COVERSHEET

OPTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT

Effective Date	Feb 16, 2024	
Lease Commencement Date	[To be completed on the date the option is exercised]	
Lessor	Quality Real Estate Investors LLC - Quality Land Series	
Lessee	Dietrich Road Solar 1, LLC	
Property Address	Dietrich Road Hampshire - Kane County, IL 60140 {01-01-100-002}	
Option Payment	Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000)	
First Additional Option Payment	Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)	
Second Additional Option Payment	Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)	
Rent	Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) per acre of Land per year with a 2% annual escalator (subject to a thirty (30) minimum acreage of Land for purposes of calculating Rent	
Lease Term	The term commencing on the date of delively of the Exercise Notice and ending on the Expiration Date, subject to Lessee's option to extend the Lease Term for up to four (4) additional and successive periods of five (5) years each.	
Expiration Date	The date that is twenty (20) years from the Commercial Operation Date, as may be extended pursuant to this Agreement.	
Addresses for Notices	Lessee: Dietrich Road Solar I, LLC c/o New Leaf Energy, Inc. 55 Technology Drive, Suite 102 Lowell, MA O1851 Attn: EVP Project Finance With a copy to: New Leaf Energy, Inc. 55 Technology Drive, Suite 102 Lowell, MA O1851 Attn: Legal Department With a copy to:	Lessor: Quality RE Property Management, Inc. PO Box 672 Hampshire, IL 60140 With a copy to: grei7 <u>6@gmail.com</u>
	le2:alnotices@newleafener2:v.com	

OPTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT

This Option and Lease Agreement (this "Agreement") is dated as of the Effective Date and is entered into by and between Lessor and Lessee (each a "Party" and together, the "Parties").

RECITALS

A. Lessor owns the real property, together with any rights, benefits and easements appurtenant to such real property more particularly described in the attached **Exhibit A** (the "*Property*").

B. Lessee desires to obtain, the exclusive right to occupy a potiion of the Property (the "Land") together with Easements (defined below, and together with Land, collectively referred to as the "Premises") more particularly described and/or depicted in the attached **Exhibit B** (and images therein), and to enjoy all the rights necessary for Lessee to occupy, develop, design, engineer, access, construct, monitor, install, own, maintain, and operate one or more solar photovoltaic electric power generating and/or energy storage Systems (as defined in the attached **Exhibit C**) as well as ancillary buildings, structures, fixtures, or enclosures necessary or desirable in connection therewith to be located upon, under, on and within the Premises, or any potiion thereof, and all rights necessary or desirable for Lessee to sell the energy generated and/or injected by such System and any and all other credits, solar renewable energy credits, and any other environmental financial attributes created as a result of such energy generation.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the receipt and sufficiency of which are acknowledged, Lessee and Lessor hereby agree to and intend to be bound by the foregoing recitals and as follows:

1. **Definitions.** Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Agreement have the meanings assigned to them on the Cover Sheet or in the attached **Exhibit C.**

2. Access to Property. Commencing on the Effective Date and throughout the Option Term, Lessee and its employees, agents, contractors and current or potential lenders or investors, shall have the right to enter upon the Propetiy, provided that Lessee make reasonable effotis to provide Lessor with at least twenty-four (24) hours prior notice, to perform all effort and labor necessary to carry out tests, inspections, surveys and investigations that Lessee deems necessary or advisable to assess the feasibility of the Propetiy for the construction and operation of the System ("Tests"). During the Lease Tenn, Lessee shall have exclusive access to the Land and non-exclusive access to the Easements to design, engineer, construct, install, inspect, test, operate, upgrade, repair and maintain the System. Lessor shall not interfere with the Tests during the Option Term and during the Lease Term, Lessor shall not enter on the Land or interfere with the installation of the System. Tests shall include identification of all underground drain tiles on the Property. If Lessee damages any drain tile during the construction, operation or removal of the System, Lessee shall either repair such drain tile or construct a new drain tile, at Lessee's option.

3. **Option to Lease the Premises.**

(a) <u>Grant of Option</u>. Lessor hereby grants to Lessee the exclusive option to lease all or a potiion of the Land and acquire the Easements on the terms and conditions set fotih in this Agreement (the *"Option"*).

(b) <u>Time and Manner of Exercise of the Option.</u> The Option shall be for an initial term of five hundred fotiy (540) days after the Effective Date (as it may be extended, the *"Option Term"*). The Option Tenn may be extended by Lessee for up to two (2) additional three hundred sixty-five (365) day periods upon notice to Lessor prior to the end of the then-current Option Term.

Lessor Cooperation. During the Option Term and throughout the Lease Term, (d) Lessor shall fully cooperate with (i) the performance of Tests, at Lessee's expense, (ii) the obtaining by Lessee, at Lessee's expense, of all licenses, and Permits or authorizations required for Lessee's use of the Premises from all applicable government and/or regulatory entities, including any approvals required to obtain a tax abatement for the Premises, as may be applicable, and arty subdivision of the Property to be sought by Lessee in connection with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Systems, (collectively, "Governmental Approvals"), (iii) the securing by Lessee at Lessee's expense of all other leases, agreements, licenses, and Permits or authorizations that relate to either the Property or Premises, and (iv) the securing by Lessee of any amendments to this Agreement that are reasonably necessary to accommodate the System, or to facilitate an assignment pursuant to Section 21. Lessor agrees and acknowledges that any amendment to the Agreement pursuant to this Section 3(d) that does not materially increase any obligation or materially decrease any right of Lessor hereunder, shall not result in adjustment of the Rent unless otherwise required under this Agreement. Lessor authorizes Lessee and its Affiliates to act as Lessor's agent for submission of applications and related plans, documents and recordings, and to appear before boards and other officials, with respect to obtaining approvals for the Systems to be constructed on the Premises, and shall execute an authorization letter to that effect ("Authorization Letter"), in substantially the form in the attached Exhibit F. Lessee will make commercially reasonable efforts to provide notice to Lessor when acting as Lessor's agent regarding matters that affect the Land. Lessor will have the right to attend any matters affecting the Propeliy where Lessee is acting as Lessor's agent. Lessor agrees to use reasonable effolis in assisting Lessee to acquire necessary utility service at the Premises. In the event that a utility company requires an easement in connection with Lessee's use of the Premises during the Option Term or Lease Term, Lessor shall grant such necessary easement to the utility company, provided that such easement is in a commercially reasonable and recordable form.

Use of the Property. During the Option Term, Lessor may continue to use the (e) Property in the ordinary course, provided, hmvever, Lessor shall not commit waste on the Property or otherwise materially change the Property, nor will Lessor agree to grant or permit any easement, lease, license, right of access or other encumbrance or possessory right in the Premises to any third paijy without the prior written consent of Lessee. Lessee shall not withhold consent for any such encumbrances which would not detrimentally affect Lessee's rights or use of the Premises. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Lessor leases the Property to a third party during the Option Term, such lease shall be terminable upon thirty (30) days' notice such that upon notice from Lessee that it will exercise the Option ("Pre-Exercise Notice") and/or start construction, Lessor shall terminate any lease on the Property and such termination shall be effective in no more than thirty (30) days. If crops have been planted on the Property by Lessor or Lessor's tenant, and such crops will not be harvested within thirty (30) days offeceiving the Pre-Exercise Notice, Lessee shall reimburse Lessor or Lessor's tenant for the value of the crops located within the Premises ("Crop *Compensation"*). Crop Compensation will be calculated by multiplying the acreage of crop land within the Premises by the Fair Market Price per acre of such crop. The "Fair Market Price" shall be equal to the average value of the applicable crop as provided by the United States Department of Agriculture. Crop Compensation shall be pro-rated for partial acres affected. Lessee will make any Crop Compensation payment to Lessor or Lessor's tenant within thirty (30) days of delivery of the Pre-Exercise Notice.

4. <u>Exercise of Option: Lease: Easements: and Related Rights.</u>

(a) <u>Exercise of Option</u>. In order to exercise the Option, Lessee must deliver to Lessor a notice of exercise (the *"Exercise Notice"*) prior to the expiration of the Option Tenn. The date of the Exercise Notice shall be the commencement of the Lease Term (the *"Lease Commencement Date"*).

(b) <u>Lease.</u> Subject to receipt of the Exercise Notice, Lessor hereby leases and grants

to Lessee, for the Lease Term, the exclusive rights to the Land together with all right, title and interest of Lessor in and to all easements, rights, privileges and appulienances to the same belonging or in any way appertaining thereto, to occupy, develop, design, engineer, construct, access, monitor, install, own, operate, maintain, repair, replace, improve and remove the System for the generation, storage and distribution of electrical power.

Easement. Subject to receipt of the Exercise Notice, and if noted on Exhibit B, (c) Lessor hereby grants to Lessee a non-exclusive, appmienant easement on, under, over, across and through the Propetiy in the locations more particularly described on the attached **Exhibit B**, for the Lease Term, to occupy, develop, design, engineer, construct, access, monitor, install, own, operate, maintain, repair, replace, improve and remove at all times on a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week basis (i) a road ("Access Easement") and (ii) utility and communication infrastructure, including without limitation poles, supp01iing towers, guys and anchors, fibers, cables and other conductors and conduits, and pads, transformers, switches, vaults and cabinets, and related equipment to connect the System to the local electric distribution system, together with the right of access to the utility infrastructure over the Propeliy, for any purpose reasonably connected with the System (the "Utility Easement'). Lessor hereby also grants to Lessee and the applicable utility company, at all times on a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week basis, for the Lease Term, an easement for ingress, egress and related rights over the Property and/or any surrounding or nearby property owned or leased by Lessor, passage tluough which is necessary or convenient to install, operate or gain access to the System or the Premises (the "easement" and together with the Access Easement and the Utility Easement, the "Easements"). If Lessee determines in its reasonable discretion that any additional easements across the Propetiy are necessary, useful or appropriate for the construction and/or operation of the System, Lessor shall fully cooperate in granting or agreeing to such easements by amendment to this Agreement or by separate agreement and recordation of same, provided however that Lessee shall make good faith commercially reasonable efforts to coordinate with Lessor in locating such easements and that nothing herein shall require Lessor to grant such easements if doing so would detrimentally and materially impact Lessor's reasonable use and enjoyment of the Property.

(d) <u>Construction Laydown Area.</u> Subject to receipt of the Exercise Notice, Lessor hereby further grants to Lessee, and Lessee hereby accepts from Lessor, a non-exclusive license to use an area of the Property in a location mutually agreed upon by the Parties (the "*Construction License*"), which area shall be referred to herein as the "*Construction License Area*", for use as a laydown and construction staging area, and for temporary storage. Such Construction License shall commence at such time as Lessee commences construction of the System and shall terminate on the Commercial Operation Date. Lessee shall have access to the Construction License Area 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Lessee agrees to work in good faith with Lessor to minimize any interference with the operations of Lessor or any other lessees on the Property. Upon or prior to the Commercial Operation Date, Lessee, at Lessee's sole cost and expense, shall surrender the Construction License Area to Lessor in the same condition as the date Lessee first occupied the Construction License Area, ordinary wear and tear excepted.

(e) <u>Landscape License.</u> Lessor grants to Lessee a license to use and access Lessor's Propeliy for purposes of tree trimming, clearing, planting, maintenance, and landscaping as may be required by this Agreement or the applicable municipality in which the Premises is located. This license shall run for the Term of this Agreement and shall permit Lessee to plant, maintain and trim trees and vegetation on an as-needed basis and to do other such things as required for the successful operation of the Systems on the Land. Lessee will limit the tree trimming and clearing on Lessor's nearby and surrounding property to what is necessary to construct and operate the System. Certain trees will not be removed including: (1) the hickory, oak, and walnut trees located on the boundary of the Dietrich Road and property fence line and (2) the maple and sunshine locust trees that are located on the west and south sides of the lake. Such trees will not be trimmed without prior consent of Lessor and shall be done under the direction of an arborist in order to maintain the natural state and beauty.

(f) <u>Utilities.</u> At Lessee's request and expense, Lessor shall provide or cooperate with the provision of electric current and water to the perimeter of the Premises; *provided, however,* separate meters for such utilities shall be installed at Lessee's expense and Lessee shall be responsible for all utility expenses. Lessor grants Lessee the right to install, use, modify, and remove water lines, sewer lines, storm water lines, overhead (only to the extent absolutely necessary) and/or underground power lines, fuel lines, telephone and communication lines, pipelines, conveyors, and drainage ditches, and/or canal systems within the Premises as are reasonably required for operation of the System, and use or modify the existing lines, ditches, and canal systems as may be reasonably required subject to Lessor's prior consent, which shall not be umeasonably delayed, conditioned, or withheld. All installation, modification, and removal of such lines and systems will be completed in accordance with all applicable laws.

(g) Land Description Subject to Amendment. The Parties recognize that the descriptions of the Premises are based on preliminary site discovery information, and that these descriptions shall be modified via amendment prior to construction. As such, Lessor hereby agrees to execute any amendment to this Agreement proposed by Lessee which modifies the Premises, including reducing the size of the Premises and/or splitting the Premises into two or more to accommodate two or more systems and entering into multiple leases, provided that such amendment is reasonably necessary to accommodate (i) the System as designed, or (ii) the System as modified by Lessee to comply with the requirements of any Governmental Authority or the Local Electric Utility, including, but not limited to, entering into an amendment in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit G.** For the avoidance of doubt, under no circumstances shall Lessor be entitled to any increase in Rent or other additional compensation under this Agreement as a result of an amendment to the description of the Premises.



6. **Term and Termination: Removal.**

(a) The Lease Term shall commence on the Lease Commencement Date and terminate on the Expiration Date, as it may be extended, unless otherwise terminated pursuant to this Agreement.

(b) Lessee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate this Agreement at any time prior to the Commercial Operation Date.



(d) Lessee shall provide to Lessor a decommissioning and removal bond in the amount sufficient to perform its obligation of System Removal; provided, however, if the county in which the Property is located or other governmental agency shall require a decommissioning bond in connection with the System (a *"Governmental Decommissioning Bond Obligation")*, then satisfaction by Lessee of such Governmental Decommissioning Bond Obligation shall be deemed to satisfy Lessee's obligation to provide a decommissioning and removal bond and no additional bond shall be required hereunder.

7. **Extension Option.** Lessee shall have the option to extend the Lease Term ("Extension **Option**") for up to four (4) additional and successive periods of five (5) years each beginning on the day following the Expiration Date of the then-current Lease Term (each an "Extension Term"), by giving notice (the "Extension Exercise Notice") to Lessor not less than ninety (90) days prior to the then-current Expiration Date, and without the requirement of any fmiher action on the part of either Lessor or Lessee.

8. <u>System Construction and Maintenance.</u> Throughout the Lease Term and through the Removal Date Term, Lessee shall have the right to perform (or cause to be performed) all tasks necessary or appropriate, as reasonably determined by Lessee, to carry out the activities set forth in this Agreement, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the right (i) to design, construct, install, and operate the System, (ii) to maintain, clean, repair, replace, add to, remove or modify the System or any part thereof as determined to be necessary by Lessee in its sole discretion and in accordance with the Permits and Applicable Laws, (iii) to use any and all appropriate means of restricting access to the System and Premises, including without limitation, the construction of a fence, and (iv) to permanently grub and grade the Premises and to permanently remove and/or clear any trees, vegetation, structures, rocks, watercourses (to the extent permissible) or other encumbrances existing on the Premises determined to be necessary by

Lessee in its sole discretion and in accordance with the Permits and Applicable Laws. Except as may otherwise be specifically agreed upon by the Parties or as expressly set forth herein, Lessee shall be responsible for all costs of design, permitting, construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of the System and System Removal.

9. <u>Permits: Lessor Cooperation.</u> Prior to commencement of construction of the System by Lessee, Lessee shall obtain the necessary Permits. In the event Lessee, in its sole discretion, shall determine that the Premises should be subdivided to accommodate the construction, operation and/or maintenance of the Systems or to comply with Permits and Applicable Laws, Lessee shall consult with Lessor and Lessor shall fully cooperate with Lessee to facilitate and cause any application for subdivision of the Premises to be approved, provided that Lessee shall pay all costs and expenses related thereto.

10. <u>Statutory and Regulatory Compliance.</u> Lessee, the Lessee Parties, Lessor and the Lessor Patties shall each comply with all applicable provisions of all Applicable Laws of the locality in which the Property is located.

11. Lessee's Ownership of Systems and Output. The Systems are personal propeliy, whether or not the same is deemed real or personal property under Applicable Law, and shall not attach to or be deemed a pati of, or a fixture to, the Premises or Property. Lessee or its designees shall be the legal and beneficial owners of the applicable Systems at all times and Lessor shall have no right, title or interest in any of the Systems or any component thereof, notwithstanding that any such Systems may be physically mounted or adhered to the Premises or Property. Lessor covenants that it will use commercially reasonable efforts to place all parties having an interest in or lien upon the Property or the Premises on notice of the ownership of the System and the legal status or classification of the System as personal property. If there is any mortgage or fixture filing against the Propetiy or Premises which could reasonably be construed as attaching to the Systems as a fixture of the Propetiy or Premises, Lessor shall provide a disclaimer or release from such lien holder in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Lessee and any Financing Party. Lessor, as the fee owner of the Propetiy, consents to the filing by Lessee, on behalf of Lessor or its designees, as applicable, of a disclaimer of the Systems as a fixture of the Property or Premises in the office where real estate records are customarily filed in the jurisdiction of the Property. Fmiher, Lessor acknowledges and agrees that Lessee or its designees, as applicable, are the exclusive owners of all electricity and all utility credits, including renewable energy credits, environmental credits, and tax credits, generated by and/or stored within the System and owners of all Environmental Attributes and Incentives attributable to the System. In the absence of an additional agreement to the contrary, all electricity generated by and/or stored within the Systems will be connected to the distribution grid and sold by Lessee to third parties and will not be available to Lessor or any other occupant at the Propeliy. Without the express consent of Lessee, Lessor shall not make or publish any public statement or notice regarding any Environmental Attributes and Incentives relating to the System or the electricity generated by and/or stored within the System.

12. **Representation and Warranties of the Parties as to Authorization and Enforceability.** Each Pmiy represents and warrants that the execution and delivery by such Party of, and the performance of its obligations under, this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action, do not and will not require any further consent or approval of any other Person, and do not contravene any provision of, or constitute a default under any indenture, mortgage, lease, easement, encumbrance, right, restriction, or other material agreement binding on such Pm ty or any valid order of any court, or regulatory agency or other body having authority to which such Party is subject. Each Party represents and warrants the Agreement constitutes a legal and valid obligation of such Party, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as may be limited by a Bankruptcy Event, reorganization, insolvency, bank moratorium or laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights generally and general principles of equity where such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law.

13. <u>Representations, Warranties and Covenants of the Lessor</u>

(a) <u>No Conflict.</u> Lessor represents and warrants that the execution, delivery and performance by it of this Agreement does not (i) violate its organizational documents or any Applicable Law, or (ii) require any approval or consent of any other Person, except for such approvals or consents that have been obtained on or before the date hereof or the absence of which could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on its ability to execute, deliver or perform this Agreement. Each Person signing this Agreement on behalf of Lessor is authorized to do so.

(b) Lessor's Title to Premises. Lessor represents, warrants and covenants that Lessor has (i) a lawful fee simple interest in title to the Property, including the Premises, subject to any mortgages, leases, easements, covenants, restrictions, and rights of record that may exist, and (ii) that Lessee shall have quiet and peaceful possession of the Premises free from any claim of any entity or Person of superior title thereto without hindrance to or interference with or molestation of Lessee's quiet enjoyment thereof, throughout the Lease Term. Lessor, at its sole cost and expense, shall comply with all restrictive covenants or other title exceptions affecting the Premises to the extent that the same are applicable to the Premises or to the extent that the same would, if not complied with or performed, impair or prevent the continued use, occupancy and operation of the Premises for the purposes set folth in this Agreement and Lessor agrees to take all action necessaty to eliminate such interference. In the event Lessor fails to comply with this provision, Lessee may (x) terminate this Agreement, (y) take all necessary steps to bring Lessor into compliance with any restrictive covenants or title exceptions which, if not complied with, would impair or prevent Lessee from exercising its rights under this Agreement, and Lessor shall be responsible for all costs incurred by Lessee for such actions, and/or (z) pursue any other remedies available under this Agreement, at law, and/or at equity.

(c) <u>Defects.</u> Lessee has the right to obtain a title repolt or commitment for a leasehold title policy from a title insurance company of its choice. Lessor shall fully cooperate with Lessee at no cost to Lessor to enable Lessee to obtain a standard policy of title insurance insuring the property interests granted hereunder (including such endorsements as Lessee shall reasonably request). Lessor agrees that Lessor will execute and deliver to Lessee any documents reasonably required by the title insurance company within five (5) Business Days after presentation of said documents by Lessee; *provided, however*, in no event will such documents materially increase any obligation or materially decrease any right of Lessor hereunder.

Transfers. Lessor shall not assign its interest in the Premises separate from its (d) ownership interest and shall not lease the Premises to any other Person. Upon the sale of the Propelty, Lessor shall assign all of its rights and obligations hereunder to any purchaser of the Property, and so long as such purchaser assumes the obligation to perform all obligations under this Agreement in writing, Lessor shall be released from liability hereunder accruing from and after the effective date of such purchase and assignment. Lessor shall not mortgage, alienate or otherwise encumber the Premises without first obtaining a NDA pursuant to Section 13(f) below. Lessor shall provide notice to Lessee at lease thitty (30) days prior to any sale, m01tgage or encumbrance of the Propelty. Lessor agrees that this Agreement and the lease and the Easements granted hereunder shall run with the Property and/or the Premises and survive any transfer of all or any portion of the Property and/or the Premises. In furtherance of the foregoing, Lessor shall cause any purchaser, lessee, assignee, mortgagee, pledge, secured party or party to whom a lien on the Premises or Property has been granted to execute and deliver to Lessee a commercially reasonable document pursuant to which such party acknowledges and consents to the Lessee's rights in the Premises as set forth herein including, without limitation, an acknowledgement by the transferee that it has no interest in the Systems, or any work related to such Systems, and shall not gain any interest in the Systems by virtue of the Lessor's transfer.

(e) <u>No Interference With and Protection of System.</u> Lessor will not conduct activities on, in or about the Property or Premises that have a reasonable likelihood of causing damage, impairment

or otherwise adversely affecting the System or operation thereof. The System shall be operated, maintained and repaired by Lessee at its sole cost and expense; provided, that any repair or maintenance costs incurred by Lessee as a result of Lessor's negligence, misconduct or breach of its obligations hereunder shall be promptly reimbursed to Lessee by Lessor.

(f) <u>Non-Disturbance Agreements.</u> Lessor shall, at its sole effort and expense, obtain a non-disturbance agreement ("NDA") in favor of Lessee from any third party who now has or may in the future obtain an interest in the Property or Premises, including, without limitation, any lenders to Lessor, in a form acceptable to Lessee, which NDA shall: (i) acknowledge and consent to Lessee's rights to the Premises and the Systems under this Agreement; (ii) acknowledge that the third party has no interest in the Systems and shall not gain any interest in the Systems by virtue of the Parties' performance or breach of this Agreement; (iii) acknowledge that the third party's interest in the Premises (if any) is subject to Lessee's interest under this Agreement; (iv) waives any lien the third party may have in and to the Systems; and (v) agrees not to disturb Lessee's possession of the Premises.

Insolation. Lessor acknowledges and agrees that access to sunlight ("Insolation") (g) is essential to the value to Lessee of the leasehold interest granted hereunder and is a material inducement to Lessee in entering into this Agreement. Accordingly, Lessor shall not permit any interference on the Property (exclusive of the Premises) or any neighboring property under Lessor's or its Affiliate's control which interferes with Insolation on and at the Premises. Without limiting the foregoing, Lessor shall not construct or permit to be constructed on the Property or any adjoining property under Lessor's control any structure on or adjacent to the Premises or on any adjacent property owned by any Affiliate of Lessor that could adversely affect Insolation levels on the Premises, shall not permit the growth of foliage on the Propeliy (exclusive of the Premises) or any neighboring propelty under Lessor's or its Affiliate's control that could adversely affect Insolation levels on the Premises, or directly emit or permit the emission of suspended pmticulate matter, smoke, fog or steam or other air-borne impediments to Insolation on the Premises. If Lessor becomes aware of any potential development or other activity on adjacent or nearby properties that could diminish the Insolation to the Premises, Lessor shall promptly advise Lessee of such information and reasonably cooperate with Lessee in taking measures to preserve average levels of Insolation at the Premises as they existed as of the Lease Commencement Date. Such measures may include, but not be limited to, obtaining a solar insolation easement. In the event any such obstruction occurs and is not promptly removed following notice of such obstruction, Lessee shall have the right to terminate this Agreement without penalty or fmther liability, upon notice to Lessor in accordance with Section 22. Additionally, Lessee shall have the right to remove, cut or trim trees and other vegetation on the Property in accordance with Section 4(e). Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Parties agree that (i) Lessee would be irreparably harmed by a breach of the provisions of this Section 13(g),

(ii) an award of damages might be inadequate to remedy such a breach, and (iii) Lessee shall be entitled to equitable relief, including specific performance, to compel compliance with the provisions of this Section 13(g). Lessor finther represents and warrants that, to the best of its knowledge, there are no developments pending or in progress on adjacent or nearby propel ties that could diminish the Insolation to the Premises.

(h) <u>Hazardous Substances.</u> Lessor represents and warrants that there are no Hazardous Substances present on, in or under the Property in violation of any Applicable Law.

(i) <u>Condition of Premises.</u> Except as otherwise expressly set forth herein Lessee accepts the Premises "as is" without benefit of any improvements or modifications to be made by Lessor. Lessor represents and warrants to Lessee that, to the best of its knowledge, there are no site conditions at the Property or Premises which would: (i) materially increase the cost of installing the System at the planned locations on the Premises or would materially increase the cost of maintaining the System at the Premises over the cost that would be typical or customary for a substantially similar System; or (ii) adversely affect the ability of the System, as designed, to produce, store and/or inject electricity once installed, absent conditions beyond Lessor's reasonable control.

(j) <u>Notice of Damage or Emergency.</u> Lessor shall immediately notify Lessee if Lessor becomes aware, through discovery or receipt ofnotice: (i) of any damage to or loss of the use of the System; (ii) of any event or circumstance that poses an imminent risk to human health, the environment, the System or the Premises; or (iii) of any interruption or material alteration of the energy supply to or from the Premises or the System. Lessee shall endeavor to provide a phone number for Lessor to contact in case of a System emergency.

(k) Liens and Tenants. Except as may be disclosed in the real property records of the County, Lessor represents there are no encumbrances, leases, mmtgages, deeds of trust, deeds to secure debt, or similar liens or security interests encumbering all or any portion of the Propeliy and/or the Premises that could interfere with Lessee's operations on the Premises, including mechanic's liens. Lessor shall not directly or indirectly cause, create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any mortgage, pledge, lien (including mechanics', labor or materialman's lien), charge, security interest, encumbrance or claim on or with respect to the Systems, the Premises, or any interest therein. Lessor shall provide Lessee with notice if it receives notice of any such claims. Lessor finther agrees to discharge or bond, at its sole expense, any such encumbrance or interest that attaches to the Systems and to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Lessee from any costs, losses, expenses or liabilities arising from the same, including, without limitation, Lessee's attorneys' fees and court costs. Lessor waives any and all lien rights it may have, statutory or otherwise, concerning the System or any portion thereof.

(1) <u>Mineral Rights.</u> Lessor represents and warrants there are no existing mineral, oil and gas, water, or natural resource rights that could interfere with Lessee's rights hereunder. During the Lease Term, Lessor may not use, or grant the use of the Premises for the purpose of exploring for, extracting, producing or mining such oil, gas, minerals, or other natural resources, including selling or leasing such interests to a third patty, from the surface to a depth of 500 feet below the surface. Lessor may explore for, extract or produce oil, gas, minerals, and other natural resources from the Propeliy in a manner which does not interfere with Lessee's use of the Premises or affect the System and utilizes a method, such as "directional drilling" which does not require the use of the Premises to a depth of five hundred (500) feet below the surface.

(m) <u>Litigation.</u> No litigation is pending, and, to the best of Lessor's knowledge, no actions, claims or other legal or administrative proceedings are pending, threatened or anticipated with respect to, or which could affect, the Premises or Lessor's right or authority to enter into this Agreement. If Lessor learns that any such litigation, action, claim or proceeding is threatened or has been instituted, Lessor will promptly deliver notice thereof to Lessee.

(n) <u>Representations Regarding Security Interest in System.</u> Lessor has been advised that part of the collateral securing the financial arrangements for the System may be the granting of a first priority perfected personal property security interest under the Uniform Commercial Code (the *"Security Interest"*) in this leasehold and the Easements or any portion thereof or in the Systems to one or more Financing Patties and Lessor hereby consents to the granting of such Security Interest. In connection therewith, Lessor represents and warrants as follows: (i) the granting of the Security Interest will not violate any term or condition of any covenant, restriction, lien, financing agreement, or security agreement affecting the Property; (ii) there is no existing lease, mortgage, security interest, easement, claim, use, or restriction or other interest in or lien upon the Property that could attach to the Systems as an interest adverse to or senior to Lessee's Financing Parties' Security Interest therein; (iii) there exists no event or condition which constitutes a default, or would, with the giving of notice or lapse of time, constitute a default under the Agreement, and (iv) there is no existing mineral, oil and gas, water, or natural resource right that could attach to the Systems as an interest therein.

14. Hazardous Substances. Neither Party shall introduce or use any Hazardous Substances on, in or under the Premises or Property in violation of any Applicable Law. If a Party becomes aware of any Hazardous Substances on, in, or under the Premises or Property, it shall promptly notify the other Party of the type and location of such Hazardous Substances in writing. Each Party agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party and its Affiliates and their employees and agents from and against any and all administrative and judicial actions and rulings, claims, causes of action, demands and liability, including, but not limited to, damages, costs, expenses, assessments, penalties, fines, losses, judgments, and reasonable attorney fees that any Party may suffer or incur due to the existence of any Hazardous Substances on the Property or the migration of any Hazardous Substance to other properties or the release of any Hazardous Substance into the environment ("Environmental Claims"), that relate to or arise from such Party's activities on the Property or Premises, except to the extent directly attributable to the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the other Party. Lessor shall further indemnify, defend and hold harmless Lessee and its Affiliates and their employees and agents from and against any and all Environmental Claims due to the presence of any Hazardous Substances in, on or under the Premises as of the Effective Date. The indemnifications in this Section 14 specifically include, without limitation, costs incurred in connection with any investigation of site conditions or any cleanup, remedial, removal or restoration work required by any Governmental Authority. Lessor shall be responsible for and shall promptly conduct any investigation and remediation as required by any Applicable Law, all spills or other releases of any Hazardous Substances to the extent not caused by Lessee, that have occurred or which may occur on the Property. This Section 14 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

15. Insurance.

(a) <u>Generally.</u> Lessor and Lessee shall each maintain the insurance coverages set forth in <u>Exhibit D</u> in full force and effect throughout the Option Term, Lease Term and through the Removal Date Term through insurance policies, reasonably acceptable to the other Patty. Each Party, upon request, but not more than twice in any twelve (12) month period, shall furnish current certificates evidencing that the coverage required is being maintained.

(b) <u>Waiver of Subrogation.</u> Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, each Party hereby waives any right of recovery against the other for injmy or loss to personal property due to hazards covered by insurance obtained with respect to the Propelty, including the improvements and installations thereon.





17. Liability and Indemnity.

(a) Each Party as indemnitor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other Party and its Affiliates and their employees and agents against and from any and all loss, liability, damage, claim, cost, charge, demand, or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) asserted by third parties for injury or death to Persons (including employees of either Patiy) and/or physical damage to propetly arising out of or in connection with the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the indemnitor or a material breach of any obligation, representation or warranty of the indemnitor under this Agreement, except to the extent caused by the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the indemnified party.

(b) Lessor shall indemnify and hold harmless Lessee for any claims, costs or damages, including fines or penalties, attributable to any violations of Applicable Laws existing prior to the Effective Date, or by any patiy other than the Lessee Patties.

(c) This Section 17 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

Casualty/System Loss.

(a) In the event the Premises or access thereto shall be so damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty so as to make the use of the Premises impractical, as determined by Lessee in its sole and absolute discretion, then Lessee may elect to terminate this Agreement by providing notice to Lessor of such termination within ninety (90) days of Lessee's knowledge of the damage or destruction, which termination will be effective as of a date of such damage or destruction. If Lessee does not elect to terminate this Agreement within ninety (90) days of such a casualty, then the Rent shall be abated until the earlier of (i) one hundred and eighty (180) days following such casualty, or (ii) such time as Lessee's use of the Premises is restored. If Lessee does not elect to terminate this Agreement pursuant to the previous sentences,

Lessor shall exercise commercially reasonable eff01 is to repair the damage to the Premises and return the Premises to its condition prior to such damage or destruction; *provided, however,* that, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, Lessor shall in no event be required to repair, replace or restore any property of Lessee comprising part of the Systems, which replacement or restoration shall be Lessee's responsibility.

(b) In the event of any harm to the System that, in the reasonable judgment of Lessee, results in total damage, destruction or loss of the System *("System Loss")*, Lessee shall, within twenty (20) Business Days following the occurrence of such System Loss, notify Lessor whether Lessee is willing, notwithstanding such System Loss, to repair or replace the System and to continue this Agreement. In the event that Lessee notifies Lessor that Lessee is not willing to repair or replace the System, Lessee may terminate this Agreement effective upon the date of such System Loss, and Lessee shall be entitled to all proceeds of its insurance policies with respect to the System Loss. Lessor shall have no obligation to return to Lessee the portion of the pre-paid Rent.

(c) In the event of termination under this Section 18, Lessee shall remove the Systems in accordance with Section 6(c).

19. **No Consequential Damages.** Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, neither Lessee nor Lessor shall be liable to the other for any consequential, punitive, or indirect damages, including without limitation, loss of use of their propeliy, loss of profits, cost of capital or increased operating costs, arising out of this Agreement whether by reason of contract, indemnity, strict liability, negligence or breach of warranty.

20. **Condemnation.** Promptly upon receipt of notice that the Premises or Property may be or will be transferred to a condemning authority pursuant to a taking of all or a portion of the Property, Lessor shall notify Lessee of same. In the event the Premises or Propetiy are transferred to a condemning authority pursuant to a taking of all or a portion of the Property sufficient in Lessee's determination to render the Premises unsuitable for Lessee's use or to negatively impact the access to the Premises, Lessee shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon notice to Lessor. Sale to a purchaser with the power of eminent domain in the face of the exercise of the power shall be treated as a taking by condemnation under this Agreement. In the event of an award related to eminent domain or condemnation of all or part of the Premises, each Party shall be entitled to take from such award that portion as allowed by law for its respective property interest appropriated as well as any damages suffered thereby.

21. Assignment by Lessee and Financing Party Protections.

(a) Lessee shall not assign or sublease any of its rights, duties or obligations under this Agreement without the prior consent of Lessor, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Lessee may, without consent from Lessor, assign any of its rights, duties or obligations under this Agreement: (i) to a Financing Party pursuant to Section 21(c), (ii) to one or more of its Affiliates, (iii) to one or more third palies in connection with a collateral assignment of rights, mortgage, pledge or otherwise, (iv) to any Person or entity succeeding to all or substantially all of the stock or assets of Lessee, or (v) to a successor entity in a merger or acquisition transaction. Lessor agrees to execute any consent, novation or other documentation that Lessee may request in connection with any assignment permitted by this Section 21, including without limitation entering into a consent and assignment agreement with Lessee's Financing Patiy.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrmy, Lessee may collaterally assign this Agreement and the System to a Financing Party without the need for consent from Lessor. Upon receipt of notice of the name and address of a Financing Patiy, Lessor agrees to deliver any notices of default to the Financing Party simultaneously with the delivery of such notices of default to Lessee. The Financing Pa1iy will have the right in its sole discretion, but not the obligation, (i) to enforce its lien and acquire title to all or any p01iion of the System and all right, title and interest of Lessee in and to this Agreement by any lawful means, (ii) to take possession of and operate all or any p01iion of the System and to perform all obligations to be performed by Lessee under this Agreement, or to cause a receiver to be appointed to do so, (iii) to cure any defaults or breaches by Lessee within the time periods provided hereunder for Lessee plus an additional sixty (60) days in the case of an Event of Default under Section 22, and in order to succeed to the rights and obligations of Lessee under this Agreement shall not be required to cure any defaults by Lessee under Section 22 that by their nature are not capable of being cured by the Financing Party. Any such notices shall be sent to the Financing Party at the address specified in writing to Lessor by Lessee or any Financing Party. Failure by Lessor to give the Financing Party such notice shall not diminish the Financing Patiy's rights against Lessee, but shall preserve all rights of the Financing Patiy to cure any default and to remove any propeliy of Lessee located on the Premises.

(c) If Lessor has been notified of the existence of a Financing Party, Lessor will not agree to any amendment, modification or voluntary termination of this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Financing Party. Lessor agrees that, upon foreclosure (or assignment in lieu of foreclosure) of its mortgage or security interest in the System, the Financing Patiy may succeed to the rights and obligations of Lessee under this Agreement and thereafter, without Lessor's consent, to assign or transfer all or any portion of the System to a third patiy. The Financing Patiy will be responsible for performance of Lessee's obligations after it succeeds to Lessee's interests under this Agreement, but shall have no fulliher liability hereunder after it assigns such interests to a third patiy.

(d) If this Agreement is rejected or disaffirmed by Lessee pursuant to bankruptcy law or other law affecting creditor's rights and within ninety (90) days after such event any Financing Party shall have arranged to the reasonable satisfaction of Lessor for performance of Lessee's obligations under this Agreement, then Lessor shall execute and deliver to such Financing Patiy or to a designee of such Financing Party a new agreement which (i) shall be for a term equal to the remainder of the Lease Term before giving effect to such rejection or termination; and (ii) shall contain the same covenants, agreements, terms, provisions and limitations as this Agreement.

(e) An assignment by either Party in accordance with this Section 21 shall, provided that assignee assumes the assignor's obligations under this Agreement, relieve the assignor of its obligations hereunder, except with respect to undisputed payments due by the assignor as of the effective date of the assignment, which obligations shall be performed by assignor or assignee as a condition precedent to such assignment.

(f) The provisions of this Section 21 shall survive the termination, rejection or disaffirmation of this Agreement and shall continue in full force and effect thereafter to the same extent as if this Section 21 were a separate and independent contract made by Lessor, Lessee and each Financing Party. Lessee's Financing Parties shall be express third party beneficiaries of this Section 21.

22. Defaults and Remedies.

(a) Events of Default. The occurrence of any of the following (each an "Event of Default') shall place the Party responsible for the Event of Default (the "Defaulting Party") in default of this Agreement, and the other Party (the "Non-Defaulting Party") shall be entitled to the remedies provided in Section 22(b): (i) a Patiy's failure to pay any amount required to be paid hereunder and such failure shall continue for thitiy (30) days after written notice of such failure has been received by the Defaulting Patiy, (ii) a Party's failure to perform any covenant or obligations hereunder, other than payment of monetary sums, or commitment of a material breach of this Agreement and the failure to cure such default within sixty (60) days after written notice specifying such failure has been received by the Defaulting Party, or (iii) if the nature or extent of the obligation or obligations is such that more than sixty (60) days are required to complete the cure, a Party's failure to use diligence and good faith to commence and continue exercising commercially reasonable diligence to cure the Event of Default after such sixty (60) day period, and (iv) a Party becomes subject to a Bankruptcy Event. Fmiher, if the Parties have a good faith dispute as to whether a payment is due hereunder, the alleged defaulting Patiy may deposit the amount in controversy in escrow with a mutually agreed upon reputable third party escrow, or may interplead the same, which amount shall

remain undistributed and shall not accrue interest or penalties, and no Event of Default shall be deemed to have occurred, until final decision by a comt of competent jurisdiction or upon agreement by the Patties. No such deposit shall constitute a waiver of the Defaulting Party's right to institute legal action for recovety of such amounts.

(b) <u>Remedies.</u> Except as qualified by Section 21(b), upon the occurrence of, and during the continuance of an Event of Default, the Non-Defaulting Patty shall: (i) have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination to the Defaulting Patty; and (ii) have all rights and remedies that may be available to the Non-Defaulting Patty at law or in equity.

23. <u>Notices.</u> All notices under this Agreement shall be made in writing to the Addresses for Notices specified on the Cover Sheet. Notices shall be delivered by hand delivery, regular overnight delivery service, registered or celtified mail return receipt requested, or email. Email notices shall require confirmation of receipt. Notices shall be deemed to have been received when delivered as shown on the records or manifest of such courier, delivery service or the U.S. Postal Service. Rejection or refusal to accept delivery of any notice shall be deemed to be the equivalent of receipt of any notice given hereunder. A Patty may change its address by providing written notice of the same in accordance with the provisions of this Section 23. Failure to comply strictly with the terms of this provision shall not be held against the Party claiming to have given notice so long as such Patty substantially complied with this provision and can demonstrate that the notice in question was received.

24. <u>Waiver.</u> The waiver by either Patty of any breach of any term, condition, or provision herein contained shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of such term, condition, or provision, or any other term, condition, or provision contained herein.

25. **Remedies Cumulative.** No remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to Lessee or Lessor shall exclude any other remedy herein or by law or in equity or by statute provided, but each shall be cumulative and in addition to every other remedy given hereunder or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute.

26. **Headings.** The headings in this Agreement are solely for convenience and ease of reference and shall have no effect in interpreting the meaning of any provision of this Agreement.

27. **Invalid Term.** If any provision of this Agreement is declared or determined by any court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the legality, validity or enforceability of the remaining patts, terms and provisions shall not be affected thereby, and said illegal, unenforceable or invalid part, term or provision will be deemed not to be a palt of this Agreement; *provided, however*, that the Patties shall work together in good faith to modify this Agreement as necessary to retain the intent of any such severed clause.

28. <u>Choice of Law.</u> This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to its conflict of law principles.

29. **Dispute Resolution.** In the event that there is any controversy, claim or dispute between the Parties hereto arising out of or related to this Agreement, or the breach hereof, the Parties agree to engage in good faith negotiations to resolve such dispute. If the Parties are unable to resolve such dispute through such negotiations, either Patty may, within a reasonable time after the dispute has arisen, pursue all available legal and/or equitable remedies.

30. <u>Attorney's Fees.</u> In the event there is a lawsuit, action, arbitration, or other proceeding between Lessee and Lessor, which arises from or concerns this Agreement, whether that lawsuit, action, arbitration, or other proceeding involves causes of action in contract or in tort, at law or in equity, each party shall pay their own costs and fees in any such lawsuit, action, arbitration, or other proceeding.

31. <u>Waiver of Jury Trial.</u> TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, EACH PARTY HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ITS RESPECTIVE RIGHTS TO A JURY TRIAL OF ANY CLAIM OR CAUSE OF ACTION IN ANY COURT IN ANY JURISDICTION BASED UPON OR ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT.

32. <u>Binding Effect.</u> This Agreement and its rights, privileges, duties and obligations shall bind and inure to the benefit of and be binding upon each of the Patiles hereto, together with their respective heirs, personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns.

33. <u>Counterparts.</u> This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterpatis, which shall together constitute one and the same agreement. Each Patiy agrees that signatures transmitted by facsimile or electronically shall be legal and binding and have the same full force and effect as if an original of this Agreement and had been delivered and hereby waive any defenses to the enforcement of the terms of this Agreement based on the foregoing forms of signature.

34. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement, including the Cover Sheet and all exhibits, represents the full and complete agreement between the Patiies hereto with respect to the subject matter contained herein and therein and supersedes all prior written or oral negotiations, representations, communications and agreements between said patiies with respect to said subject matter. This Agreement may be amended only in writing signed by both Lessee and Lessor or their respective successors in interest. Lessor and Lessee each aclmowledge that in executing this Agreement that Party has not relied on any verbal or written understanding, promise, or representation which does not appear in this document.

35. **Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement.** This Agreement does not incorporate any provision from any agricultural impact mitigation agreement that may be entered into with the Illinois Depatiment of Agriculture with respect to the Premises (an "AIMA"). The Paties specifically agree that with respect to any provision contained in an AIMA, this Agreement shall control, whether such provision is addressed generally, specifically or not at all in this Agreement.

36. **Further Assurances.** Upon the receipt of a request from the other Party or a Financing Patiy, each Patiy shall execute such commercially reasonable additional documents, instruments and assurances and take such additional actions as are reasonably necessary to carry out the terms and intent hereof, including at the requesting Party's expense, entering into any consents, assignments, affidavits, estoppels and other documents as may be reasonably required by such Party's lender to create, perfect or preserve its collateral interest in such Party's propetiy or such party's rights and obligations under this Agreement. Any estoppel shall be executed within ten (10) days of a request therefor. Neither Patiy shall unreasonably withhold, condition or delay its compliance with any reasonable request made pursuant to this Section 35.

37. Force Maieure. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, neither Party shall be considered in breach of this Agreement or liable for any delay or failure to comply with this Agreement, if and to the extent that such delay or failure is attributable to the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event; provided that the Party claiming relief under this Section 36 shall immediately (i) notify the other Patiy in writing of the existence of the Force Majeure Event, (ii) exercise all reasonable effolts necessary to minimize delay caused by such Force Majeure Event, (iii) notify the other Party in writing of the cessation or termination of said Force Majeure Event and (iv) resume performance of its obligations hereunder as soon as practicable thereafter. If a Force Majeure Event shall have occurred that has prevented either Party from performing any of its material obligations hereunder and that has continued for a continuous period of one hundred twenty (120) days, then either Party shall have the right, but not the obligation, to terminate the Agreement upon ninety (90) days' prior notice to the other Party without penalty or further liability. If at the end of such ninety (90) day period such Force Majeure Event shall still continue and the material obligation has not been able to be resumed to the reasonable satisfaction of the affected Patty, the Agreement shall terminate. Upon such termination due to a Force Majeure Event, neither Patiy shall have any liability to the other (other than any such liabilities that have accrued prior to such termination or those

which expressly survive the termination or expiration of the Agreement pursuant to the terms hereof). If, at the end of such ninety (90) day period such Force Majeure Event is no longer continuing, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, and the Party's termination notice shall be deemed to have been withdrawn. Rent shall be abated until the earlier of (i) one hundred and eighty (180) days following such Force Majeure Event (provided that such event prevents Lessee from being able to operate the System in the manner contemplated herein), or (ii) such time as Lessee's use of the Premises is restored.

38. **Confidentiality.** Lessor will maintain in strict confidence, for the sole benefit of Lessee, the existence and the terms of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated herein, including but not limited to any business plans, financial information, technical information regarding the design, operation, maintenance of the *System;provided, however*, Lessor may disclose this Agreement and the transactions contemplated herein to Lessor's affiliates, subsidiaries, attorneys, consultants or other agents or professional advisors, or as required by law.

39. **Memorandum of Lease.** Lessor agrees to cooperate with Lessee in executing any documents necessary to protect Lessee's rights in or use of the Premises. A Memorandum of Lease in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit E** shall be recorded in the office where real estate records are customarily filed in the jurisdiction of the Premises.

40. **Brokers.** In the event any broker or other patiy claims a commission, the Party responsible for the contact with that claimant shall indemnify, defend and hold the other Pmiy harmless from that claim, and including, without limitation, the payment of any attorneys' fees and costs incurred.

41. **Interpretation.** This Agreement shall not be construed against the Person or entity preparing it, but shall be construed as if all of the Parties jointly prepared this Agreement without any uncertainty or ambiguity being interpreted against any one of them.

42. **No Partnership.** This Agreement is not intended and shall not be construed to create any partnership or joint venture or any other relationship other than one of 'lessor' and 'lessee' and 'grantor' and 'grantee', and neither Patiy shall be deemed the agent of the other Party nor have the authority to act as agent for the other Party, other than as provided in Section 3(d).

Public Officials. Lessor acknowledges that its receipt of monetary and other good and 43. valuable consideration hereunder may represent a conflict of interest if Lessor or its Affiliate is a government employee or otherwise serves on a governmental entity with decision-making authority (a "Public Officiaf") as to any rights Lessee may seek, or as to any obligations that may be imposed upon Lessee in order to develop and/or operate the Systems ("Development Rights"), and Lessor hereby agrees for itself and its Affiliates to (1) recuse him/herself from all such decisions related to Lessee's Development Rights unless such recusal is prohibited by law or is not reasonably practicable considering the obligations of such Public Official's position and (2) recuse him/herself from all such decisions related to Lessee's Development Rights if such recusal is required by law. If Lessor is not required pursuant to (1) or (2) above to recuse him/herself from a decision related to Lessee's Development Rights, Lessor will, in advance of any vote or other official action on the Development Rights, disclose the existence of this Agreement (but not the financial terms therein) at an open meeting of the relevant governmental entity Lessor serves on as a Public Official. Additionally, if Lessor is a Public Official and any of Lessor's spouse, child or other dependent has a financial interest in the Systems, Lessor shall disclose such relationship (but not the financial terms thereof) at an open meeting of the relevant governmental entity Lessor serves on as a Public Official, prior to participation in any decision related to Lessee's Development Rights.

44. <u>**Time is of the Essence.**</u> Time is of the essence with respect to all provisions within this Agreement.

45. **Holdover.** In the event that Lessee shall remain in possession after the expiration of the Lease Term, Lessee shall be considered a holdover from month-to-month only, on the same terms and conditions set fotih in this Agreement, except at one and one-half (1.5) times the monthly rent in effect at the expiration of this Agreement, and Lessor shall not waive any rights whatsoever which it has for the removal of Lessee after the expiration or termination of the Agreement.

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK - SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS

LESSOR:

Quality Real Estate Investors LLC - Quality Land Series an Illinois limited liability company

BY: Quality RE Property Management, Inc. its sole member and manager

By: <u>Catter C.</u> Greand Name: <u>VXXILTER C.</u> QLANDT Title: <u>Scentary</u>

LESSEE:

Dietrich Road Solar 1, LLC a Delaware limited liability company

BY: 1115 SOLAR DEVELOPMENT, LLC its sole member and manager

Ryan Bailey 186XK3ZP-4LRWQ27L By: boxsign

Name: Ryan Bailey

Title: VP of Development - Midwest

EXHIBIT A

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

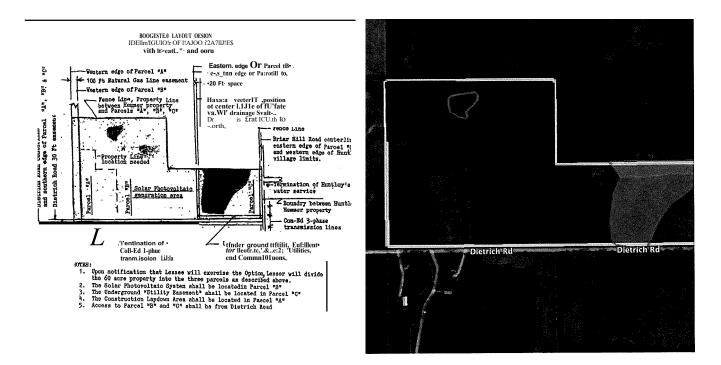
For Lessor's title to the Property, reference is herein made to the deed dated 9/2/2023 and recorded on 9/8/2023 in the Kane County Recorder's Office at Book 2023K.031308, Page 2.

EXHIBITB

DESCRIPTION/DEPICTION OF PREMISES

The Premises consists of approximately 30 acres located at the Property as depicted in blue below.

The parties agree that the description of the Premises will be replaced with actual metes and bounds upon completion of System design and site surveys.



GPS Coordinates: (42.146471, -88.487997)

Parcel Numbers: 01-01-100-002

Potential lease area of 30+ acres shaded in blue

EXHIBIT C

DEFINITIONS

"Abandonment Notice" has the meaning set forth in Section 6(c) of this Agreement.

"Access Easement' has the meaning set forth in Section 4(c).

"Affiliate" means, as to any Person, any other Person that, directly or indirectly, is **in** control of, is controlled by or is under common control with such Person or is a director, officer or member of such Person or of an Affiliate of such Person.

"Agreement" has the meaning set folth on page 2 herein.

"Applicable Law" means, with respect to any Person, any constitutional provision, law, statute, rule, regulation, ordinance, treaty, order, decree, judgment, decision, certificate, holding, iajunction, registration, license, franchise, permit, authorization, guideline, Governmental Approval, Environmental Law, consent or requirement of any Governmental Authority having jurisdiction over such Person or its property, enforceable at law or in equity, including the interpretation and administration thereof by such Governmental Authority.

"Authorization Letter" has the meaning set folth in Section 3(d) of this Agreement.

"Bankruptcy Event' means with respect to a Patty, that either: such Patty has (A) applied for or consented to the appointment of, or the taking of possession by, a receiver, custodian, trustee or liquidator of itself or of all or substantially all of its propelty; (B) made a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; (C) commenced a voluntary case under any bankruptcy law; (D) filed a petition seeking to take advantage of any other law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, winding up, or composition or readjustment of debts; or (E) taken any corporate or other action for the purpose of effecting any of the foregoing; or a proceeding or case has been commenced without the application or consent of such Party in any court of competent jurisdiction seeking (i) its liquidation, reorganization, dissolution or winding-up or the composition or readjustment of debts or, (ii) the appointment of a trustee, receiver, custodian, liquidator or the like of such Patty under any bankruptcy law, and such proceeding or case has continued undefended, or any order, judgment or decree approving or ordering any of the foregoing shall be entered and continue unstayed and in effect for a period of more than one hundred eighty (180) days.

"Business Day" means any day other than Saturday, Sunday or any other day on which banking institutions in the state where the Property is located are required or authorized by Applicable Law to be closed for business.

"Commercial Operation Date" means the date on which the System(s) commences selling electricity to a third patty purchaser on a commercial basis (excluding the sale oftest energy).

"Construction License" has the meaning set folth in Section 4(d) of this Agreement.

"Construction License Area" has the meaning set f01th in Section 4(d) of this Agreement.

"Construction Rent" has the meaning set forth in Section S(b) of this Agreement.

"Crop Compensation" has the meaning set forth in Section 3(e) of this Agreement.

"Defaulting Party" has the meaning set forth in Section 22(a) of this Agreement.

"Development Rights" has the meaning set f01th in Section 43 of this Agreement.

"Easements" has the meaning set forth in Section 4(c) of this Agreement.

"Environmental Attributes and Incentives" means any emissions, air quality or other environmental attribute, aspect, characteristic, claim, credit, benefit, reduction, offset or allowance, howsoever entitled or designated, directly or indirectly resulting from, attributable to or associated with the consumption, storage, injection, sale and/or generation of energy by a solar renewable energy facility and/or through the storage and/or injection of electricity, whether existing as of the Effective Date or thereafter, and whether as a result of any present or future local, state or federal laws or regulations or local, state, national or international voluntary program.

"Environmental Claims" has the meaning set forth in Section 14 of this Agreement.

"Environmental Law" means and includes, without limitation, any present or future federal, state or local law, whether under common law, statute, rule, regulation or otherwise, requirements under Permits or other authorizations issued with respect thereto, and other orders, decrees, judgments, directive or other requirements of any Governmental Authority relating to or imposing liability or standards of conduct, disclosure or notification with regard to the protection of human health, the environment, ecological conditions, Hazardous Substances or any activity involving Hazardous Substances.

"Event of Default" has the meaning set forth in Section 22(a) of this Agreement.

"Exercise Notice" has the meaning set forth in Section 4(a) of this Agreement.

"*Expiration Date*" has the meaning set forth on the Cover Sheet, as such date may be extended in accordance with the Agreement.

"Extension Exercise Notice" has the meaning set forth in Section 7 of this Agreement.

"Extension Option" has the meaning set forth in Section 7 of this Agreement.

"Extension Term" has the meaning set forth in Section 7 of this Agreement.

"Fair Market Price" has the meaning set forth in Section 3(e) of this Agreement.

"Financing Party" means, as applicable (i) any Person (or its agent) from whom Lessee (or an Affiliate of Lessee) leases the System or (ii) any Person (or its agent) who has made or will make a loan to or otherwise provide capital to Lessee (or an Affiliate of Lessee) with respect to the System. Lessee shall provide written notice to Lessor of, and the contact information for, any Financing Patty prior to a party being deemed a Financing Patty hereunder.

"Force Majeure Event' means, when used in connection with the performance of a Party's obligations under this Agreement, any events or circumstances beyond the affected Party's reasonable control that arise after the Effective Date, to the extent not caused by the acts or omissions of (and are otherwise unavoidable, or beyond the reasonable control of, and could not have been prevented or overcome by the reasonable efforts and diligence of) such Patty and which materially and adversely affects such Party's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. Force Majeure Event includes but is not limited to the following: (i) war, riot, acts of a public enemy or other civil disturbance; (ii) acts of God, including but not limited to, pandemics, epidemics, disease, earthquakes, tornados, typhoons, lightning, blizzards, hurricanes and landslides of the type which would, under normal circumstances and typical insurance policies, constitute an event of insurable loss; (iii) acts of, or unreasonably excessive failures to act by, any Governmental Authority including changes in Applicable Law after the Effective Date (other than acts of Governmental Authorities in response to a Patty's failure to comply with existing Applicable Laws as required in connection with performance under this Agreement); and (iv) strikes, walkouts, lockouts or similar industrial or labor actions or disputes not caused by, specific to employees of, or the result of an unfair labor practice or other unlawful activity by the asserting Party.

"Govermental Approvals" has the meaning set forth in Section 3(d) of this Agreement.

"Governmental Authority" means any federal, state, regional, county, town, city or municipal government, whether domestic or foreign, or any depaitment, agency, bureau or other administrative,

regulatory or judicial body of any such government.

"Governmental Decommissioning Bond Obligation" has the meaning set folih in Section 6(d) of this Agreement.

"Hazardous Substances" means and includes, without limitation any substance, chemical, material or waste: (i) the presence of which causes a nuisance or trespass of any kind under any applicable Environmental Law; (ii) which is regulated by any Governmental Authority; (iii) is likely to create liability under any Environmental Law because of its toxic, flammable, corrosive, reactive, carcinogenic, mutagenic, infectious, radioactive, or other hazardous propeliy or because of its effect on the environment, natural resources or human health and safety, including but not limited to, flammables and explosives, gasoline, petroleum and petroleum products, asbestos containing materials, polychlorinated biphenyls, lead and leadbased paint, radon, radioactive materials, microbial matter, biological toxins, mycotoxins, mold or mold spores or any hazardous or toxic material, substance or waste which is defined by those or similar terms or is regulated as such by any Governmental Authority; or (iv) which is designated, classified, or regulated as being a hazardous or toxic substance, material, pollutant, waste (or a similar such designation) under any federal, state or local law, regulation or ordinance, including under any Environmental Law.

"Insolation" has the meaning set folih in Section 13(g) of this Agreement.

"Land" has the meaning set f01ih in Recital B.

"Lease Commencement Date" has the meaning set folih in Section 4(a) of this Agreement.

"Lease Term" has the meaning set forth on the Cover Sheet of this Agreement.

"Lessee Real Property Taxes" has the meaning set forth in Section 16 of this Agreement.

"Lessee Parties" means, individually or collectively, Lessee, its Affiliates and any of their authorized representatives, agents, employees, managers, contractors, architects, and engineers, and each of their respective officers, directors, partners, members, managers, agents, employees, representatives, and invitees.

"Lessee Taxes" has the meaning set forth in Section 16 of this Agreement.

"Lessor Parties" means, individually or collectively, Lessor, its Affiliates, and any of their authorized representatives, agents, employees, managers, and each of their respective officers, directors, paiiners, members, managers, agents, employees, and representatives.

"Local Electric Utility" means the local electric distribution owner and operator providing electric distribution services to Lessee and also providing electric distribution and interconnection services to Lessee for Lessee's System.

"Non-Defaulting Party" has the meaning set folih in Section 22(a) of this Agreement.

"NDA" has the meaning set forth in Section 13(f) of this Agreement.

"Operation Term" has the meaning set forth in Section S(c) of this Agreement.

"Option" has the meaning set folih in Section 3(a) of this Agreement.

"Option Term" has the meaning set fmih in Section 3(b) of this Agreement.

"Party" 01. "Parties" has the meaning set forth on page 1 of this Agreement.

"Permits" means all applications, approvals, authorizations, consents, filings, licenses, orders, permits or similar requirements imposed by any Governmental Authority which are required in order to develop, construct, operate, maintain, improve, refurbish and retire the System or to schedule and deliver the electric

energy produced by the System to the Local Electric Utility, including an authorization to construct or a conditional use permit.

"*Person*" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, estate, trust, unincorporated association, any other person or entity, and any federal, state, county or municipal government or any bureau, department or agency thereof and any fiduciary acting in such capacity on behalf of any of the foregoing.

"Personal Property Taxes" has the meaning set folth in Section 16 of the Agreement.

"Pre-Exercise Notice" has the meaning set folth in Section 3(e) of this Agreement.

"Premises" has the meaning set folth in Recital B of this Agreement.

"Property" has the meaning set folth in Recital A of this Agreement.

"Public Officiaf' has the meaning set folth in Section 43 of this Agreement.

"Removal Date Term" has the meaning set fmth in Section 6(c) of this Agreement.

"Rent" has the meaning set folth on the Cover Sheet of this Agreement.

"Roll Back Taxes" has the meaning set forth in Section 16(b) of this Agreement.

"Sales Tax" has the meaning set forth in Section 16(b) of this Agreement.

"Security Interest" has the meaning set forth in Section 13(n) of this Agreement.

"System(s)" means the solar photovoltaic and/or energy storage system or systems installed and operating on the Land, together with all electrical production, transmission, storage, and distribution facilities and related equipment, hardware and materials, including without limitation, panels, underground transmission, distribution or collector lines, circuit breakers, meters, conduit, footings, cabling, wires, underground control, communications and radio relay systems, energy storage facilities (including batteries), interconnection facilities and/or switching facilities, transformers and cunent inverters, control boxes and computer monitoring equipment systems, structures, batteries, features and improvements necessary to produce, transmit and store electric energy at such facility (excluding power to the Land).

"System Loss" has the meaning set fo1th in Section 18(b) of this Agreement.

"System Removaf' has the meaning set folth in Section 6(c) of this Agreement.

"Taxes and Assessments" has the meaning set forth in Section 16 of this Agreement.

"Tests" has the meaning set forth in Section 2 of this Agreement.

"Utility Easement" has the meaning set forth in Section 4(c) of this Agreement.

EXHIBITD

