

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Objectives and details

Three Rivers Solar Power, LLC (the Applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of Swift Current Energy, LLC, proposes to construct the Three Rivers Solar Power Project (the Project), a utility scale solar facility on a 1,115-acre parcel in Township 16MD, BPP, located in Hancock County, Maine (Exhibit 1-1). The proposed project will consist of approximately 300,000-400,000 panels on a project area of approximately 465 acres (the Project Area). The panels will have an installed capacity of up to 100 megawatts (MW) of electricity. A new substation will be constructed in the Southern portion of the Project adjacent to the existing 115kV transmission line owned by Emera Maine. Other project components will include: PV inverters to improve efficiency and reliability, a main power transformer at the substation, and a series of 34.5 kilovolt (kV) underground electrical collector lines among the panels and connecting to the newly constructed substation. Power from the collector lines will be transmitted to the newly constructed substation adjacent to the 115 kV transmission corridor, where it will tie into the existing electrical grid. Electrical infrastructure will be located within a fence at the substation. See Table 1.1 below for total disturbed area, developed area, and impervious area figures associated with the Project.

Description	Disturbed Area (acres)	Surface area of Panels (acres)	Area of Posts (acres)	Area of Roads (acres)	Area of Inverter Pads (acres)	Substation Impervious (acres)	Substation Area (acres)	Notes
Field 1	329.3	68.90	0.06	4.5	0.21	N/A	N/A	Roads: L, J, I, H
Field 2	38.9	7.57	0.01	0.7	0.03	N/A	N/A	Roads: F & G
Field 3	32.6	6.73	0.01	0.7	0.03	N/A	N/A	Roads: B
Field 4	10.7	2.17	0.00	0.0	0.01	N/A	N/A	
Field 5	14.1	2.89	0.00	0.1	0.02	N/A	N/A	Roads: D
Field 6	39.5	7.28	0.01	0.0	0.02	0.16	3.92	
TOTALS	465.10	95.53	0.09	7.13	0.31	0.16	3.92	

Table 1.1 Project Area Summary

Total Disturbed465.10acresTotal Developed11.61acresTotal Impervious7.69acres

On August 8, 2018, the Three Rivers Solar project received approval for a rezoning of the existing partially cleared 696-acre parcel from general zoning classification to commercial zoning.

1.2 Existing Conditions

The parcel was purchased by Elliot Jordan & Sons, Inc. (the Landowner) in 2013, at which time the Project Area initially comprised of timber cover. Beginning in 2013, the Landowner actively began clearing the

timber to establish a habitat suitable for cultivating wild blueberries. Since then, the Landowner has cleared approximately 400 acres. Of that, 100 acres have been de-stumped and cleared of rocks to establish wild blueberry habitat, similar to the continued work required to host solar panels. Today, the Project area primarily consists of low vegetation over large expanse cleared areas domesticated for blueberry production, although a harvest hasn't occurred to date. Solar panels in the Project Area would place the blueberry bushes into dormancy, which would limit production, though not remove the future possibility to harvest. Panels will be installed after all of the areas are cleared of timber and prepped for cultivation. All land leveling activities will have ceased at the time of filing the permit application with MEDEP. Industrial commercial forest surrounds the proposed project area.

A substantial road network consisting of gravel logging roads, currently exists directly within the Project Area. The existing roads have been deemed sufficient for the Applicant's use to provide construction and maintenance access to the Project and substation (Exhibit 1-2). There will also be a laydown area proposed for the project, which will be temporary during construction.

As part of the permitting process, the Applicant has completed studies of natural resources and wildlife in the Project Area. As designed, the project will not result in any temporary or permanent fill in wetlands, or in-stream work.

Activities surrounding the project includes numerous wind turbine facilities, industrial timber and blueberry harvesting, as well as a variety of seasonal recreational activities by the public. Commercial enterprises that currently exist in T16 MD includes 41 industrial wind turbines and active industrial timber harvesting. Numerous commercially harvested blueberry barrens are adjacent to the project site. The proposed Project will be located adjacent to two existing renewable energy facilities, the Bull Hill Wind Farm and Hancock County Wind Farm. A third wind power project, Weaver Wind consisting of 22 wind turbines, has commenced construction within Township 16. The closest turbine to the Project belongs to the Hancock County Wind Project and is located within one mile of the proposed Project area. A 115kv transmission line transects through a portion of the proposed site, which will be used as the point of interconnection for the Project.

The West Branch of the Narraguagus River borders the Western side of the project area. In the Spring, water levels are high enough that there is light recreational use, such as canoeing and fishing. The proposed Project will maintain a forested buffer between the Narraguagus River and the solar site. The closest year-round residences are 8 miles, by road, from the Project on Sugar Hill Road. The nearest seasonal hunting camp lies on the Western boundary of the parcel, owned by the Project landowner and leased to Corliss. See Exhibit 1-3 for a map identifying existing infrastructure.

1.3 Topographic Map

A topographic map of the Project site is attached as Exhibit 1-1.

1.4 Construction Plan



The Applicant is committed to constructing facilities that minimize environmental impacts and comply with regulatory requirements and recommendations.

Construction of the Project is projected to begin in the Spring of 2021 with the goal of project completion set for end of year 2021. The sequence of project construction will generally adhere to the timeline detailed below (Table 1.2), although adjustments may be necessary to accommodate various weather and environmental conditions.

The project site will be accessed by the network of existing logging roads. Construction will be mostly sequential with multiple construction activities occurring concurrently.

Construction of the Project is dependent on receipt of MDEP Site Location of Development, Natural Resource Protection Act permit and an ISO-NE Large Generator Interconnection Agreement. Site preparation will take place during the first phase of construction. Once the remaining portion of the Project Area with timber cover has been cleared, such areas will be de-stumped and rocks will be removed, similar to the activities required for cultivation of blueberries. Subsequently, the panel racking will be installed. The panel racking will be pile driven into the ground, therefore require minimal grading. Following installation of the racking, panels will be placed onto the racking while collector lines are installed underground. Erosion control will be mostly associated with installation of the underground collector lines. There will be no new roads constructed. All existing roads are sufficient as is for both construction and maintenance of the Project.

Construction of the substation will occur concurrently with other work on the site.

Panels will be delivered to the site and may be temporarily staged at laydown areas or they will be delivered directly to the racking. This will depend on the final construction schedule. Panel installation will generally be linear with the racking installation.

Anticipated timeframe	lask
Week 1	Three Rivers Solar Power receive all permits & ISO-NE
	LGIA
	Maine Site Location of Development Permit
	NRPA Permit
	Large Generator Interconnection Agreement
Weeks 2-26	Site preparation
	De-stumping
	Rock removal
	Clearing remaining timber
Weeks 18-40	Panel racking installation

Table	1.2	Anticipated	construction	activity	timeline
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	Construction of new substation
Weeks 20-52	Underground collection installation
	Solar panel installation
	Completion of substation construction



Exhibit 1-1

Site Location and Topography Map





Exhibit 1-2

Existing and Three Rivers Solar Project Layout Site Plans







Exhibit 1-3

Three Rivers Solar Existing Infrastructure

NOTES:

(1) Documents referenced on this plan are recorded in Hancock County Registry of Deeds unless otherwise noted.

(2) This plan does not represent a Standard Boundary Survey, all boundaries are approximate.



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