## Dolores Canyon Solar - Decommissioning Plan

Site Specific Development Plan/Land Development Agreement Application Appendix item 16

#### Introduction

Dolores Canyon Solar LLC ("Company"), a subsidiary of Boulder-based solar energy developer juwi Inc., looks forward to working in concert with Dolores County to permit the 110 megawatt/ac Dolores Canyon Solar facility ("Project") on several hundred acres of land a few miles northeast of Cahone, near the intersection of County Roads 15 & M.4. The Company is a builder of solar farms across the country and has over twelve years of experience working in Colorado and the West.

### Plan Purpose

Article IV, §2(P) of the Dolores County Land Use Regulations ("LUR") cites the requirement to ensure a proposed utility project site can be returned to its previous state and that the County will not be financially encumbered in so doing. The purpose of this plan is to outline solar facility decommissioning and land reclamation work, at the end of the Project's useful life, which is estimated to be 35 years after commissioning.

## **Project Description**

The Project will consist of a solar photovoltaic energy generation facility. Most of the fenced Project area will contain solar modules arranged on sun-tracking structures. Some of the surface in the Project area will be graded to develop a consistent surface topography for the solar panel array. The Project will include a short overhead transmission line to the Cahone Substation, owned by Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association. The overall fenced Project area is roughly 800 acres.

## Facility Decommissioning

At the time the Project is no longer of use as an operational energy facility, the Company will perform decommissioning activities to remove all equipment and materials related to the Project and restore the property to its pre-construction condition.

Planning and Permitting. Governmental regulations at the time of decommissioning may require specific plans and permits to be in place prior to site decommissioning activities. The Company will develop a comprehensive plan based on this Decommissioning Plan to follow during the deconstruction and reclamation processes. The Company will identify and acquire all local, state, and federal permits required for this work. The Company will also identify subcontractors and waste/recycling companies during the planning phase.

#### Removal of Equipment

- 1. All PV modules will be removed and disposed in accordance with applicable law and then-current environmental standards.
- 2. Above ground racking support structures will be removed. Below ground piles will be removed entirely where practical. Any such structures that cannot practically be pulled out (for example, posts embedded in bedrock) will be cut three feet below grade and the remainder will be left in place and covered. This will allow agricultural activities above the abandoned material.
- 3. All monitoring equipment including cabling, sensors, and control cabinets will be removed from the site and disposed of at a licensed disposal facility or recycling center.
- 4. All concrete foundations above and within three (3) feet of finished grade will be broken up and debris will be removed from the site.

#### **Site Restoration**

- 1. The site fence will be pulled out and removed from the site.
- 2. Access roads and staging areas will remain until all other materials have been removed from the site to facilitate decommissioning activities. Once equipment removal is concluded, the road material will be removed from the site and replaced with fill. The fill will be graded to follow the contours of the site.
- 3. Any disturbed areas devoid of topsoil will be covered with a minimum of 2" of topsoil, which is consistent with the composition of the soil prior to construction of the Project. Topsoil will be treated with seeding products needed for establishment of vegetation.

**Decommissioning Schedule.** The Project is intended to operate for a term of 35 years from commissioning. It is estimated that the duration of the decommissioning activities will last approximately one (1) year.

# Existing Landowner Agreement for Reclamation

The Company has obligations in its land lease agreement with Project landowners for the facility's decommissioning and reclamation activities. From §12.3 of the lease:

<u>Surrender</u>. Upon the expiration of earlier termination of this Lease (whether or not following an Event of Default), Lessee shall peaceably and quietly leave, surrender and return the Leased Area and Access Areas (or such portions of the Leased Area and/or Access Areas as to which this Lease was terminate) to Lessor. Lessee agrees and hereby covenants to dismantle and remove all Energy Facilities owned or installed by Lessee or its affiliates on the Property (or, as applicable, those Energy Facilities located on the terminated portion of the Lease Area and/or Access Areas) (provided that all footings and foundations shall only be removed to a depth of three (3) feet below the surface of the ground and shall be covered with soil), within eighteen (18) months after the date of such expiration or earlier termination; and Lessee shall have a continuing license to enter the Property for such purposes during such eighteen (18) month period. In addition to any other

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remedies available to Lessor, should Lessee fail to remove any Energy facilities that are required to be so removed within such eighteen (18) month period, then Lessor may do so, in which case Lessee shall reimburse Lessor for the reasonable and actual costs of removal incurred by Lessor, less an y salvage value received by Lessor from the sale or disposal of such Energy Facilities, within thirty (30) days after receipt of an invoice from lessor.

### Responsibility

The Company will be obligated to engage Project decommissioning and land reclamation activities as per its existing agreement. Company General Counsel Jay Sonnenberg is the point of contact for concerns regarding lease obligations. Mr. Sonnenberg's email address is <a href="mailto:jsonnenberg@juwiamericas.com">jsonnenberg@juwiamericas.com</a>.