone Date (which shall be as stated in Schedule 2 of this Agreement, unless extended pursuant to Article II, Section 2.07 and Article XV of this Agreement); or

- (f) Abandonment. Seller shall have (i) ceased development activities for the Bid Facility for sixty (60) calendar days or (ii) ceased Construction Activities with respect to the Bid Facility for a period in excess of sixty (60) calendar days following commencement of Construction Activities, (iii) ceased operation of the Bid Facility for a period greater than fifteen (15) calendar days following achievement of Commercial Operation, or (iv) voluntarily withdrawn the Bid Facility from the interconnection queue, including without limitation as a result of failure to make timely payments or failure to accept its finalized System Upgrade Facilities cost allocation as a result of the Bid Facility's Facilities Study (or equivalent), and such failures in (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) are not remedied within thirty (30) calendar days upon receipt of notice of default by NYSERDA; provided that Seller shall not be considered to have abandoned the Bid Facility where Seller has provided evidence to NYSERDA of its undertaking commercially reasonable efforts to advance the development, construction, or operation of the Bid Facility during the relevant time period, or the Bid Facility is withdrawn from the interconnection queue or its Applicable Class Year at no fault or action of the Seller and Seller makes good faith efforts to qualify for the immediately following Class Year or otherwise re-enter the interconnection queue as soon as practicable, or at any time where such development, construction, or operation is prevented by a Force Majeure Event; or
- (g) <u>Failure to Transfer Tier-1 RECs</u>. The failure by Seller to Transfer Tier-1 RECs, in conformity with Article II, and such failure is not remedied within five (5) calendar days upon Seller's receipt of a notice of default by NYSERDA; or
- (h) <u>Failure to Provide Additional Contract Security</u>. Failure by Seller to provide to NYSERDA and to maintain Contract Security, by the dates and in the amounts set out in Article XV of this Agreement, and such failure is not remedied within ten (10) Business Days of the respective due dates of such additional Contract Security; or
- (i) <u>Prevailing Wage Default</u>. Failure by Seller to cure its failure to pay at least the Prevailing Wage in accordance with Section 18.10 within twelve (12) months from the date of written notification by NYSERDA; provided, however, that if Seller does not cure its failure to pay at least the Prevailing Wage in accordance with Section 18.10, NYSERDA may suspend payment owed to Seller under this Agreement beginning six (6) months after the date of written notification by NYSERDA; or
- (j) <u>Payment</u>. The failure to make, when due, any undisputed payment required pursuant to this Agreement, in accordance with NYSERDA's Prompt Payment Policy (Exhibit C) (in the case of NYSERDA), if such failure is not remedied

- within ten (10) Business Days after a notice of such failure is provided by the non-defaulting Party to the defaulting Party; or
- (k) Other Obligations. A Party shall materially default in the performance of any of its obligations under this Agreement, other than as set forth in any of Sections 13.01(a)-(j), or (n), and such default shall continue un-remedied for a period of 30 days after the defaulting Party receives notice or otherwise has actual knowledge thereof; or
- (l) <u>Non-Permitted Change of Control</u>. A Change of Control of the Seller, other than as specifically permitted by Article VIII, occurs; or
- (m) Reserved; or
- (n) <u>Agricultural Mitigation Payment</u>. The failure of Seller to make an Agricultural Mitigation Payment in accordance with Section 6.11 of this Agreement, and such failure is not cured within sixty (60) days of the due date of such payment.
- (o) Reserved.
- (p) Reserved.

Section 13.02. Effect of an Event of Default. In addition to any other remedy available to it under this Agreement or under Applicable Law, upon any occurrence of, and during the continuance of, an Event of Default, the non-defaulting Party shall be entitled to suspend performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

Section 13.03. Specific Performance. Seller acknowledges and agrees that, notwithstanding any New York State public policy that may favor remedies in the form of money damages, NYSERDA has a strong interest in the creation and delivery of all Tier-1 RECs associated with the Quantity Obligations, and that, in the case of a default of Seller, irreparable damage would occur in the event that NYSERDA could not obtain Tier-1 RECs pursuant to this Agreement from the date of such Event of Default in which Seller was the defaulting Party, for which money damages would not be adequate compensation. Accordingly, Seller hereby expressly agrees that, notwithstanding any New York State public policy favoring remedies in the form of money damages, NYSERDA shall be entitled to elect specific performance of this Agreement to compel the Transfer of all Tier-1 RECs associated with the Quantity Obligation that the Bid Facility produces following the date of any such an Event of Default in accordance with the terms hereof, including payment for such Transfer, together with any other remedy at law or equity available to NYSERDA in connection therewith, without the necessity of demonstrating the inadequacy of money damages. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for any Event

of Default by Seller prior to the date of commencement of Commercial Operation, NYSERDA's sole and exclusive remedies shall be those described in Section 15.08. For greater clarity, in no event shall NYSERDA have the right to compel Seller to construct, complete the construction of, reconstruct or repair the Bid Facility (or any portion thereof) or require Seller to generate electricity from the Bid Facility.

Article XIV

Termination

<u>Section 14.01</u>. <u>Termination</u>. Without limiting any other remedy a Party may have hereunder, this Agreement may be terminated:

- (a) at any time by either NYSERDA or Seller if: (i) an Event of Default occurs (and following the expiration of any applicable cure period), (ii) the Party seeking to terminate this Agreement hereunder is the non-defaulting Party, and (iii) the non-defaulting Party has not waived such Event of Default in writing;
- (b) at any time by the mutual written consent of Seller and NYSERDA;
- (c) unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by NYSERDA and Seller in writing, on the expiration of the Contract Delivery Term (subject to Section 18.03 of this Agreement);
- (d) by NYSERDA in the event it is found that the certification filed by Seller in accordance with New York State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete; or
- (e) by NYSERDA in the event it is found that Seller made material misrepresentations in the certification filed by Seller in accordance with New York State Tax Law Section 5-a that were intentionally false when made.
- Section 14.02. Effect of Termination. Except as otherwise set forth in Section 18.03 below, in the event of a termination of this Agreement as provided in Section 14.01 above, neither Party shall have any further right or obligation hereunder.
- Section 14.03. Good Faith Negotiation. Both Parties agree that, should any dispute arise during the term of this Agreement, the Parties will make a good faith, though non-binding effort to reconcile any difference or dispute before the filing of an action in any court.
- <u>Section 14.04</u>. <u>Damages</u>. Neither Party shall be liable to the other for consequential, incidental, punitive, exemplary, or indirect damages, lost profits or other business interruption

damages arising from the breach of this Agreement; provided, however, that nothing in this Section 14.04 shall limit (a) Seller's obligations under Section 11.01 of this Agreement in respect of claims or causes of action brought by a Person other than a Party, or (b) either Party's liability for fraud.

Article XV

Contract Security

<u>Section 15.01</u>. Seller shall deliver or shall have delivered to NYSERDA as security for its performance under the terms of this Agreement, cash, certified funds, or a Letter of Credit conforming to the requirements in Section 15.04 ("Contract Security"), in the amounts, and according to the schedule and conditions, set forth in the Article XV:

- (a) As of the Effective Date, NYSERDA acknowledges that Seller has provided Contract Security in an amount equal to the sum of (i) the product of (x) the Bid Capacity and (y) twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00), and (ii) the Termination Agreement Contract Security⁷, as applicable;
- (b) No later than one (1) year prior to the Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date set forth in Schedule 2 of this Agreement ("Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date"), Seller must provide additional Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Failure to provide the additional Contract Security required by this Subsection 15.01(b) will constitute a default and may result in termination of this Agreement.

<u>Section 15.02</u>. <u>Extension of Commercial Operation Milestone Date</u>. Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date as follows:

(a) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) months to the First Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);

⁷ For Sellers that have executed a Mutual Termination Agreement, the Termination Agreement Contract Security shall be in addition to, and not in substitution of, any other Contract Security to be delivered under this Agreement.

- (b) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the First Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) additional months to the Second Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b) and the incremental amounts provided under 15.02 (a), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);
- (c) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the Second Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) additional months to the Third Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b) and the incremental amounts provided under 15.02 (a) and (b), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);
- (d) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the Third Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) additional months to the Fourth Extended Commercial Operation Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b) and the incremental amounts provided under 15.02 (a), (b) and (c), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);
- (e) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the Fourth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) additional months to the Fifth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b) and the incremental amounts provided under 15.02 (a), (b), (c) and (d), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);
- (f) No later than thirty (30) days prior to the Fifth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Seller may elect to extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date by six (6) additional months to the Sixth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date (identified in Schedule 2 of this Agreement) by providing to NYSERDA, in addition to the cumulative amounts provided under Section 15.01 (a) and (b) and the incremental amounts provided under 15.02 (a),

(b), (c), (d) and (e), Contract Security in an amount equal to the product of (i) the Bid Capacity and (ii) five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00).

Section 15.03. Executed Interconnection Agreement. Having provided and maintained the Contract Security identified in Sections 15.01(a), 15.01(b), 15.02(a) and 15.02(b), Seller may, in lieu of the additional Contract Security required under Sections 15.02(c), (d), (e) or (f), extend the Commercial Operation Milestone Date to the Third, Fourth, Fifth or Sixth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date, as applicable, by providing to NYSERDA proof that an interconnection agreement has been entered into by the NYISO or its counterpart in an adjacent control area, the Connecting Transmission Owner, and Seller or a legal representative of Seller. Bid Facilities seeking to satisfy the electricity delivery requirement through subsections (b) or (c) of Section 3.01 may provide proof that a comparable interconnection agreement has been entered into with all the necessary sites, service providers and parties that will enable and permit the transmission of the energy from the Bid Facility to the point of its consumption.

Section 15.04. Letter of Credit. A Letter of Credit shall be a clean unconditional and irrevocable standby letter of credit in favor of NYSERDA as beneficiary, issued for direct payment by a bank which is either a) an owner bank of The Clearing House, 8 or b) holds a credit rating of A or better by Standard and Poor's, A or better by Fitch, or A2 or better by Moody's, and is a United States bank, or a United States branch of a foreign bank, with a New York branch preferred. The Letter of Credit shall be substantially in the form of the letter of credit attached hereto as Exhibit B ("Letter of Credit"), in a face amount equal to the Contract Security amount, and which Letter of Credit shall provide that the issuing bank will pay to NYSERDA amounts in aggregate up to that same face amount upon presentation of only the Sight Draft in the amount to be drawn and the Payment Certificate, in the form of Annex A and Annex B, respectively, to the Letter of Credit, and have an expiration date not shorter than one (1) year. Should the Bid Facility not have commerced Commercial Operation by a date 30 days prior to the expiration date of the Letter of Credit, and Seller not having provided NYSERDA or arranged with NYSERDA to provide a substitute Letter of Credit prior to such expiration, NYSERDA shall be thereupon entitled to draw on the Letter of Credit for the full amount then outstanding and the funds received shall be held by NYSERDA until a substitute Letter of Credit has been provided, or for application against subsequent obligations of Seller. NYSERDA shall endeavor to provide advance courtesy notice of any such draw, provided, however, that failure to provide such notice shall not constitute a breach or waiver by NYSERDA.

Section 15.05. Replacement. Any assignee of this Agreement pursuant to Article VIII of this Agreement shall, simultaneously with its consummation of such assignment, deliver to NYSERDA a Replacement Letter of Credit or other form of replacement Contract Security

⁸ Please see the owner bank membership for The Clearing House available from https://www.theclearinghouse.org/about/owner-banks

acceptable to NYSERDA, as applicable, meeting the requirements of this Article, and NYSERDA shall, within twenty (20) Business Days after receipt of a compliant Replacement Letter of Credit or other form of replacement Contract Security acceptable to NYSERDA, as applicable, return the original Letter of Credit to Seller. Upon the failure of an assignee to deliver a compliant Replacement Letter of Credit or other form of replacement Contract Security acceptable to NYSERDA, as applicable, to NYSERDA simultaneously with its receipt of the assignment, NYSERDA shall be thereupon entitled to draw on the Letter of Credit for the full amount then outstanding and the funds received shall be held by NYSERDA for application against subsequent obligations of Seller and/or the assignee under this Agreement. NYSERDA shall endeavor to provide advance courtesy notice of any such draw, provided, however, that failure to provide such notice shall not constitute a breach or waiver by NYSERDA.

Section 15.06. Refund of Security. Amounts provided by Seller as Contract Security and not retained pursuant to Section 15.07 below will be refunded to Seller by NYSERDA as follows:

- (a) In their entirety, upon the achievement by the Bid Facility of an SoQ and Operational Certification, if the Installed Capacity is equal to or greater than the Bid Capacity.
- (b) At a prorated amount, upon the achievement by the Bid Facility of an SoQ and Operational Certification, if the Installed Capacity is less than the Bid Capacity. Such amount that will be refunded, expressed as a percentage of the total Contract Security, will be equal to the Installed Capacity divided by the Bid Capacity.

<u>Section 15.07</u>. <u>Retention of Security</u>. Amounts provided by Seller as Contract Security will be retained by NYSERDA as follows:

- (a) Reserved.
- (b) In their entirety if Seller fails to provide to NYSERDA, on or before the date that is one (1) year prior to the Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date, Contract Security in the amount required under Section 15.01(b), above.
- (c) In their entirety if Seller fails to meet the Commercial Operation Milestone Date under Section 2.07 and the Seller fails to provide to NYSERDA, on or before the expiration of the Commercial Operational Milestone Date under Section 2.07, the additional Contract Security in the amount required under Section 15.02, or an Executed Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 15.03, if applicable.

- (d) At a prorated amount if the Installed Capacity is less than the Bid Capacity. Such amount that will be retained, expressed as a percentage of the total Contract Security in place at such time, will be an amount equal to the quotient obtained by dividing (i) the sum of (x) the Bid Capacity minus (y) the Installed Capacity by (ii) the Bid Capacity; provided, however, no amount shall be retained to the extent any reduction in Installed Capacity is the result of implementing an agrivoltaics project that is (i) awarded under NYSERDA's RFP 5752 or future NYSERDA requests for proposal for the funding of agrivoltaic projects in New York State or (ii) otherwise confirmed in writing by NYSERDA (at NYSERDA's sole discretion) to be a bona fide agrivoltaics project.
- (e) In their entirety if the Seller is in default of this Agreement and has failed to cure such default within any applicable cure period.
- (f) In a specific amount for a failure to report information in accordance with Section 6.13 of this Agreement.

Section 15.08. Stipulated Damages. NYSERDA and Seller hereby agree, acknowledge and stipulate that NYSERDA's retention of amounts provided by Seller as Contract Security pursuant to Article XV, in the proportions stated within this Article, is fair and reasonable under the circumstances and in light of the uncertainty and inability to adequately quantify the harm that would result to NYSERDA as a result of the events that permit NYSERDA to retain such amounts of the Contract Security. In addition, and notwithstanding the foregoing, Seller agrees and covenants that in the event that this Agreement is terminated as a result of an Event of Default by Seller, Seller shall not, without NYSERDA's prior written consent, enter into any agreement for the sale of or otherwise sell or deliver to any party other than NYSERDA any Tier-1 RECs, other renewable energy certificates or other environmental attributes of renewable electricity generation produced by any electric generating station located at the Bid Facility site for a period of thirty-six (36) months after the effective date of such termination (a "Terminate and Operate Action"). Seller expressly agrees that, in the event of a Terminate and Operate Action, NYSERDA shall be permitted to retain any Contract Security as Stipulated Damages and pursue specific performance of this Agreement as under this Section 13.03, as though Seller has committed a breach hereof. The obligations of Seller under this Article shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Article XVI

Force Majeure

Section 16.01. Force Majeure.

(a) Neither Party hereto shall be liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its respective obligations hereunder if and to the extent that such delay or failure is due to a cause or circumstance beyond the reasonable control of such Party that could not have been prevented or avoided by such Party through the exercise of reasonable diligence and that directly prohibits or prevents such Party from performing its obligations under this Agreement, including, without limitation, (i) acts of God or the public enemy, (ii) expropriation or confiscation of land or facilities, (iii) compliance with any law, order, regulation or request of any Federal, State, municipal or local governmental authority, including NYSERDA (but only with respect to a Force Majeure Event claimed by Seller), (iv) acts of war, rebellion or sabotage or damage resulting therefrom, (v) major equipment failure, and (vi) fires, floods, storms, explosions, accidents, riots, or strikes (a "Force Majeure Event"); provided, however, that the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event shall not excuse a Party from any payment obligations hereunder with respect to services previously rendered or partial payment to the extent some portion of the Tier-1 RECs continue to be rendered during a period in which a Force Majeure Event renders a Party only partially able to perform. Variability in the frequency or force of the wind, of the sun, of rainfall, or of water levels will in no event constitute a Force Majeure Event. Failure by Seller to obtain or secure any permit or approval or delay in obtaining any permit or approval of any sort with regard to Seller's performance under the Agreement shall not constitute a Force Majeure Event unless such failure was caused by a Force Majeure.

(b) Reserved.

(c) <u>COVID-19</u>, <u>Pandemics and Epidemics</u>. If work on the Bid Facility is delayed, disrupted, suspended, or otherwise materially impacted as a direct or indirect result of a COVID or other pandemic- or epidemic-related impact on or after the Effective Date, including, but not limited to, by (i) disruptions to material and/or equipment supply; (ii) illness of personnel and/or unavailability of labor; (iii) acts of government, including quarantines, delays, closures, shutdowns, or other measures, orders, mandates, restrictions, and/or directives; (iv) restrictions and/or directives that specifically are put in place to provide for the health, safety and protection of personnel relating to protection from the pandemic or epidemic; and/or (v) fulfillment of contractual or legal health and safety obligations associated with the pandemic or epidemic, then Seller's performance shall be excused and suspended until the later of (x) the termination, expiration, or lapse of the circumstances that give rise to the inability to perform; and (y) in the case of supply chain disruptions related to a pandemic or epidemic, the resumption of the ability to obtain the materials and equipment needed to construct the Bid

Facility. Upon the occurrence of pandemic- or epidemic- related impact, Seller shall use commercially reasonable efforts to mitigate the effects of such pandemic- or epidemic- related impact, resume normal performance under this Agreement as soon as reasonably practicable, and continue to perform its obligations under this Agreement insofar as they are not affected by such pandemic- or epidemic- related impact. The relief provided for in this Section 16.01(c) shall not apply to the extent Seller had or should reasonably have had knowledge of such a pandemic- or epidemic- related impact prior to the Effective Date. Seller affirms that the Commercial Operation Milestone Date includes all pandemic- or epidemic- related impacts known to Seller as of the Effective Date.

(d) If either Party is unable, wholly or in part, by Force Majeure to perform obligations under this Agreement, such performance shall be excused and suspended so long as the circumstances that give rise to such inability exist or would exist if the Party claiming the Force Majeure used commercially reasonable efforts to cure such circumstances, but for no longer period. The Party whose performance is affected shall give prompt notice thereof; such notice may be given orally or in writing but, if given orally, it shall be promptly confirmed in writing, providing details regarding the nature, extent and expected duration of the Force Majeure, its anticipated effect on the ability of such party to perform obligations under this Agreement, and the estimated duration of any interruption in service or other adverse effects resulting from such Force Majeure, and shall be updated or supplemented to keep the other Party advised of the effect and remedial measures being undertaken to overcome the Force Majeure. Such inability shall be promptly corrected to the extent it may be corrected through the exercise of commercially reasonable due diligence. Subject to Section 14.01(c), following the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event that adversely affects a Party's ability to perform under this Agreement, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to amend the terms and conditions of this Agreement to limit the effects thereof and give effect to the original intent of the Parties hereunder.

Article XVII

Compliance with Certain Laws

Section 17.01. Governing Law; Venue. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York applicable to contracts executed and to be performed in New York State without regard to its conflicts of laws principles. The Parties irrevocably acknowledge and accept that all actions arising under or relating to this Agreement, and the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby shall be brought exclusively in a United States District Court or New York State Court located in Albany, New York having

subject matter jurisdiction over such matters, and each of the Parties hereby consents to and accepts such personal jurisdiction of, and waives any objection as to the laying of venue in, such courts for purposes of such action.

<u>Section 17.02</u>. <u>Laws of the State of New York</u>. Seller shall comply with all of the requirements set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

Section 17.03. All Legal Provisions Deemed Included. It is the intent and understanding of Seller and NYSERDA that each and every provision of law required by the laws of the State of New York to be contained in this Agreement shall be contained herein, and if, through mistake, oversight or otherwise, any such provision is not contained herein, or is not contained herein in correct form, this Agreement shall, upon the application of either NYSERDA or Seller, promptly be amended so as to comply strictly with the laws of the State of New York with respect to the inclusion in this Agreement of all such provisions. In such event, the Parties shall negotiate such amendment in good faith with the intent that such amendment reflects, as closely as possible, the terms and conditions of this Agreement in effect prior to such amendment; provided that such amendment shall not in any event alter (a) the purchase and sale obligations of the Parties pursuant to this Agreement, or (b) the pricing and payment provisions of this Agreement.

Section 17.04. Permits and Approvals. Seller shall be responsible to obtain all applicable permits and regulatory approvals that may be required in order to develop and/or operate the Bid Facility over the duration of the Contract Delivery Term. Neither the RES Program nor selection under RESRFP24-1 in any way replaces or modifies the necessity or applicability of any permit or approval process by any jurisdiction. NYSERDA's obligations to make payments to Seller are conditional on the acquisition by Seller of all such permits and approvals. Upon request by NYSERDA Seller must demonstrate such acquisition and/or provide copies of all permits and approvals acquired. Seller shall provide prompt notice to NYSERDA of the initiation of any criminal or regulatory investigation, hearing, proceeding, or review process ("Process") by any federal or State entity regarding any actual or alleged violation of any permit or approval obtained or applied for with respect to the Bid Facility, as well as of any modification, penalty and/or fine that may be imposed or occur as a result of such a Process or violation, in either case which actual or alleged violation, modification, penalty and or fine, if true or imposed, would substantially impair Seller's performance of obligations under this Agreement. Upon the filing by Seller of an application for a permit to site the Bid Facility, Seller shall promptly notify NYSERDA and shall comply with any restrictions NYSERDA may impose regarding communication with NYSERDA staff.

Section 17.05. Other Legal Requirements. The references to particular laws of the State of New York in this Article and elsewhere in this Agreement are not intended to be exclusive and nothing contained in such Article, Exhibit and Agreement shall be deemed to modify the obligations of Seller to comply with all legal requirements.

Article XVIII

Additional Provisions

Section 18.01. Forward Contract. Each Party represents and warrants to the other that it is a "forward contract merchant" within the meaning of the United States Bankruptcy Code, that this Agreement is a "forward contract" within the meaning of the United States Bankruptcy Code, and that the remedies identified in this Agreement shall be "contractual rights" as provided for in 11 U.S.C. § 556 as that provision may be amended from time to time.

Section 18.02. Taxes/Costs. Seller shall be responsible for and obligated to pay all present and future taxes, fees, levies and costs that may be assessed by any entity including but not limited to NYGATS with respect to Seller's provision of Tier-1 RECs to NYSERDA, or with respect to the measurement, tracking, and verification and participation in NYGATS necessary for the creation and Transfer of the Tier-1 RECs and/or the energy with which they are associated, into the NYSERDA NYGATS account.

Section 18.03. Term. Unless terminated earlier under this Article, this Agreement shall expire upon the expiration of the Contract Delivery Term. Upon such date or upon earlier Termination of this Agreement under Article XIV, neither Party shall have any further obligation to the other, except that Article I, Sections 2.02, 2.03, 5.01, 5.02(a), 7.01, 11.01, 11.02, 14.02, 14.03, 14.04, 15.04, 15.05,15.06, 15.07, 15.08, 17.01, 18.03, 18.04, 18.11, 19.01, 19.02, 20.01, 21.02, 21.03, 21.04, and all payment obligations under Article IV shall survive.

Section 18.04. Waiver. Either Party to this Agreement may (a) extend the time for the performance of any of the obligations or other acts of the other Party, (b) waive any inaccuracies in the representations and warranties of the other Party contained herein or in any document delivered by the other Party pursuant hereto, or (c) waive compliance with any of the agreements or conditions of the other Party contained herein. Any such extension or waiver shall be valid only if set forth in an instrument in writing signed by the Party to be bound thereby. Any waiver of any term or condition shall not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach or a subsequent waiver of the same term or condition, or a waiver of any other term or condition, of this Agreement. No provision of this Agreement will be deemed to have been waived unless the waiver is in writing; no delay by either Party in exercising its rights hereunder, including the right to terminate this Agreement, shall be deemed to constitute or evidence any waiver by such Party of any right hereunder. The rights granted in this Agreement are cumulative of every other right or remedy that the enforcing Party may otherwise have at law or in equity or by statute.

Section 18.05. Independent Contractor. The status of Seller under this Agreement shall be that of an independent contractor and not that of an agent, and in accordance with such status, Seller and its respective officers, agents, employees, representatives and servants shall at all

times during the term of this Agreement conduct themselves in a manner consistent with such status and by reason of this Agreement shall neither hold themselves out as, nor claim to be acting in the capacity of, officers, employees, agents, representatives or servants of NYSERDA nor make any claim, demand or application for any right or privilege applicable to NYSERDA, including, without limitation, rights or privileges derived from workers' compensation coverage, unemployment insurance benefits, social security coverage and retirement membership or credit. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture or other relationship between NYSERDA and Seller for any reason.

Section 18.06. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, void or unenforceable, all other provisions of this Agreement shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. If any provision of this Agreement is so broad as to be unenforceable, that provision shall be interpreted to be only so broad as will enable it to be enforced.

Section 18.07. Seller Expense. Seller shall, at its own expense, make all arrangements necessary to: (a) register the Bid Facility and Transfer Tier-1 RECs to the NYSERDA NYGATS Account, and (b) interconnect the Bid Facility with a transmission or distribution system and to comply with the Bid Facility Electricity Delivery Requirements. This requirement encompasses Seller's purchasing or arranging for all services including without limitation transmission, ancillary services, any control area services, line losses and transaction fees necessary to deliver energy to the New York Control Area, in accordance with all rules and protocols of the NYISO, throughout the Contract Delivery Term.

Section 18.08. Environmental Disclosure. The Parties agree that, at the time of the execution of this Agreement, New York employs NYGATS for the tracking, registration, and trading of generation attributes, including renewable or environmental attributes or credits, and that NYGATS will be used by the New York State Department of Public Service to accomplish verification of the transactions consummated hereunder as part of the Environmental Disclosure Program.

Section 18.09. Covenant. Seller hereby covenants and promises that the Bid Facility is or will be eligible under any applicable orders of the Public Service Commission issued under Case 15-E-0302, Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard, as of the Effective Date of this Agreement, and that it will remain so throughout the Contract Delivery Term.

Section 18.10. Prevailing Wage. In accordance with New York State Labor Law § 224-d (2), and unless otherwise provided in a PLA covering the construction of the Bid Facility that complies with the requirements of Labor Law § 222, all laborers, workmen and mechanics, within the meaning of NYS Labor Law Article 8, performing Construction Activities with respect to the Bid Facility, including, but not limited to, the staging, installation, erection and

placement of Bid Facility and, to the extent required pursuant to New York Labor Law § 224-d (2), its electrical interconnection, as well as start-up and commissioning of the Bid Facility, whether through long-term or short-term employment, must be paid at least the Prevailing Wage applicable in the area where the Bid Facility will be situated, erected and used, in accordance with New York State Labor Law § 220 and as published by the New York State Department of Labor (DOL)⁹ or at least the equivalent Prevailing Wage requirements of the jurisdiction where the Bid Facility is located. This requirement applies: (1) to all laborers, workmen and mechanics performing Construction Activities, whether direct employees of the Seller or of Seller's subcontractor(s), and (2) regardless of whether or not such employment was claimed as an Economic Benefit in its Bid Proposal. No less than six months prior to the start of Construction Activities, Seller must notify NYSERDA of its intent to commence Construction Activities, and in cooperation with the New York State Department of Labor or equivalent in the jurisdiction where the Bid Facility is located, generate a prevailing wage determination for the construction of the Bid Facility, as will be updated from time to time. Unless relieved of such requirements by entering into a duly executed PLA in accordance with Section 18.12 of this Agreement and Labor Law § 222 (or other equivalent law), Seller will be responsible for complying with all prevailing wage requirements (including but not limited to reporting requirements) under New York State Labor Law §§ 220, 220-b, and 224-d (or other equivalent law). Should NYSERDA determine that Seller has failed to pay at least the Prevailing Wage in accordance with this Section 18.10, NYSERDA will notify Seller in writing. If the Seller fails to cure such failure within six months of the date of notification, NYSERDA may suspend payments to the Seller until any such failure is cured. During the term of any such suspension of payment under this Section 18.10, Seller shall continue to transfer Tier-1 RECs to NYSERDA in accordance with this Agreement and the price paid by NYSERDA for each such Tier-1 REC shall be zero dollars until the failure is cured. Once such failure is cured and the suspension is lifted, NYSERDA shall, within a reasonable time, issue payment for the RECs transferred during the suspension period consistent with Article IV of the Agreement. The total cure period will be 12 months from the date of notification, after which time the Seller's failure to cure shall be considered an Event of Default pursuant to Section 13.01(i) of this Agreement.

<u>Section 18.11</u>. <u>No Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. Nothing herein is intended to or should be construed to create any rights of any kind whatsoever in any persons not party to this Agreement.

Section 18.12. Project Labor Agreements. The requirements of Section 18.10 shall not apply to Construction Activities performed under a Project Labor Agreement, executed in accordance with New York State Labor Law § 222, and submitted to NYSERDA in accordance with the requirements set forth in Exhibit J to this Agreement.

⁹ For NYS DOL Prevailing Wage Schedules, please visit: https://labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/publicwork/PWContents.shtm

Section 18.13. Labor Peace Agreement. Pursuant to New York State Public Service Law § 66-r (3), the Parties understand and agree that the Seller, as owner of the Bid Facility, or a third party acting on the Seller's behalf, will be obligated to enter into a labor peace agreement ("Labor Peace Agreement" or "LPA") in compliance with New York State Public Service Law § 66-r with at least one bona fide labor organization either where such bona fide labor organization is actively representing employees providing necessary operations and maintenance services for the Bid Facility at the time of such agreement or upon notice by a bona fide labor organization that is attempting to represent employees who will provide necessary operations and maintenance services for the renewable energy system employed in the state. The Labor Peace Agreement will, at a minimum, protect the State of New York's proprietary interests by prohibiting labor organizations and members from engaging in picketing, work stoppages, boycotts, and any other economic interference with the construction or operation of the Bid Facility. The Parties further understand and agree that, pursuant to and to the extent legally required by New York State Public Service Law § 66-r (3), the maintenance of such LPA shall be an ongoing material condition of any continuation of payments under this Agreement. Seller agrees to notify NYSERDA of any event triggering Seller's obligation under this Section, or an obligation under New York State Public Service Law § 66-r (3), within 15 Business Days of the occurrence of such an event. Within 30 days after the occurrence of any event triggering Seller's obligation under this Section, Seller, as owner, shall submit to NYSERDA a confidential plan to complete negotiations with its counterparty under New York State Public Service Law § 66-r (3), which shall provide for the execution of an LPA within 60 days of the triggering event or sooner if required by applicable law.

Section 18.14. MWBE and SDVOB Requirements. In addition to Seller's Economic Benefits obligations pursuant to this Agreement, including those related to Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW, Seller shall, and shall cause its subcontractors and service contractors, via contract terms and conditions, to undertake commercially reasonable efforts to contract with MWBEs and SDVOBs in relation to the development, design, construction, operation and decommissioning of Bid Facility. Such opportunities include but are not limited to subcontracting opportunities, mentorship programs, joint venturing, and other business development activities. Seller shall document commercially reasonable efforts undertaken pursuant to this Section in each quarterly Progress Report submitted pursuant to Section 6.02 of this Agreement. Nothing in this Section 18.14 shall excuse Seller's performance of the Economic Benefits expenditures contained in this Agreement.

Section 18.15. U.S. Iron and Steel Usage. In addition to meeting the Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars/MW requirement, Seller agrees to use commercially reasonable efforts to (a) source and procure components, materials, equipment, spare parts and other items necessary to construct the Bid Facility from manufacturing facilities located in New York State, and (b) utilize materials and equipment that uses iron and steel produced by steel mills within the United States. Seller shall report progress with such efforts in its Quarterly Reports submitted pursuant to Section 6.02 of this Agreement. Seller shall include this requirement in all contracts and

subcontracts that include the procurement of components, materials, equipment, spare parts, and other items necessary to construct the Bid Facility. Seller shall require any contractor or subcontractor that procures iron or steel components to execute and furnish to Seller who shall in turn furnish to NYSERDA a duly executed U.S. Iron and Steel Contractor Certification form as found in Exhibit K.

Section 18.16. Reserved.

Article XIX

Notices, Entire Agreement, Amendment, Counterparts

Section 19.01. Notices.

- (a) All notices, requests, consents, approvals and other communications which may or are required to be given by either Party to the other under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be transmitted either:
 - (i) via certified or registered United States mail, return receipt requested;
 - (ii) by personal delivery;
 - (iii) by expedited delivery service; or
 - (iv) by e-mail, return receipt requested.

Such notices shall be addressed as follows, or to such different addresses as the Parties may from time-to-time designate as set forth in paragraph (c) below:

To Seller:

Somers Solar, LLC Attn: Mitch Quine 2045 Lincoln Highway Edison, New Jersey 08817

Email address: mitch.quine@csenergy.com

With a copy to:

Somers Solar, LLC Attn: Lisa Delsante 2045 Lincoln Highway Edison, New Jersey 08817 Email address: ldelsante@csenergy.com

To NYSERDA: NYSERDA

Attn: Office of the General Counsel

17 Columbia Circle

Albany, New York 12203-6399

email address: CESLegal@nyserda.ny.gov

With a copy to: NYSERDA

Attn: Large-Scale Renewables

17 Columbia Circle

Albany, New York 12203-6399 email address: res@nyserda.ny.gov

(b) Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given either at the time of personal delivery or, in the case of expedited delivery service or certified or registered United States mail, as of the date of first attempted delivery at the address and in the manner provided herein, or in the case of facsimile transmission or email, upon receipt of an email acknowledgement of receipt.

(c) The Parties may, from time to time, specify any new or different address in the United States as their address for purpose of receiving notice under this Agreement by giving fifteen (15) days written notice to the other Party sent in accordance herewith. The Parties agree to mutually designate individuals as their respective representatives for the purposes of receiving notices under this Agreement. Additional individuals may be designated in writing by the Parties for purposes of implementation and administration/billing, resolving issues and problems and/or for dispute resolution.

Section 19.02. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement, including the Exhibits hereto, embodies the entire agreement and understanding between NYSERDA and Seller and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof, except for a Non-Disclosure Agreement entered by the Parties. Except as otherwise expressly provided for herein, this Agreement may be amended, modified, changed, waived, discharged or terminated only by an instrument in writing, signed by the Party against which enforcement of such amendment, modification, change, waiver, discharge or termination is sought.

<u>Section 19.03</u>. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Article XX

Publicity

Section 20.01. Publicity. Seller and/or the Bid Facility owner will collaborate with NYSERDA's Communications Unit, or RES program staff, with regard to the preparation of any press release, public announcement, publication or media interview with respect to the Parties' entry into this Agreement or the subject matter thereof or which concerns NYSERDA or the RES Program. Staff can be contacted by calling 518-862-1090. In any such press release, public announcement publication, or media interview Seller and/or the Owner of the Bid Facility and/or its employees shall credit NYSERDA and the funding participation of the Renewable Energy Standard in the activities of the Bid Facility. Seller will not represent that positions taken or advanced by Seller represent the opinion or position of NYSERDA, the PSC or the State of New York.

Article XXI

Confidentiality

Section 21.01. Seller Authorization. Seller may be required to authorize the direct transfer to NYSERDA by an energy market administrator or the operator of the transmission and/or distribution system into which the energy from the Bid Facility is delivered of transactional and/or delivery information and data pertinent to the verification of attribute creation and electricity delivery, and thereby to waive confidentiality with respect to the disclosure of such information to NYSERDA. To the maximum extent allowed by law, NYSERDA shall treat any such information so received in accordance with the applicable confidentiality requirements of the energy market administrator or transmission operator.

<u>Section 21.02</u>. <u>Freedom of Information Law</u>. Seller acknowledges that NYSERDA is subject to and must comply with the requirements of New York's Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL;" see Public Officers' Law Article 6).

Section 21.03. Trade Secrets/Commercial Information. The FOIL Law (Public Officers Law § 87(2)(d)) provides an exception to disclosure for records or portions thereof that "are trade secrets or are submitted to an agency by a commercial enterprise or derived from information obtained from a commercial enterprise and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise." If NYSERDA receives a FOIL request from a third party for this Agreement or any portion hereof not previously published by NYSERDA for information or a document received from Seller and which has been

marked "Confidential" or "Proprietary," NYSERDA will process such request under the procedures provided by Public Officers Law section 89(5) and NYSERDA's FOIL regulations.

<u>Section 21.04</u>. <u>Claim of Confidentiality</u>. Information of any tangible form including any document that Seller wishes to be protected from disclosure to third parties, including any information provided as a part of a Bid Proposal submitted in response to RESRFP24-1, must be marked "Confidential" or "Proprietary" at the time such information is provided to NYSERDA.

Section 21.05. Publication of Agreement. Seller acknowledges that NYSERDA may publish this Agreement. Prior to such publication, NYSERDA will redact any critical electric infrastructure information contained in the Agreement, if any, including in the exhibits hereto, and will consider Seller's requests for the redaction of confidential business information; provided, however that NYSERDA shall not accept any request to redact price information contained in this Agreement, specifically the Index REC Strike Price or any terms which may contribute to the calculation of financial obligations under the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered by their duly authorized representatives.

By:

SOMERS SOLAR, LLC

By: NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Doreen M.

Signature: Harris

Name: Doreen M. Harris

Title: President & CEO

Digitally signed by Doreen M. Harris Date: 2025.02.28 09:04:14 -05'00'

Name: Matthew Skidmore

Title: CEO

Schedule 1

FACILITY AND PRICE PARAMETERS

The following terms, as used and defined in the Agreement, shall have the following values:

Annual REC Cap: 46,400

Applicable Zone: F - Capital

Bid Capacity: 20 MW

Bid Quantity: 38,667

Bid Quantity Percentage:

Contract Tenor: 20 years

Expected Dollars/MW

Expected MWBE and SDVOB Dollars/MW:

Expected U.S. Iron and Steel Dollars/MWdc: \$32,000

Index REC Strike Price

Schedule 2

DATES

The following terms, as used and defined in the Agreement, shall have the following dates:

Mutual Termination Agreement Date: December 14, 2023

RESRFP24-1 Launch Date: June 20, 2024

Award Notification Date: October 21, 2024

Initial Commercial Operation Milestone Date: November 30, 2026

First Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: May 31, 2027

Second Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: November 30, 2027

Third Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: May 31, 2028

Fourth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: November 30, 2028

Fifth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: May 31, 2029

Sixth Extended Commercial Operation Milestone Date: November 30, 2029

Schedule 3

Intentionally deleted.

EXHIBIT A

REVISED 1/24

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL NYSERDA AGREEMENTS

(Based on Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts and Tax Law Section 5-a)

The parties to the Agreement agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the Agreement to the extent applicable:

- 1. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS. To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or marital status. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is an Agreement for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this Agreement shall be performed within the State of New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this Agreement. If this is a building service Agreement as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this Agreement and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second subsequent violation.
- 2. <u>WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS</u>. If this is an agreement for a public work covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service covered by Article 9 thereof, neither

Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, if this is an agreement for a public work or a building service as covered above, or a covered project as defined in Labor Law section 224-a, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by NYSERDA of any NYSERDA-approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

- 3. <u>NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENT</u>. In accordance with Section 2878 of the Public Authorities Law, if this Agreement was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor warrants, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further warrants that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to NYSERDA a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.
- 4. <u>INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION</u>. If this Agreement exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the Agreement, that neither the Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the Federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the Agreement's execution, such Agreement, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify NYSERDA within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal. (See and compare Section 220-f of the Labor Law, Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, and 2 NYCRR 105.4).
- 5. <u>SET-OFF RIGHTS</u>. NYSERDA shall have all of its common law and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, NYSERDA's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this Agreement up to any amounts due and owing to NYSERDA with regard to this Agreement, any other Agreement, including any Agreement for a term commencing prior to the term of this Agreement, plus any amounts due and owing to NYSERDA for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto.
- 6. <u>PROPRIETARY INFORMATION</u>. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the Agreement, Contractor and NYSERDA acknowledge and agree that all information, in any

format, submitted to NYSERDA shall be subject to and treated in accordance with the NYS Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL," Public Officers Law, Article 6). Pursuant to FOIL, NYSERDA is required to make available to the public, upon request, records or portions thereof which it possesses, unless that information is statutorily exempt from disclosure. Therefore, unless the Agreement specifically requires otherwise, Contractor should submit information to NYSERDA in a non-confidential, non-proprietary format. FOIL does provide that NYSERDA may deny access to records or portions thereof that "are trade secrets or are submitted to an agency by a commercial enterprise or derived from information obtained from a commercial enterprise and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise." [See Public Officers Law, § 87(2)(d)]. Accordingly, if the Agreement specifically requires submission of information in a format Contractor considers a proprietary and/or confidential trade secret, Contractor shall fully identify and plainly label the information "confidential" or "proprietary" at the time of disclosure. By so marking such information, Contractor represents that the information has actual or potential specific commercial or competitive value to the competitors of Contractor. Without limitation, information will not be considered confidential or proprietary if it is or has been (i) generally known or available from other sources without obligation concerning its confidentiality; (ii) made available by the owner to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; or (iii) already available to NYSERDA without obligation concerning its confidentiality. In the event of a FOIL request, it is NYSERDA's policy to consider records as marked above pursuant to the trade secret exemption procedure set forth in 21 New York Codes Rules & Regulations § 501.6 and any other applicable law or regulation. However, NYSERDA cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information submitted. More information on FOIL, and the relevant statutory law and regulations, can be found at the website for the Committee on Open Government (http://www.dos.ny.gov/about/foil2.html) and NYSERDA's Regulations, Part 501 http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/About/New-York-State-Regulations.aspx

- 7. <u>IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION</u>. (a) FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER and/or FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. As a condition to NYSERDA's obligation to pay any invoices submitted by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement, Contractor shall provide to NYSERDA its Federal employer identification number or Federal social security number, or both such numbers when the Contractor has both such numbers. Where the Contractor does not have such number or numbers, the Contractor must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.
- (b) PRIVACY NOTIFICATION. The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by Contractor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation

and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law.

- 8. <u>CONFLICTING TERMS</u>. In the event of a conflict between the terms of the Agreement (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Exhibit A, the terms of this Exhibit A shall control.
- 9. <u>GOVERNING LAW</u>. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.
- 10. <u>NO ARBITRATION</u>. Disputes involving this Agreement, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily required) without the NYSERDA's written consent, but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.
- 11. <u>SERVICE OF PROCESS</u>. In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law and Rules ("CPLR"), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor's actual receipt of process or upon NYSERDA's receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify NYSERDA, in writing, of each and every change of address to which service of process can be made. Service by NYSERDA to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.
- 12. <u>CRIMINAL ACTIVITY</u>. If subsequent to the effectiveness of this Agreement, NYSERDA comes to know of any allegation previously unknown to it that the Contractor or any of its principals is under indictment for a felony, or has been, within five (5) years prior to submission of the Contractor's proposal to NYSERDA, convicted of a felony, under the laws of the United States or Territory of the United States, then NYSERDA may exercise its stop work right under this Agreement. If subsequent to the effectiveness of this Agreement, NYSERDA comes to know of the fact, previously unknown to it, that Contractor or any of its principals is under such indictment or has been so convicted, then NYSERDA may exercise its right to terminate this Agreement. If the Contractor knowingly withheld information about such an indictment or conviction, NYSERDA may declare the Agreement null and void and may seek legal remedies against the Contractor and its principals. The Contractor or its principals may also be subject to penalties for any violation of law which may apply in the particular circumstances. For a Contractor which is an association, partnership, corporation, or other organization, the provisions of this paragraph apply to any such indictment or conviction of the organization itself or any of its officers, partners, or directors or members of any similar governing body, as applicable.

- 13. <u>PERMITS</u>. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to acquire and maintain, at its own cost, any and all permits, licenses, easements, waivers and permissions of every nature necessary to perform the work.
- 14. <u>PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS</u>. The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this Agreement will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of State Finance Law Section 165 (Use of Tropical Hardwoods), which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted by NYSERDA.
- 15. <u>OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992</u>. It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development

Division for Small Business

625 Broadway

Albany, New York 12207

Telephone: 518-292-5200

Fax: 518-292-5884

http://www.esd.ny.gov

A directory of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development

Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

625 Broadway

Albany, New York 12207

Telephone: 518-292-5200

Fax: 518-292-5803

http://www.empire.state.ny.us

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 requires that by signing this Agreement, Contractors certify that whenever the total amount is greater than \$1 million:

- (a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;
- (b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;
- (c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and
- (d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.
- 16. <u>RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS</u>. Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country, nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain. NOTE: As of May 15, 2002, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii. Contact NYS Department of Economic Development for a current list of jurisdictions subject to this provision.
- 17. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE INFORMATION SECURITY BREACH AND NOTIFICATION ACT</u>. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law Section 899-aa; State Technology Law Section 208).
- 18. <u>PROCUREMENT LOBBYING</u>. To the extent this Agreement is a "procurement contract" as defined by State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k, by signing this Agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance

Law Sections 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, NYSERDA may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

- 19. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH TAX LAW SECTION</u> 5-a. The following provisions apply to Contractors that have entered into agreements in an amount exceeding \$100,000 for the purchase of goods and services:
 - a) Before such agreement can take effect, the Contractor must have on file with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance a Contractor Certification form (ST-220-TD).
 - b) Prior to entering into such an agreement, the Contractor is required to provide NYSERDA with a completed Contractor Certification to Covered Agency form (Form ST-220-CA).
 - c) Prior to any renewal period (if applicable) under the agreement, the Contractor is required to provide NYSERDA with a completed Form ST-220-CA.

Certifications referenced in paragraphs (b) and (c) above will be maintained by NYSERDA and made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference.

- NYSERDA reserves the right to terminate this agreement in the event it is found that the certification filed by the Contractor in accordance with Tax Law Section 5-a was false when made.
- 20. IRANIAN ENERGY SECTOR DIVESTMENT. In accordance with Section 2879-c of the Public Authorities Law, by signing this contract, each person and each person signing on behalf of any other party certifies, and in the case of a joint bid or partnership each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each person is not on the list created pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of Section 165-a of the State Finance Law (See https://ogs.ny.gov/iran-divestment-act-2012).
- 21. COMPLIANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE DIESEL EMISSION REDUCTION ACT (DERA) OF 2006. Contractor shall comply with and, if applicable to this Agreement, provide proof of compliance with the New York State Diesel Emission Reduction Act of 2006 ("DERA"), Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Section 19-0323, and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Law implementing regulations under 6 NYCRR Part 248, Use of Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel (ULSD) and Best Available Retrofit Technology ("BART"). Compliance includes, but is not limited to, the development of a

heavy-duty diesel vehicle (HDDV), maintaining documentation associated with BART evaluations, submitting to and receiving DEC approval of a technology or useful-life waiver, and maintaining records where BART-applicable vehicles are primarily located or garaged. DEC regulation under 6 NYCRR Part 248, Use of Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel and Best Available Technology for Heavy Duty Vehicles can be found at: https://www.dec.ny.gov/regs/2492.html.

22. <u>ADMISSIBILITY OF REPRODUCTION OF CONTRACT</u>. Notwithstanding the best evidence rule or any other legal principle or rule of evidence to the contrary, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that it waives any and all objections to the admissibility into evidence at any court proceeding or to the use at any examination before trial of an electronic reproduction of this contract, regardless of whether the original of said contract is in existence.

EXHIBIT B

LETTER OF CREDIT

FORM OF IRREVOCABLE STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT

IRREVOCABLE STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT NO
DATE:, 20
BENEFICIARY: THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 17 COLUMBIA CIRCLE, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12203-6399
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:
BY THE ORDER OF: [SELLER] [SELLER'S ADDRESS]
WE HEREBY ISSUE OUR IRREVOCABLE CREDIT NO: IN YOUR FAVOR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF (THE "SELLER") FOR AN AMOUNT OR AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED IN THE AGGREGATE [STATE IN WORDS] U.S. DOLLARS AVAILABLE BY YOUR DRAFTS AT SIGHT ON [INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF ISSUING BANK], NEW YORK, NEW YORK, USA, WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:
1. YOUR SIGHT DRAFT DRAWN ON US IN THE FORM OF ANNEX A HERETO (THE "SIGHT DRAFT"); AND 2. A DATED PAYMENT CERTIFICATE PURPORTEDLY SIGNED BY A DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICER OF NYSERDA IN THE FORM OF ANNEX B HERETO (THE "PAYMENT CERTIFICATE").
MULTIPLE DRAWINGS ARE PERMITTED IN AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED, IN COMBINATION, THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT.
DRAWINGS PRESENTED BY FACSIMILE TO FACSIMILE NUMBER ARE ACCEPTABLE; PROVIDED THAT SUCH FAX PRESENTATION IS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THE EXPIRY DATE ON THIS INSTRUMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LETTER OF CREDIT, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY SUCH FAX PRESENTATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED THE SOLE OPERATIVE INSTRUMENT OF DRAWING. IN THE EVENT OF PRESENTATION BY FAX, THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS SHOULD NOT BE PRESENTED.
FUNDS UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU AGAINST YOUR PAYMENT CERTIFICATE AND SIGHT DRAFT PRESENTED IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LETTER OF CREDIT ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK TIME, ON THE EXPIRATION DATE HEREOF. THIS LETTER OF CREDIT WILL EXPIRE ON [INSERT DATE].
PAYMENT AGAINST CONFORMING DOCUMENTS PRESENTED UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT SHALL BE

MADE BY US AT OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NEW YORK TIME, ON THE NEXT (OR, IN THE CASE OF A PRESENTATION

ALL PAYMENTS MADE BY US UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT WILL BE MADE IN IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FUNDS AND WILL BE DISBURSED FROM OUR OWN FUNDS. IF REQUESTED BY YOU, PAYMENT UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT MAY BE MADE BY WIRE TRANSFER OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK FUNDS

AFTER 10:30 A.M., NEW YORK TIME, THE SECOND NEXT) BANKING DAY AFTER PRESENTATION.

TO YOUR ACCOUNT IN A BANK ON THE FEDERAL RESERVE WIRE SYSTEM. BENEFICIARY'S BANK [INSERT NAME AND ACCOUNT NUMBER].

THIS LETTER OF CREDIT IS NOT TRANSFERABLE. ONLY YOU MAY MAKE ANY PAYMENT CERTIFICATE AND SIGHT DRAFT UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT.

ANY SIGHT DRAFT DRAWN HEREUNDER MUST BE MARKED "DRAWN UNDER [INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF ISSUING BANK], STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT NUMBER ______ DATE______."

ALL BANK CHARGES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, FEES OR COMMISSIONS, SHALL BE FOR APPLICANT'S ACCOUNT.

IT IS A CONDITION OF THIS LETTER OF CREDIT THAT IT SHALL BE DEEMED AUTOMATICALLY EXTENDED WITHOUT WRITTEN AMENDMENT FOR ONE YEAR PERIODS FROM THE PRESENT OR ANY FUTURE EXPIRY DATE UNLESS AT LEAST 30 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO SUCH EXPIRATION DATE, WE SEND THE BENEFICIARY NOTICE AT THE ABOVE STATED ADDRESS BY OVERNIGHT COURIER, ATTN: NYSERDA GENERAL COUNSEL, WITH ELECTRONIC COPIES SENT TO CESLEGAL@NYSERDA.NY.GOV AND RES@NYSERDA.NY.GOV, THAT WE ELECT NOT TO EXTEND THIS LETTER OF CREDIT BEYOND THE INITIAL OR ANY EXTENDED EXPIRY DATE HEREOF.

MISCELLANEOUS

THIS LETTER OF CREDIT SETS FORTH IN FULL THE TERMS OF OUR UNDERTAKING. SUCH UNDERTAKING SHALL NOT IN ANY WAY BE MODIFIED, AMENDED OR AMPLIFIED BY REFERENCE TO ANY DOCUMENT OR INSTRUMENT REFERRED TO HEREIN OR IN WHICH THIS LETTER OF CREDIT IS REFERRED OR TO WHICH IT RELATES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE AGREEMENT) AND ANY SUCH REFERENCE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO INCORPORATE HEREIN BY REFERENCE ANY DOCUMENT OR INSTRUMENT.

WE HEREBY AGREE WITH YOU THAT EACH DULY COMPLETED PAYMENT CERTIFICATE AND SIGHT DRAFT DRAWN UNDER AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THIS LETTER OF CREDIT WILL BE DULY HONORED UPON PRESENTATION TO US ON OR BEFORE THE EXPIRY DATE. THE OBLIGATION OF [ISSUING BANK] UNDER THIS LETTER OF CREDIT IS THE INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION OF [ISSUING BANK] AND IS IN NO WAY CONTINGENT UPON REIMBURSEMENT WITH RESPECT THERETO.

EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY STATED HEREIN, THIS LETTER OF CREDIT IS SUBJECT TO THE UNIFORM CUSTOMS AND PRACTICE FOR DOCUMENTARY CREDITS (2007 REVISION), INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PUBLICATION 600 (PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT DRAWINGS PERMITTED HEREUNDER SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE DRAWINGS BY INSTALLMENTS WITHIN ARTICLE 32 OF THE UCP) AND AS TO MATTERS NOT GOVERNED BY THE UCP, SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND APPLICABLE U.S. FEDERAL LAW.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THIS LETTER OF CREDIT TO THE ATTENTION OF OUR STANDBY LETTER OF CREDIT UNIT, INCLUDING THE LETTER OF CREDIT REFERENCE NUMBER AS IT APPEARS ABOVE.

[NAME AND ADDRESS OF ISSUING BANK]

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
OF OFFICER OF ISSUING BANK

Annex A to Exhibit B - Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit

SIGHT DRAFT

Letter of Credit No.	
Date of Letter of Credit:	
Date of Draft:	
FOR VALUE RECEIVED	
Pay on Demand to: THE NEW YORK STATE AUTHORITY, U.S this draft does not exceed the amount available	E ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT Dollars (U.S. \$). The amount of e to be drawn by the Beneficiary under the Letter of Credit
Charge to account of [Name of Seller]. Drawn under [Name of Bank] Letter of Credit Payment by the bank pursuant to this drawing Number, Ac, Re:, Re:	No shall be made to, ABA ecount Number, Attention:
To: [Issuing Bank] [Address] Attention:	
	As Beneficiary
	By: [Name and Title]

Annex B to Exhibit B - Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit

PAYMENT CERTIFICATE

10:	[Address]
	Re: Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit No: [Insert]
having	The undersigned, a duly authorized officer of the undersigned Beneficiary, hereby certifies to [Issuing , with reference to the Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit No: 239771 ("Letter of Credit"), that Seller, g provided the Letter of Credit to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority SERDA") as Security for performance under NYSERDA Agreement No ("Agreement") in the gate amount of \$, ("Letter of Credit Amount") either [check the appropriate space]:
	Seller failed to execute the Agreement by the required deadline under RESRFP24-1, under which istance NYSERDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount equal to one-hundred (100) percent of the of Credit Amount.
which	Seller failed to submit the application of its key permit by the required deadline under RESRFP24-1, under circumstance NYSERDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount equal to one hundred (100) percent of tter of Credit Amount.
	Seller failed to provide to NYSERDA additional Contract Security in the amount required under Section (b) of the Agreement, under which circumstance NYSERDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount to one-hundred (100) percent of the Letter of Credit Amount.
circun	Seller has failed to perform in that Seller's Bid Facility has failed to attain a Statement of Qualification and/one name Commercial Operation on or before the Commercial Operation Milestone Date; under which astance NYSERDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount equal to one-hundred (100) percent of the of Credit Amount.
draw a	The Installed Capacity is less than the Bid Capacity; under which circumstance, NYSERDA is authorized to a percentage of the Letter of Credit Amount, such percentage will be equal to the Bid Capacity minus the ed Capacity divided by the Bid Capacity.
	Seller has assigned its rights under the Agreement and the assignee has not delivered to the undersigned iciary a replacement letter of credit satisfying the requirements of the Agreement; under which circumstance RDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount equal to one-hundred (100) percent of the Letter of Credit nt.
which	The Letter of Credit is currently set to expire within thirty (30) days and Seller has not made arrangements able to the undersigned Beneficiary to provide a substitute letter of credit prior to such expiration; under circumstance NYSERDA is authorized and entitled to draw an amount equal to one-hundred (100) percent of tter of Credit Amount.
	Seller has defaulted on the Agreement and has failed to cure such a default within the applicable cure period.
cure p	Seller has failed to report information to NYSERDA and has failed to cure such failure within the applicable eriod pursuant to Section 6.13 of the Agreement.

The terms used herein which are not specific referenced above.	cally defined herein are defined in the Letter of Credit or the Agreement,
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Beneficiary I of	has executed and delivered this payment Certificate as of the day
	As Beneficiary
	By: [Name and Title]

EXHIBIT C

NYSERDA PROMPT PAYMENT POLICY STATEMENT

504.1. Purpose and Applicability.

- (a) The purpose of this Exhibit is to provide a description of Part 504 of NYSERDA's regulations, which consists of NYSERDA's policy for making payment promptly on amounts properly due and owing by NYSERDA under this Agreement. The section numbers used in this document correspond to the section numbers appearing in Part 504 of the regulations.¹⁰
- (b) This Exhibit applies generally to payments due and owing by the NYSERDA to the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. However, this Exhibit does not apply to Payments due and owing when NYSERDA is exercising a Set-Off against all or part of the Payment, or if a State or Federal law, rule or regulation specifically requires otherwise.
- **504.2.** <u>Definitions</u>. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Exhibit shall have the same meaning as set forth earlier in this Agreement. In addition to said terms, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning or intent:
 - (a) "Date of Payment" means the date on which NYSERDA requisitions a check from its statutory fiscal agent, the Department of Taxation and Finance, to make a Payment.
 - (b) "Designated Payment Office" means the Office of NYSERDA's Controller, located at 17 Columbia Circle, Albany, New York 12203.
 - (c) "Payment" means payment properly due and owing to Contractor pursuant to Article IV of this Agreement.
 - (d) "Prompt Payment" means a Payment within the time periods applicable pursuant to Sections 504.3 through 504.5 of this Exhibit in order for NYSERDA not to be liable for interest pursuant to Section 504.6.
 - (e) "Payment Due Date" means the date by which the Date of Payment must occur, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 504.3 through 504.5 of this Exhibit, in order

¹⁰ This is only a summary; the full text of Part 504 can be accessed at: https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/About/New-York-State-Regulations

for NYSERDA not to be liable for interest pursuant to Section 504.6.

(f) "Proper Invoice" means a written request for Payment that is submitted by a Contractor setting forth the description, price or cost, and quantity of goods, property or services delivered or rendered, in such form, and supported by such other substantiating documentation, as NYSERDA may reasonably require, including but not limited to any requirements set forth in this Agreement; and addressed to NYSERDA's Controller, marked "Attention: Accounts Payable," at the Designated Payment Office.

(g)

- (i) "Receipt of an Invoice" means:
 - (A) if the Payment is one for which an invoice is required, the later of:
 - (1) the date on which a Proper Invoice is actually received in the Designated Payment Office during normal business hours; or
 - (2) the date by which, during normal business hours, NYSERDA has actually received all the purchased goods, property or services covered by a Proper Invoice previously received in the Designated Payment Office.
 - (B) if the Agreement provides that a Payment will be made on a specific date or at a predetermined interval, without having to submit a written invoice the 30th calendar day, excluding legal holidays, before the date so specified or predetermined.
- (ii) For purposes of this subdivision, if the Agreement requires a multifaceted, completed or working system, or delivery of no less than a specified quantity of goods, property or services and only a portion of such systems or less than the required goods, property or services are working, completed or delivered, even though the Contractor has invoiced NYSERDA for the portion working, completed or delivered, NYSERDA will not be in Receipt of an Invoice until the specified minimum amount of the systems, goods, property or services are working, completed or delivered.
- (h) "Set-off" means the reduction by NYSERDA of a payment due a Contractor by an amount equal to the amount of an unpaid legally enforceable debt owed by the Contractor to NYSERDA.
- **504.3.** <u>Prompt Payment Schedule</u>. Except as otherwise provided by law or regulation or in Sections 504.4 and 504.5 of this Exhibit, the Date of Payment by NYSERDA of an amount

properly due and owing under this Agreement shall be no later than thirty (30) calendar days, excluding legal holidays, after Receipt of a Proper Invoice.

504.4. Payment Procedures.

- (a) Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, a Proper Invoice submitted by the Contractor to the Designated Payment Office shall be required to initiate payment for goods, property or services. As soon as any invoice is received in the Designated Payment Office during normal business hours, such invoice shall be date-stamped. The invoice shall then promptly be reviewed by NYSERDA.
- (b) NYSERDA shall notify the Contractor within fifteen (15) calendar days after Receipt of an Invoice of:
 - (i) any defects in the delivered goods, property or services;
 - (ii) any defects in the invoice; or
 - (iii) suspected improprieties of any kind.
- (c) The existence of any defects or suspected improprieties shall prevent the commencement of the time period specified in Section 504.3 until any such defects or improprieties are corrected or otherwise resolved.
- (d) If NYSERDA fails to notify a Contractor of a defect or impropriety within the fifteen (15) calendar day period specified in subdivision (b) of this section, the sole effect shall be that the number of days allowed for Payment shall be reduced by the number of days between the 15th day and the day that notification was transmitted to the Contractor. If NYSERDA fails to provide reasonable grounds for its contention that a defect or impropriety exists, the sole effect shall be that the Payment Due Date shall be calculated using the original date of Receipt of an Invoice.
- (e) In the absence of any defect or suspected impropriety, or upon satisfactory correction or resolution of a defect or suspected impropriety, NYSERDA shall make Payment, consistent with any such correction or resolution and the provisions of this Exhibit.
- **504.5.** Exceptions and Extension of Payment Due Date. NYSERDA has determined that, notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 504.3 and 504.4 of this Exhibit, any of the following facts or circumstances, which may occur concurrently or consecutively, reasonably justify extension of the Payment Due Date:
 - (a) If this Agreement provides Payment will be made on a specific date or at a

predetermined interval, without having to submit a written invoice, if any documentation, supporting data, performance verification, or notice specifically required by this Agreement or other State or Federal mandate has not been submitted to NYSERDA on a timely basis, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date by which all such matter was to be submitted to NYSERDA and the date when NYSERDA has actually received such matter.

- (b) If an inspection or testing period, performance verification, audit or other review or documentation independent of the Contractor is specifically required by this Agreement or by other State or Federal mandate, whether to be performed by or on behalf of NYSERDA or another entity, or is specifically permitted by this Agreement or by other State or Federal provision and NYSERDA or other entity with the right to do so elects to have such activity or documentation undertaken, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when any such activity or documentation has been completed, NYSERDA has actually received the results of such activity or documentation conducted by another entity, and any deficiencies identified or issues raised as a result of such activity or documentation have been corrected or otherwise resolved.
- (c) If an invoice must be examined by a State or Federal agency, or by another party contributing to the funding of the Contract, prior to Payment, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when the State or Federal agency, or other contributing party to the Contract, has completed the inspection, advised NYSERDA of the results of the inspection, and any deficiencies identified or issues raised as a result of such inspection have been corrected or otherwise resolved.
- (d) If appropriated funds from which Payment is to be made have not yet been appropriated or, if appropriated, not yet been made available to NYSERDA, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when such funds are made available to NYSERDA.
- **504.6.** <u>Interest Eligibility and Computation</u>. If NYSERDA fails to make Prompt Payment, NYSERDA shall pay interest to the Contractor on the Payment when such interest computed as provided herein is equal to or more than ten dollars (\$10.00). Interest shall be computed and accrue at the daily rate in effect on the Date of Payment, as set by the New York State Tax Commission for corporate taxes pursuant to Section 1096(e)(1) of the Tax Law. Interest on such a Payment shall be computed for the period beginning on the day after the Payment Due Date and ending on the Date of Payment.
- **504.7.** Sources of Funds to Pay Interest. Any interest payable by NYSERDA pursuant to Exhibit shall be paid only from the same accounts, funds, or appropriations that are lawfully

available to make the related Payment.

- **504.8.** <u>Incorporation of Prompt Payment Policy Statement into Contracts</u>. The provisions of this Exhibit shall apply to all Payments as they become due and owing pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, notwithstanding that NYSERDA may subsequently amend its Prompt Payment Policy by further rulemaking.
- 504.9. Notice of Objection. Contractor may object to any action taken by NYSERDA pursuant to this Exhibit that prevents the commencement of the time in which interest will be paid by submitting a written notice of objection to NYSERDA. Such notice shall be signed and dated and concisely and clearly set forth the basis for the objection and be addressed to the Vice President, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, at the notice address set forth in Article XIX of this Agreement. The Vice President of NYSERDA, or his or her designee, shall review the objection for purposes of affirming or modifying NYSERDA's action. Within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of the objection, the Vice President, or his or her designee, shall notify the Contractor either that NYSERDA's action is affirmed or that it is modified or that, due to the complexity of the issue, additional time is needed to conduct the review; provided, however, in no event shall the extended review period exceed thirty (30) working days.
- **504.10.** <u>Judicial Review</u>. Any determination made by NYSERDA pursuant to this Exhibit that prevents the commencement of the time in which interest will be paid is subject to judicial review in a proceeding pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules. Such proceedings shall only be commenced upon completion of the review procedure specified in Section 504.9 of this Exhibit or any other review procedure that may be specified in this Agreement or by other law, rule, or regulation.

504.11. Court Action or Other Legal Processes.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the liability of NYSERDA to make an interest payment to a Contractor pursuant to this Exhibit shall not extend beyond the date of a notice of intention to file a claim, the date of a notice of a claim, or the date commencing a legal action for the payment of such interest, whichever occurs first.
- (b) With respect to the court action or other legal processes referred to in subdivision (a) of this section, any interest obligation incurred by NYSERDA after the date specified therein pursuant to any provision of law other than Public Authorities Law Section 2880 shall be determined as prescribed by such separate provision of law, shall be paid as directed by the court, and shall be paid from any source of funds available for that purpose.

EXHIBIT D

Intentionally deleted.

EXHIBIT E

NYS DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS GUIDELINES FOR SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS – CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION FOR AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Guidelines for

Solar Energy Projects - Construction Mitigation for Agricultural Lands (Revision 10/18/2019)

The following are guidelines for mitigating construction impacts on agricultural land during the following stages of a solar energy project: Construction, Post-Construction Restoration, Monitoring and Remediation, and Decommissioning. These guidelines apply to project areas subject to ground disturbance¹¹ within agricultural lands including:

- Lands where agriculture use will continue or resume following the completion of construction (typically those lands outside of the developed project's security fence);
- Lands where the proposed solar development will be returning to agricultural use upon decommissioning, (typically those lands inside of the developed project's security fence);
- Applicable Area under review pursuant to Public Service Law Article 10 Siting of Major Electric Facilities.

The Project Company will incorporate these Guidelines into the development plans and applications for permitting and approval for solar projects that impact agricultural lands. If the Environmental Monitor, hereafter referred to as EM, determines that there is any conflict between these Guidelines and the requirements for project construction that arise out of the project permitting process, the Project Company and its EM, will notify the New York State

of the agricultural area.

¹¹ Ground Disturbance is defined as an activity that contributes to measurable soil compaction, alters the soil profile or removes vegetative cover. Construction activities that utilize low ground pressure vehicles that do not result in a visible rut that alters soil compaction, is not considered a Ground Disturbance. Soil compaction should be tested using an appropriate soil penetrometer or other soil compaction measuring device. The soil compaction test results within the affected area will be compared with those of the adjacent unaffected portion

Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM), Division of Land and Water Resources, and seek a reasonable alternative.

Environmental Monitor (EM)

The Project Company (or its contractor) shall hire or designate an EM to oversee the construction, restoration and follow-up monitoring in agricultural areas. The EM shall be an individual with a confident understanding of normal agriculture practices 12 (such as cultivation, crop rotation, nutrient management, drainage (subsurface and/or surface), chemical application, agricultural equipment operation, fencing, soils, plant identification, etc.) and able to identify how the project may affect the site and the applicable agricultural practices. The EM should also have experience with or understanding of the use of a soil penetrometer for compaction testing and record keeping. The EM may serve dual inspection roles associated with other Project permits and/or construction duties, if the agricultural workload allows. The EM should be available to provide site-specific agricultural information as necessary for project development through field review and direct contact with both the affected farm operators and NYSDAM. The EM should maintain regular contact with appropriate onsite project construction supervision and inspectors throughout the construction phase. The EM should maintain regular contact with the affected farm operator(s) concerning agricultural land impacted, management matters pertinent to the agricultural operations and the site-specific implementation of agricultural resource mitigation measures. The EM will serve as the agricultural point of contact.

- 1. For projects involving less than 50 acres of agricultural land within the limits of disturbance (LOD), ¹³ the EM shall be available for consultation and/or on-site whenever construction or restoration work that causes Ground Disturbance is occurring on agricultural land.
- 2. For projects involving 50 acres or more of agricultural land within the (LOD)

¹² An EM is not expected to have knowledge regarding all of the listed agricultural practices, but rather a general understanding such that the EM is able to perform the EM function.

¹³ The Limits of Disturbance (LOD) includes all project related ground disturbances and all areas within the project's security fencing.

(including projects involving the same parent company whether phased or contiguous projects), the EM shall be on site whenever construction or restoration work requiring or involving Ground Disturbance is occurring on agricultural land and shall notify NYSDAM of Project activity. The purpose of the agency coordination would be to assure that the mitigation measures of these guidelines are being met to the fullest extent practicable. The Project Company and the NYSDAM will agree to schedule inspections in a manner that avoids delay in the work. NYSDAM requires the opportunity to review and will approve the proposed EM based on qualifications or capacities.

Construction Requirements

- Before any topsoil is stripped, representative soil samples should be obtained from the areas to be disturbed. The soil sampling should be consistent with Cornell University's soil testing guidelines, and samples should be submitted to a laboratory for testing PH, percent organic material, cation exchange capacity, Phosphorus/Phosphate (P), and Potassium/Potash (K). The results are to establish a benchmark that the soil's PH, Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus/Phosphate (P), and Potassium/Potash (K) are to be measured against upon restoration. If soil sampling is not performed, fertilizer and lime application recommendations for disturbed areas can be found at https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/Fertilizer_Lime_and_Seeding_Recommendations.pdf.
- Stripped topsoil should be stockpiled from work areas (e.g. parking areas, electric conductor trenches, along access roads, equipment pads) and kept separate from other excavated material (rock and/or sub-soil) until the completion of the facility for final restoration. For proper topsoil segregation, at least 25 feet of additional temporary workspace (ATWS) may be needed along "open-cut" underground utility trenches. All topsoil will be stockpiled as close as is reasonably practical to the area where stripped/removed and shall be used for restoration on that particular area. Any topsoil removed from permanently converted agricultural areas (e.g. permanent roads, etc.) should be temporarily stockpiled and eventually spread evenly in adjacent agricultural areas within the project Limits of Disturbance (LOD); however not to significantly alter the hydrology of the area. Clearly designate topsoil stockpile areas and topsoil disposal areas in the field and on construction drawings; changes or additions to the designated stockpile areas may be needed based on field conditions in consultation with the EM. Sufficient LOD (as designated on the site plan or by the EM) area should be allotted to allow adequate access to the stockpile for topsoil replacement during restoration.
 - Topsoil stockpiles on agricultural areas left in place prior to October 31st

should he seeded with Aroostook Winter Rye or equivalent at an application rate of three bushels (168 lbs.) per acre and mulched with straw mulch at rate of two to three bales per 1000 Sq. Ft.

- O Topsoil stockpiles left in place between October 31st and May 31st should be mulched with straw at a rate of two to three bales per 1000 Sq. Ft. to prevent soil loss.
- The surface of access roads located outside of the generation facility's security fence and constructed through agricultural fields shall be level with the adjacent field surface. If a level road design is not feasible, all access roads should be constructed to allow a farm crossing (for specific equipment and livestock) and to restore/ maintain original surface drainage patterns.
- Install culverts and/or waterbars to maintain or improve site specific natural drainage patterns.
- Do not allow vehicles or equipment outside the planned LOD without the EM seeking prior approval from the landowner (and/or agricultural producer), and associated permit amendments as necessary. Limit all vehicle and equipment traffic, parking, and material storage to the access road and/or designated work areas, such as laydown areas, with exception the use of low ground pressure equipment. ¹⁴ Where repeated temporary access is necessary across portions of agricultural areas outside of the security fence, preparation for such access should consist of either stripping / stockpiling all topsoil linearly along the access road, or the use of timber matting.
- Proposed permanent access should be established as soon as possible by removing topsoil according to the depth of topsoil as directed by the EM. Any extra topsoil removed from permanently converted areas (e.g. permanent roads, equipment pads, etc.) should be temporarily stockpiled and eventually spread evenly in adjacent agricultural areas within the project Limits of Disturbance (LOD); however not to significantly alter the hydrology of the area.
- When open-cut trenching is proposed, topsoil stripping is required from the work area adjacent to the trench (including segregated stockpile areas and equipment access). Trencher or road saw like equipment are not allowed for trench excavation in agricultural areas, as the equipment does not segregate topsoil from subsoil.

¹⁴ Low ground pressure vehicles that do not result in a visible rut that alters soil compaction.

Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or equivalent installation that does not disrupt the soil profile, may limit agricultural ground disturbances. Any HDD drilling fluid inadvertently discharged must be removed from agricultural areas. Narrow open trenches less than 25 feet long involving a single directly buried conductor or conduit (as required) to connect short rows within the array, are exempt from topsoil segregation.

- Electric collection, communication and transmission lines installed above ground can create long term interference with mechanized farming on agricultural land. Thus, interconnect conductors outside of the security fence must be buried in agricultural fields wherever practicable. Where overhead utility lines are required, (including Point(s) of Interconnection) installation must be located outside field boundaries or along permanent access road(s) wherever possible. When overhead utilities must cross farmland, minimize agricultural impacts by using taller structures that provide longer spanning distances and locate poles on field edges to the greatest extent practicable.
- All buried utilities located **within** the generation facility's security fence must have a minimum depth of 18-inches of cover if buried in a conduit and a minimum depth of twenty-four inches of cover if directly buried (e.g. not routed in conduit). ¹⁵
- The following requirements apply to all buried utilities located **outside** of the generation facility security fence:
 - o In cropland, hayland, and improved pasture buried electric conductors must have a minimum depth of 48-inches of cover. In areas where the depth of soil over bedrock is less than 48-inches, the electric conductors must be buried below the surface of the bedrock if friable/rippable, or as near as possible to the surface of the bedrock.
 - o In unimproved grazing areas or on land permanently devoted to pasture the minimum depth of cover must be 36-inches.
 - Where electrical conductors are buried directly below the generation facility's access road or immediately adjacent (at road edge) to the access road, the minimum depth of cover must be 24- inches. Conductors must be close

¹⁵ Burial of electrical conductors located within the energy generation facility may be superseded by more stringent updated electrical code or applicable governing code.

enough to the road edge as to be not subject to agricultural cultivation / subsoiling.

- When buried utilities alter the natural stratification of soil horizons and natural soil drainage patterns, rectify the effects with measures such as subsurface intercept drain lines. Consult the local Soil and Water Conservation District concerning the type of intercept drain lines to install to prevent surface seeps and the seasonally prolonged saturation of the conductor installation zone and adjacent areas. Install and/or repair all drain lines according to Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation practice standards and specifications. Drain tile must meet or exceed the AASHTO M-252 specifications. Repair of subsurface drains tiles should be consistent with the NYSDAM's details for "Repair of Severed Tile Line" found in the pipeline drawing A-5 (http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/Pipeline-Drawings.pdf).
- In pasture areas, it may be necessary to construct temporary fencing (in addition to the Project's permanent security fences) around work areas to prevent livestock access to active construction areas and areas undergoing restoration. For areas returning to pasture, temporary fencing will be required to delay the pasturing of livestock within the restored portion of the LOD until pasture areas are appropriately revegetated. Temporary fencing including the project's required temporary access for the associated fence installations should be included within the LOD as well as noted on the construction drawings. The Project Company will be responsible for maintaining the temporary fencing until the EM determines that the vegetation in the restored area is established and able to accommodate grazing. At such time, the Project Company should be responsible for removal of the temporary fences.

Post-Construction restoration requirements applicable to continued use agricultural areas that suffered ground disturbance due to construction activities (typically lands outside of the developed project's security fence).

- All construction debris in active agriculture areas including pieces of wire, bolts, and other unused metal objects will need to be removed and properly disposed of as soon as practical to prevent mixing with any topsoil.
- Excess concrete will not be buried or left on the surface in active agricultural areas. Concrete trucks will be washed outside of active agricultural areas. Remove all excess subsoil and rock unearthed from construction related activities occurring in areas intended to return to agricultural use. On-site disposal of such material is not permissible in active agricultural lands. Designated spoil disposal locations should be

specified in the associated construction plans. If landowner agreements, LOD boundary, or Project's land use approvals do not allow for on-site disposal, material must be removed from the site. ¹⁶

- Excess stripped topsoil shall not be utilized for fill within the project area. Any extra topsoil removed from permanently impacted areas (e.g. roads, equipment pads, etc.) should be evenly spread in adjacent agricultural project areas, however not to significantly alter the hydrology of the area.
- Regrade all access roads outside of the security fencing (as determined necessary by the EM), to allow for farm equipment crossing and restore original surface drainage patterns, or other drainage pattern incorporated into the design.
- Repair all surface or subsurface drainage structures damaged during construction as
 close to preconstruction conditions as possible, unless said structures are to be
 removed as part of the project design. Correct any surface or subsurface drainage
 problems resulting from construction of the solar energy project with the
 appropriate mitigation as determined by the Environmental Monitor, Soil and
 Water Conservation District and the Landowner.
- On agricultural land needing restoration because of ground disturbance, postpone any
 restoration practices until favorable (workable, relatively dry) topsoil/subsoil
 conditions exist. Restoration must not be conducted while soils are in a wet or plastic
 state of consistency. Stockpiled topsoil must not be regraded, and subsoil must not be
 decompacted until plasticity, as determined by the Atterberg field test, is adequately
 reduced. No permanent project restoration activities shall occur in agricultural areas
 between the months of October through May unless favorable soil moisture conditions
 exist.
- In all continued use agricultural land where the topsoil was stripped, subsoil decompaction shall be conducted prior to topsoil replacement. Following construction, all such areas will be decompacted to a depth of 18 inches with a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Soil compaction results shall be no more than 250 pounds per square inch (PSI) throughout the decompacted 18 inches as measured with a soil penetrometer. Following decompaction, all rocks 4 inches and larger in size unearthed from decompaction will be removed from the surface of the subsoil prior to

¹⁶ Any permits necessary for disposal under local, State and/or federal laws and regulations must be obtained by the facility operator, with the cooperation of the landowner when required

replacement of the topsoil. The topsoil will be replaced to original depth and the original contours will be reestablished where possible. All rocks 4 inches and larger from topsoil shall be removed from the surface of the topsoil. Subsoil decompaction and topsoil replacement must be avoided after October 1, unless approved on a site-specific basis by the landowner in consultation with NYSDAM. All parties involved must be cognizant that areas restored after October 1st may not obtain sufficient growth for stabilization¹⁷ to prevent erosion over the winter months. If areas are to be restored after October 1st, necessary provisions must be made to prevent potential springtime erosion, as well as restore any eroded areas in the springtime, to establish proper growth. Excess stripped topsoil shall be evenly spread in the adjacent project areas, or adjacent agricultural areas (within the LOD), however, not to significantly alter the hydrology of the area.

- In all continued use agricultural areas where the topsoil was not stripped, including timber matted areas, the EM shall determine appropriate activities to return the area to agricultural use. These activities may include decompaction, rock removal, and revegetation. Soil compaction should be tested in the affected areas and the affected area's adjacent undisturbed areas using an appropriate soil penetrometer or other soil compaction measuring device as soon as soils achieve moisture equilibrium with adjacent unaffected areas. Compaction tests will be made at regular intervals of distance throughout the affected areas, including each soil type identified within the affected areas. Soil compaction results shall be measured with a soil penetrometer not exceeding more than 250 pounds per square inch (PSI), by comparing probing depths of both the affected and unaffected areas. Where representative soil density of the affected area's collective depth measurements present compaction restrictions exceeding an acceptable deviation of no more than 20% from the adjacent undisturbed area's mean soil density, additional decompaction may be required to a depth of 18inches with a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Following decompaction, remove all rocks unearthed from decompaction activities 4 inches and larger in size from the surface. Revegetation shall be performed in accordance with the instructions below.
- Seed all agricultural areas from which the vegetation was removed or destroyed with
 the seed mix specified by the landowner/agriculture producer or as otherwise
 recommended in the Department's fertilizer, lime and seeding guideline:
 [https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agservices/Fertilizer_Lime_and_Seeding_Recomm

¹⁷ Sufficient growth for stabilization should be determined by comparison with unaffected crop production. Annual crops restored after normal planting window (as determined by the landowner or associated producer) should be stabilized with Aroostook Winter Rye at the rate of 150/100 lbs. per acre (broad cast/drill seeder).

endations.pdf]. Soil amendments should be applied as necessary so that restored agricultural areas' soil properties, at minimum, reasonably reflect the pre-construction soil test results or as otherwise agreed to by the involved parties to ensure continued agricultural use. All parties must be cognizant that areas restored after October 1st may not obtain sufficient growth to prevent erosion over the winter months. If areas are to be restored after October 1st, necessary provisions must be made to restore and/or reseed any eroded or poorly germinated areas in the springtime, to establish proper growth.

Monitoring and Remediation

Project Companies shall provide a monitoring and remediation period of one complete growing season following the date upon which the desired crop is planted. All projects subject to NYS Public Service Law Article 10 will provide a monitoring period of two complete growing seasons following the date upon which the project achieves the establishment of the desired crop.

On site monitoring shall be conducted seasonally at least three times during the growing season (Spring, Summer, Fall). Monitoring is required to identify any remaining impacts directly associated with the construction of the project on agricultural lands proposed to remain or resume agriculture production, including the effects of climatic cycles such as frost action, precipitation and growing seasons to occur, from which various monitoring observations can be made. NYSDAM expects the Project Company (or its contractor) to retain the EM for follow-up monitoring and remediation (as needed) in agricultural areas. Monitoring is limited to the restored agricultural area. Non-project related impacts affecting the restored project area will be discussed with NYSDAM staff and considered for omission from future monitoring and remediation. The EM is expected to record the following observations from onsite inspections:¹⁸

• **Topsoil Thickness and Trench Settling** – The EM observations may require small hand dug holes to observe the percentage of settled topsoil in areas where the topsoil was stripped, or trenching was performed without stripping topsoil. Observations

¹⁸ The activities that follow are not necessary for restored agricultural lands on which the farmer or landowner has commenced activities, including agricultural activities or other use that tend to reverse restoration or create conditions that would otherwise trigger restoration. Should NYSDAM contend upon inspection that conditions indicate that post-construction restoration activities were improperly performed or insufficient, NYSDAM may inform the project company and NYSERDA for further investigation and remediation.

concerning depth of topsoil deficiencies shall require further remediation by reappropriating additional topsoil. Acceptable materials for remediation are: known areas of native excess topsoil (according to records of project specific excess topsoil disposal spread within the original LOD) or imported topsoil free of invasive species that is consistent with the quality of topsoil on the affected site.

- Excessive Rock (>4-inches) Determined by a visual inspection of disturbed areas as compared to unaffected portions of the same field located outside the construction area. Observations concerning excess stone material in comparison to off-site conditions shall require further remediation including removal and disposal of all excess rocks and large stones.
- Soil Compaction Project affected agricultural soils should be tested using an appropriate soil penetrometer or other soil compaction measuring device. Compaction tests will be made at regular intervals of distance throughout the access or work areas, including each soil type identified on the affected agricultural areas. Where representative soil density of the affected area exceeds the representative soil density of the unaffected areas, additional decompaction may be required. Consultation with NYSDAM staff and the agricultural producer(s) should be conducted prior to scheduling additional decompaction. If warranted, decompaction to a depth of 18-inches with a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Restoration of displaced topsoil to original depth and re-establish original contours where possible. Decompaction deep shattering will be applied during periods of relatively low soil moisture to ensure the desired mitigation and to prevent additional soil compaction. Oversized stone/rock (Four-inches) material that is uplifted/unearthed to the surface as a result of the deep shattering will be removed.
- **Drainage** The EM shall visually inspect the restored agricultural areas in search of pervasive stunted crop growth due to seasonal saturation, not previously experienced at the site and not resulting from the agricultural producer's irrigation management or due to excessive rainfall. Identified areas of stunted crop growth shall be compared to the nearest undisturbed adjacent areas under a substantially equivalent terrain and crop management plan. Drainage observations should be evaluated to determine if the project affected surface or sub-surface drainage during construction or restoration. Project caused drainage issues affecting or likely to reduce crop productivity of the adjacent areas will have to be remediated via a positive surface drainage, sub-surface drainage repair or an equivalent.
- **Agriculture Fencing and Gates** The EM shall inspect Project associated fencing and gates (installed, altered or repaired) within the Project's LOD associated with agricultural activities for function and longevity. The Project Company is responsible

during the Monitoring and Remediation Phase for maintaining the integrity of Project associated fencing and gates.

The Project Company (or its contractor) shall consolidate each applicable growing season's observations into an annual report during the monitoring period and shall be provided upon request to NYSDAM. Annual reports should include date stamped photographs illustrating crop growth in comparison with unaffected portions the agricultural areas.

The EM shall record observations of the establishment of the desired crop and subsequent crop productivity within restored agricultural areas and shall be evaluated by comparing its productivity to that of the nearest adjacent undisturbed agricultural land of similar crop type within the same field. If a decline in crop productivity is apparent the Project Company as well as other appropriate parties must determine whether the decline is due to project activities. If project activities are determined to be the primary detrimental factor, the project EM will notify NYSDAM concerning unsuccessful restoration and to potentially schedule a NYSDAM staff field visit. If project restoration is determined to be insufficient, the Project Company will develop a plan for appropriate rehabilitation measures to be implemented. NYSDAM staff will review and approve said plan prior to implementation. Additional monitoring may be required depending on additional restoration activities needed.

The Project Company is not responsible for site conditions and/or potential damages attributable to the agricultural producer's land use management or others' land use management.

Decommissioning

If the operation of the generation facility is permanently discontinued, remove all above ground structures (including panels, racking, signage, equipment pad, security fencing) and underground utilities if less than 48- inches deep. All concrete piers, footers, or other supports must be removed to a minimum depth of 48-inches below the soil surface. The following requirements apply to electric conductors located at the respective range of depth below the surface:

 48-inches plus: All underground electric conduits and direct buried conductors may be abandoned in place. Applicable conduit risers must be removed, and abandoned conduit must be sealed or capped to avoid a potential to direct subsurface drainage onto neighboring land uses. • Less than 48-inches: All underground direct buried electric conductors and conductors in conduit and associated conduit with less than 48-inches of cover must be removed, by means of causing the least amount of disturbance as possible.

Access roads in agricultural areas must be removed, unless otherwise specified by the landowner. If access is to be removed, topsoil will have to be returned from recorded project excess native topsoil disposal areas, if present, or imported topsoil free of invasive species that is consistent with the quality of topsoil on the affected site. Restore all areas intended for agricultural production, according to recommendations by the current landowner or leasing agricultural producer, and as required by any applicable permit, the Soil and Water Conservation District, and NYSDAM.

Monitoring and restoration requirements in accordance to the prior sections of these guidelines, will be required for the decommissioning restoration. NYSDAM requires notice before the Project Company undertakes decommissioning.

EXHIBIT F

Intentionally deleted.

EXHIBIT G ASSIGNMENT OF AGREEMENT NO. [#]

[ASSIGNOR] ("ASSIGNOR") herewith sells, assigns, transfers and conveys all of its rights, title, obligations and interest in Agreement No. [###], executed [DATE] by and between the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA") and ASSIGNOR, unto [ASSIGNEE] ("ASSIGNEE"), and ASSIGNEE, hereby accepts and assumes all ASSIGNOR'S rights, title, obligations and interest in Agreement No. [###]. The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that (a) ASSIGNEE and NYSERDA are entering into Agreement No. [###A] to replace Agreement No. [###], (b) the "Effective Date" of Agreement No. [###A] is the Effective Date as set forth in Agreement No. [###], (c) as between ASSIGNEE and NYSERDA, ASSIGNEE shall assume all obligations, and shall have all liabilities, of ASSIGNOR under Agreement No. [###] from and including the Effective Date as set forth in Agreement No. [###], and (d), subject to the conditions set forth in clauses (a), (b) and (c), above, upon execution and delivery of Agreement No. [###A] between ASSIGNEE and NYSERDA, ASSIGNOR will have no obligations or liabilities under or with respect to Agreement No. [###] or Agreement No. [###A].

	e mutual promises, covenants and agreements e consideration the receipt of which is hereby
acknowledged, the parties have hereto executed	this Assignment, this day of, 202
[ASSIGNOR]	[Assignee]
SIGNATURE:	Signature:
Name:	Name: Title:
Title:	Title.
Accepted and agreed:	
New York State Energy Research and Devi	ELOPMENT AUTHORITY
	-
By: [Name] Director, Contract Management	
Director, Contract Management	

EXHIBIT H

Bid Facility Preliminary Facility Area overlaid on MSG 1-4

Mineral Soil Group	Preliminary	RESRFP24-1	Mitigation Fund
(MSG 1-4)	Facility Area	Mitigation Value	Payment, Pre-
Classification	Acreage (acres)	per Acre	Occupation Ratio
1		\$1,242	
2		\$1,105	
3		\$981	
4		\$845	

Total Facility Area	Total Parcel Acres	-
Acres:	with Facility Area	

Mitigation Fund Payment,	Preliminary Facility Area	Preliminary Estimate,
Pre-Occupation Ratio	Occupation Ratio	Mitigation Fund Payment

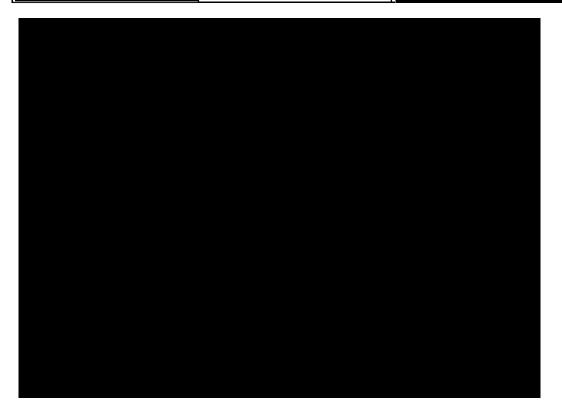


EXHIBIT I

Annual Operating Report Template

Table of Contents

- 1. General Project Information
- 2. Production
- 3. Outages and Availability
- 4. Corrective Maintenance
- 5. Preventative Maintenance
- 6. Environmental and Permitting Activities
- 7. Appendix A: Detailed Production Data

1. General Project Information

- a. Project Name
- b. Owner
- c. Address
- d. Latitude-Longitude
- e. Reserved
- f. DC Capacity
- g. Interconnecting Utility
- h. Major Equipment
 - i. Solar
 - 1. Modules
 - 2. Inverters
 - 3. Racking/Trackers
 - ii. Reserved
 - 1.
 - iii. Reserved
 - iv. Transformers
- i. PTID/GenID:
- j. Operator:
- k. Subcontractors:
 - i. Vegetation Management:
 - ii. Snow-removal/plowing:
 - iii. Others

2. Production

Provide the following project performance metrics for the current year.

Table 1 Production Statistics

Month	Actual MWh	Weather- Adjusted Expected MWh ¹	Bid Quantity Expected MWh	Actual/ Weather- Adjusted Expected	Actual/ Bid Quantity Expected	Capacity Factor ²
January						
February						
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total Annual						

¹ Expected production using the latest project production model adjusted for actual weather conditions on site during the current year.

² Actual MWh / (8760 x AC Capacity)

3. Outages and Availability

Provide a summary of lost generation due to outages during the current year.

Table 2 Outage Summary

	Forced Outages (MWh)	Planned/ Maintenance Outages (MWh)	Curtailment ¹ (MWh)	Transmission/ Distribution Grid Outages² (MWh)	Other (MWh)	Total Outage Losses (MWh) ³	Effective Availability ⁴ (%)
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							
Total Annual							

¹ NYISO Curtailment Order
² Utility Outages or ordered Temporary Disconnection due to emergency, forced outages, maintenance/planned outages, or reliability (adverse operating effects)

³ Sum of Outages and Curtailment

⁴ Total Outage Losses/Actual Production

Table 3 Curtailment and Grid Outages Summary

Date	Event Type: Curtailment ¹ or Transmission/ Distribution Grid Outages ²	Start Date and Time	End Date and Time	Lost Generation (MWh)	Notes
Total					
Annual					

¹ NYISO Curtailment Order
² Utility Outages or Temporary Disconnection due to emergency, forced outages, maintenance/planned outages, or reliability (adverse operating effects)

4. Corrective Maintenance

Provide a summary of all Corrective Maintenance activities performed during the current year.

Table 4 Corrective Maintenance Summary (with examples)

Equipment	Issue Description	Corrective Maintenance Description	Outage Start	Outage End	Lost Generation (MWh)	Status	Notes
Inverter 5	IGBT failure	Visual inspection, troubleshooting, replaced IGBT	4/1/2022 1300	4/15/2022 1600	22.5	Complete	Maintenance performed by XXX under warranty
Block 3.2	Portion of trackers stalled	Visual inspection, troubleshooting, replaced TCU encoder	5/1/2022 1000	5/1/2022 1200	0.5	Complete	Maintenance performed by site operator
Blocks 4-6	Module replacements due to hail damage	Replace affected modules	9/1/22	Ongoing	2.1	Ongoing	
Gear Box on WTG 21	Replacement	Proactive replacement of Gear Box due to failures in this turbine model	8/1/22	8/20/22	800	Complete	Gearbox under warranty; replacement performed by site operator

5. Preventative Maintenance

a. Current Year

Provide a summary of all Preventative Maintenance activities performed during the current year. Weekly or monthly inspections only need to be listed once.

Table 5 Preventative Maintenance Summary – Current Year (with examples)

Equipment	Preventative Maintenance Description	Maintenance Start	Maintenance End	Lost Generation (MWh)	Status	Notes
GSU	Monthly Inspection	1/15/2022 1000	1/15/2022 1200	0.00	Complete	Inspections performed monthly for the entire calendar year.
Met Station	Weekly Inspection and Soiling Calibration	1/3/2022 1100	1/3/2022 1300	0.0	Complete	Inspections performed monthly for the entire calendar year.
Array	Annual Array and Tracker Maintenance	2/1/2022 0900	3/1/2022 1600	2	Complete	
Turbine 21	Inspection	8/1/2022	8/9/2022	340	Complete	Routine Inspection of WTG (biannual)

b. Next Calendar Year (Planned)

Provide a summary of Planned Maintenance outages expected to result in lost generation for next Calendar year.

Table 6 Preventative Maintenance Summary – Next Calendar Year (with examples)

Preventative Maintenance Description	Planned Maintenance Start	Planned Maintenance End	Planned Lost Generation (MWh)	Notes
Annual Array and Tracker Maintenance	2/1/2023	3/1/2023	0.0	
Bi-Annual Combiner Box Maintenance	4/1/2023	5/1/2023	0.0	
Monthly Inspection	1/15/2023	1/15/2023	0.00	
Inspection & cleaning	8/1/2022	9/1/2022	540	
	Annual Array and Tracker Maintenance Bi-Annual Combiner Box Maintenance Monthly Inspection Inspection &	Maintenance DescriptionMaintenance StartAnnual Array and Tracker Maintenance2/1/2023Bi-Annual Combiner Box Maintenance4/1/2023Monthly Inspection1/15/2023Inspection &8/1/2022	Maintenance DescriptionMaintenance StartMaintenance EndAnnual Array and Tracker Maintenance2/1/20233/1/2023Bi-Annual Combiner Box Maintenance4/1/20235/1/2023Monthly Inspection1/15/20231/15/2023Inspection &8/1/20229/1/2022	Maintenance DescriptionMaintenance StartMaintenance EndLost Generation (MWh)Annual Array and Tracker Maintenance2/1/20233/1/20230.0Bi-Annual Combiner Box Maintenance4/1/20235/1/20230.0Monthly Inspection1/15/20231/15/20230.00Inspection & 8/1/20229/1/2022540

6. Environmental and Permitting Activities

Provide a summary of any environmental or permitting activities performed during the current year.

1. Appendix A: Detailed Production Data (8760)

Provide 8760 production data in Microsoft Excel for the current year in the format below.

Date	Day	Hour Ending	Production (MWh)	Notes

EXHIBIT J

PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Any PLA presented to NYSERDA under this Agreement shall address the following:

- 1. Provisions ensuring that contractors or subcontractors that sign the PLA are not required to become a signatory to any other labor agreement, and appropriately providing for the supremacy of the PLA over any potentially conflicting labor agreements that might otherwise apply to contractors and subcontractors. The PLA must apply to all covered construction and all contractors and subcontractors, of whatever tier, performing construction work on the Bid Facility (subject to appropriate exceptions), and the PLA should be available to all contractors and subcontractors, of whatever tier, regardless of their union affiliation;
- 2. Provisions for appropriate union recognition and security (limited to Bid Facility construction work) and the referral of skilled craft workers, including provisions for staffing in the event qualified referrals are not reasonably available and for the reasonable use of a number of core employees by contractors and subcontractors (regardless of union affiliation and referral practices that might otherwise exist);
- 3. Comprehensive labor harmony provisions to ensure against schedule disruption as a result of worksite disputes or other labor disputes of any kind;
- 4. Comprehensive provisions for the resolution of workplace disputes through third party resolution, including for the resolution of jurisdictional disputes (without disruption to the schedule of the Bid Facility), and appropriate provisions for labor management cooperation;
- 5. Appropriate provisions to allow the cost-effective and efficient coordination of multiple trades and contractors and subcontractors (notwithstanding any local labor agreements that might otherwise be applicable to contractors and subcontractors), as well as other appropriate management rights (such as appropriate provisions respecting specialty work and/or workers; adequately ensuring the contractors' or subcontractors' choice of materials, techniques, methods, technology or design, regardless of source or location; use and installation of equipment, machinery, package units, pre-cast, pre-fabricated, pre-finished, or pre-assembled materials, tools, or other labor-saving devices; the installation or use of materials, supplies or equipment regardless of their source (including as may be required by a vendor and/or to ensure warranty coverage); and to perform off-site work, subject to any restrictions imposed by law);
- 6. Appropriate provisions promoting minority- or women-owned business enterprise ("MWBE") employment and service-disabled veteran owned business ("SDVOB") employment, as well as the employment of low-income workers in New York;

- 7. Appropriate provisions for the use of apprentices; and
- 8. Appropriate provisions for rules governing worksite access and conduct.

EXHIBIT K

U.S. IRON AND STEEL CERTIFICATION FORMS

Contractor's Certification

U.S. IRON AND STEEL CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A COVERED RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM INVOLVING THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S PROCUREMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES

NYSERDA Agreement Number: 239771
Project Title:
Contractor's Name:
Covered Renewable Energy Project:
Developer Name:
I certify that iron and steel products that are permanently incorporated into the Bid Facility project are manufactured in the United States from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings (except metallurgical processes involving the refinement of steel additives), such that a minimum of \$32,000 per megawatt capacity direct current (MWdc) of iron and/or steel components are manufactured in the United States, as set forth in the RESRFP24-1. also develop and maintain the necessary documentation to demonstrate that iron and steel products incorporated into the project were manufactured in the United States, in the amount required, and I agree to make such documentation available to NYSERDA or their authorized representatives, upon request.
Signature:
Name:
Title:
Date:

Manufacturer Certification

U.S. IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURER CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A COVERED RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM INVOLVING THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S PROCUREMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES

The following information is provided as a manufacturer's sample letter of certification for compliance with the RESRFP24-1 requirement that that a minimum of \$32,000 per megawatt capacity direct current (MWdc) of iron or steel components that will be permanently incorporated into the Bid Facility will have been manufactured in the United States from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings (except metallurgical processes involving the refinement of steel additives).

Date

Company Name Company Address City, State Zip

Subject: United States Iron and Steel Certification for Somers Solar, in accordance with RESRFP24-1 for NYSERDA Agreement Number: 239771

I, (company representative), certify that the following iron or steel products and/or materials shipped or provided for the subject project were manufactured in the United States, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings (except metallurgical processes involving the refinement of steel additives).

Item, Products and/or Materials, and Manufacturing Location:

- 1. Xxxx
- 2. Xxxx
- 3. Xxxx

If any of the above compliance statements change while providing material to this project we will immediately notify the prime contractor and the engineer.

[Signed by company representative]
[Title]
[Contact Information]

EXHIBIT L

Intentionally Deleted.

EXHIBIT M

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY AND MWBE/SDVOB COMMITMENTS

In accordance with Sections 6.04 and 6.10 of the Agreement, the Seller will carry out the following Disadvantaged Community Commitments, respectively, as summarized below and as bid in Seller's Attachment D. Bid Form. In the event of a discrepancy between the dollar values for DAC or MWBE/SDVOB Commitments in Table 1 and the dollar values for DAC or MWBE/SDVOB Commitments in the Bid Proposal, the values presented in Table 1 shall control.

Table 1. Disadvantaged Community and MWBE/SDVOB Claimed Economic Benefits and Verification Period

					Quantity of Activity		
Commitment or Claim Description	Category	Metric	Disadvantaged Community Applicability	MWBE/SDVOB Applicability	Economic Benefits Start Date Through Year 3 (Total)	Economic Benefits Start Date Through Year 3 (DAC Applicability)	Economic Benefits Start Date Through Year 3 (MWBE/SDVOB Applicability)
	1	\$					
	2	\$					
	2	\$					
DAC and MWBE/SDVOB ECONOMIC BENEFITS							
Total DAC Benefits (Through Year 3)							
Total MWBE/SDVOB Benefits (Through Year 3)							

EXHIBIT N

NYSERDA'S CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CONTRACTORS, CONSULTANTS, AND VENDORS

Code of Conduct for NYSERDA Contractors, Consultants, and Vendors November 2019

Introduction

The purpose of this Code of Conduct for NYSERDA Contractors, Consultants, and Vendors ("Contractor Code of Conduct") is to advise the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's ("NYSERDA") many contractors, consultants, and vendors ("Vendors") on what is expected of them to ensure a business relationship with NYSERDA that is consistent with ethical business practices.

NYSERDA requires its Board Members (in their capacity as NYSERDA Board Members) and employees (including its Officers) to adhere to high ethical standards, and it also requires its many Vendors with whom it does business to adhere to the highest ethical standards.

Towards this end, NYSERDA has established a corporate system of internal controls to ensure that its Board Members and employees perform their official duties consistent with the requirements of the New York State Public Officers Law Code of Ethics and other applicable laws, Executive Orders, rules, regulations, and internal policies of NYSERDA. This internal control system is also intended to encourage and support a fair, open, and honest business relationship among NYSERDA Members, its employees, and its Vendors.

Contractor Conduct

To promote ethical business relationships with NYSERDA, our Vendors are to:

- furnish all required goods, materials, and services in a manner that is consistent with the underlying terms and conditions of the contract and any applicable program solicitation.
- submit complete and accurate reports and invoices to NYSERDA and to other related program participants as required,
- not seek, solicit, demand, or accept any information, verbal or written, from NYSERDA or others involved in NYSERDA efforts that provides an unfair advantage over a competitor,
- not engage in any activity or course of conduct that restricts open and fair competition

- on NYSERDA-related programs, projects, or transactions, or that is inconsistent with any law, rule, or regulation,
- not engage in any course of conduct with NYSERDA Members and employees or others involved in NYSERDA efforts that constitutes a conflict of interest, in fact or in appearance,
- not offer any gifts or gratuities in excess of nominal value to NYSERDA Members or employees (including special event tickets or other items of value), and
- not engage in other conduct that violates this Contractor Code of Conduct.

Lobbying

All Vendors are to comply with the Omnibus Lobbying Reform Act of 2005, with respect to NYSERDA solicitations, by contacting only the NYSERDA employees named in the solicitation, during the Restricted Period, as defined and required by such Act. The Vendor is required to ensure compliance with the Act's requirements and must direct every individual or entity retained, employed, designated by, or acting for, or on behalf of, the Vendor to attempt to influence the NYSERDA procurement process, to limit their contacts with NYSERDA concerning specific procurement actions to the NYSERDA designated contact(s) for that procurement.

Advocacy

To ensure appropriate use of public funds, Vendors are to refrain from policy advocacy on behalf of NYSERDA unless explicitly authorized, and in the manner described, under the terms of their Agreement. In performing policy implementation or any other work for or on behalf of NYSERDA, Vendors are to refrain from providing advocacy positions or opinions of their own that could be construed as those of NYSERDA. Any lobbying or influencing activities undertaken by Vendors other than those <u>explicitly</u> contracted for by NYSERDA must be supported by non-NYSERDA funding sources and must not give the appearance of being supported by NYSERDA.

Non-Collusion and Independence of Bid

Vendors are to calculate price(s) contained in their bid or proposal, independently, without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement with any other competing Vendor for the purpose of restricting competition.

Unless otherwise required by law, the price(s) which a Vendor quotes in its bid or proposal shall not knowingly be disclosed by the Vendor, directly or indirectly, to any other competing Vendor prior to the closing date for bids or proposals. In addition, a Vendor shall not make any attempt to induce any other individual or entity to submit or not to submit a bid or proposal.

Vendor Ethics Program

NYSERDA encourages its Vendors to advance and support ethical business conduct and practices among their respective directors, officers and employees, through the adoption of corporate ethics awareness training programs and written codes of conduct. In addition to considering technical competence and financial ability, NYSERDA may also consider its past experience with a Vendor in this regard, prior to awarding any new contracts or issuing any new purchase orders.

Limits on Gifts to NYSERDA Members and Employees

NYSERDA strongly discourages Vendors from offering or giving anything of value to NYSERDA Members and employees under circumstances which may constitute, or even suggest, impropriety. Section 73(5) of the Public Officers Law expressly prohibits any firm or its agents, either doing or seeking to do business with NYSERDA, from directly or indirectly offering or giving, any gift having more than a nominal value to NYSERDA Members and employees under circumstances in which it:

could be reasonably inferred the gift was intended to influence NYSERDA Members or employees in the performance of their official duties, or

- could reasonably be expected to influence NYSERDA Members or employees in the performance of their official duties, or
- was intended as a reward for the NYSERDA that restricts open and fair competition on NYSERDA-related programs, projects, or transactions, or that is
- inconsistent with any law, rule, or regulation,
- not engage in any course of conduct with NYSERDA Members and employees or others involved in NYSERDA efforts that constitutes a conflict of interest, in fact or in appearance,
- not offer any gifts or gratuities in excess of nominal value to NYSERDA Members or employees (including special event tickets or other items of value), and
- not engage in other conduct that violates this Contractor Code of Conduct.

For purposes of determining compliance with this requirement, all gifts to NYSERDA Members and employees during any 12-month period are aggregated. Also, even if a particular gift would

not be more than nominal value, the offering or giving of a gift of any value to NYSERDA Members and employees may be considered inappropriate because the nature of pending matters may give rise to the appearance of impropriety (e.g., gifts given during the contract procurement process). Violations of these limits on gifts may be grounds for immediate contract termination and/or referral for civil action or criminal prosecution.

Employing Relatives of NYSERDA Employees

Vendors may employ relatives of NYSERDA Members and employees, but must notify NYSERDA of such circumstances as soon as possible, preferably in writing, to ensure a conflict of interest situation does not arise. NYSERDA reserves the right to request that work assignments of a NYSERDA Member's or employee's relative by modified if a conflict of interest, or the appearance thereof, is deemed to exist.

Hiring Former NYSERDA Members and Employees

Vendors may hire former NYSERDA Members and employees. However, as a general rule, under the Public Officers Law, former Members and employees of NYSERDA may neither appear nor of NYSERDA may neither appear nor practice before NYSERDA, nor receive compensation for services rendered on a matter before NYSERDA, for a period of two years following their separation from NYSERDA service. Also, former NYSERDA Members and employees are subject to a "lifetime bar" which prevents them from working on or receiving compensation for services regarding any transaction in which they personally participated, or which was under their active consideration during their tenure with NYSERDA.

Harassment and Discrimination

NYSERDA prohibits harassment in the workplace. Harassment based on race, ethnicity, color, creed, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, familial status, marital status, age, national origin, disability, military status, genetic information or predisposition, domestic violence victim status, known relationship or association with any member of a protected class, or any other basis may violate the law and will not be tolerated. In addition, retaliation against an individual who opposes a discriminatory practice, reports a violation in good faith, or participates in an investigation of such a complaint is also a violation and will not be tolerated.

All vendors must submit an affirmation that they have a sexual harassment policy in place and have trained all employees on this policy.

Reporting Violations

Vendors are to remain alert to and report possible violations of this Contractor Code of Ethics, either by its employees directly or by an inappropriate solicitation by a person acting on behalf of NYSERDA. Vendors must promptly report such potential violations directly to NYSERDA or indirectly by contacting the NYSERDA independent and anonymous fraud and abuse hotline at 1-866-219-1122. Vendors are required to fully cooperate in any investigation of a possible violation.

Ouestions

Any questions on these guidelines should be directed to the responsible Project Manager, Program Manager or Program Director, the Director of Contract Management, the Internal Control Officer, or the Office of the General Counsel at 518-862-1090.

When in doubt, please seek guidance.

EXHIBIT O

MWBE AND SDVOB REPORTING FORM

Seller shall provide the information set forth in Tables 1 and 2 below in the first Progress Report in which this information is reasonably available. After the initial Progress Report containing this information, Seller shall only be required to provide this information in one of the Progress Reports each year.

In addition, as part of one of the Progress Reports each year, Seller will include, to the extent reasonably available, information regarding the gender and ethnicity of workers employed in connection with the construction of the Project consistent with the information reported in form EEO-1 submitted to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission each year. Seller shall not be required to report information for contractors and subcontractors that are not subject to an obligation to submit form EEO-1 on an annual basis.

Table 1: Project MWBE/SDVOB Utilization Update

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Information: Please include information related to the Seller, and each contractor's and	
subcontractor's (over \$500,000) adoption of practices and policies that	
promote diversity, equity and inclusion.	
Does your company have a policy to respond to incidents of discrimination?	
Does your company have employee diversity training or diversity awareness events?	
Does your company have strategies, policies, or programs to increase the number of:	
1. female hires?	
2. minority hires?	
3. LGBTQ+ hires?	
4. veteran hires?	
Does your company have a supplier diversity program, or a Chief Diversity	
Officer or other individual who is tasked with supplier diversity initiatives?	
Is your company participating in a government approved minority- and	
women-owned business enterprise mentor-protégé program?	
Does your company have the following policies or programs?	
1. Mentorship programs for women	
2. Mentorship programs for minorities	
3. Mentorship programs for veterans	
4. Mentorship programs for LGBTQ+	
5. Promotion policies for women	
6. Promotion policies for minorities	
7. Promotion policies for veterans	
8. Promotion policies for LGBTQ+	

In addition to the above, Seller shall describe any actions for violations of equal employment opportunity requirements or anti-discrimination laws of which it is aware that (i) have been brought against Seller or its contractors and (ii) have resulted in a final determination by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a court, or any federal, states, or municipal government or body requiring the payment of damages or other corrective action by Seller or its contractors.

Table 2: Contractor Information

Final amount paid (including change orders) to be Performed		
Final amount paid (including change orders)	\$	
a. Dollar amounts spent b. Remaining dollars encumbered but not yet disbursed	a. \$ b. \$	a. \$ b. \$
Agreement Amount	↔	\$
Date contract work was completed		
Date contract work was awarded		
Certifications/ Designations	□ MWBE	□ MWBE
If a subcontractor, name of contractor		
Each Contractor and Subcontractors (including equipment suppliers) Name, address, phone number, and email address for each contractor or subcontractor.		

In addition to the above, to the extent reasonably available, Seller shall also provide a list of all Tier 1 and Tier 2 contractors / subcontractors that are not MWBE/SDVOBs, reasonably identified and categorized by scope of work.