### County Road 10 Solar Project Aura Solar Power USA, LLC

Project DecommissioningPlan July 2021

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#### 1. Introduction

Aura Solar Power USA, LLC ("Aura") proposes to build a ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV)solar facility ("Solar Facility") in the Town of Canandaigua, referred to as the "County Road10 Solar Project." The Solar Facility is planned to connect to the local electrical grid and have a nameplate capacity of (Project MW) megawatts (MW) alternating current (AC). TheSolar Facility is proposed to occupy approximately (Project Size) acres on Tax Parcel: (Project Tax ID), Town of Canandaigua, Monroe County, NY (the "Facility Site").

This Plan assumes that the Solar Facility will have a useful life and a maturity date of thirty (30) years. Upon decommissioning, the Solar Facility will be dismantled, and the Facility Site restored to a state similar to its pre-construction condition. The Plan also covers thecase of the abandonment of a Solar Facility, for any reason, prior to the project's 30-yearmaturity date. It is designed to provide a level of financial protection for the Town of Canandaigua.

This Decommissioning Plan ("Plan") provides an overview of activities that will occur during the decommissioning phase of the Solar Facility, including activities related to the restoration of land, the management of materials and waste, projected costs and adecommissioning cost and surety bond.

Decommissioning of the Solar Facility will include the disconnection of the Solar Facility from the electrical grid and the removal of all Solar Facility components including:

- Photovoltaic (PV) modules, panel racking and supports;
- Inverter units, transformers, and other electrical equipment;
- Access roads, wiring cables, perimeter fence; and,
- Concrete foundations.

This Decommissioning Plan is based on current best management practices and procedures and has been prepared in compliance with the most recent guidance from New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) "Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects - Construction Mitigation for Agricultural Lands" (Appendix 4). This Plan may be subject to revision based on new standards and emergent best management practices at the time of decommissioning. All revisions to this Decommissioning Report shall require review and approval from the Town of Canandaigua.

#### 2. <u>The Proponent</u>

Aura or the future owner-operator will manage and coordinate decommissioning process. Aura or the future owner-operator will obtain all necessary regulatory approvals that vary depending on the jurisdiction, project capacity, and site location. Aura or the future owner-operator will be committed to thesafety, health, and welfare of the hosting community.

The conditions and obligations of this Decommissioning Plan shall be bounded upon theAura, its heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns.

Contact information for the proponent is as follows:

Company:	Aura Solar Power USA, LLC
Contact:	Caroline Rizzo
Address:	63 W 104th Street, Apt 605
	New York, NY 10025
Telephone:	(516) 784-8355
Email:	caroline.rizzo@aurapower.com

#### 2.1. Project Information

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#### 3. Decommissioning of the Solar Facility

The project may be decommissioned under the following conditions:

- 1. Aura or any entity that may own or operate the facility in the future (the "futureowner-operator") decides to retire the Solar Facility;
- Commercial operation of the Solar Facility has not commenced within eighteen (18) months of the project's construction completion;
- 3. The Solar Facility ceases to be operational for more than twelve (12) months outside of routine repairs or causes beyond the reasonable control of Aura or thefuture owner operator; or
- 4. The Town of Canandaigua decides to revoke the Special Use Permit granted to Aura.

Aura will provide a financial guarantee to the Town of Canandaigua prior to undertaking construction in the form of a surety bond to guarantee that money is available to perform the Solar Facility decommissioning. Although Aura intends to perform the decommissioning, unforeseen circumstances such Aura selling the project to another entity or Aura going out of business are possible. The surety bondwill be renewed annually and will remain availableto any party performing the decommissioning, such as a municipality or a landowner.

At the time of decommissioning, the installed components will be removed, reused, disposed of, and recycled, where possible. The Facility Site will be restored to a state similarto its pre-construction condition, as further described in the Site Restoration subsection below. All removal of equipment will be done in accordance with any applicable regulations and manufacturer recommendations.

All applicable permits will be acquired, and compliance with the State EnvironmentalQuality Review (SEQR) requirements will be achieved.

In the unlikely scenario that Aura or the future owner-operator cannot execute the decommissioning within 18 months, the Town of Canandaigua may commence the decommissioning through the surety bond established to cover the expenses, in addition to any other remedies available to the Town, including placing liens on the property.

#### 1. Equipment Dismantling and Removal

Generally, the sequence of decommissioning of the Solar Facility proceeds in the reverse order of theinstallation.

- 1. Notification to stakeholders, the Town of Canandaigua, NYSDEC, US ACOE, and any other authority having jurisdiction.
- 2. The Solar Facility shall be disconnected from the utility power grid.
- 3. Obtain all required permits and approvals, including preparation of a SWPPP.
- 4. PV modules shall be disconnected, collected, and disposed at an approved solar module recycler or reused / resold on the market. Although the PV modules will not be cutting edge technology at the time of decommissioning, they are estimated to still produce 80% of the original electricity output at year 25 and add value for many years.
- 5. Locate and mark areas requiring protection or special care, such as wetlands.
- 6. Install temporary erosion and sediment controls.
- 7. All above ground electrical interconnection and distribution cables and poles shall be removed and disposed off-site at an approved facility.

- 4. In accordance with NYSDAM guidelines, all underground direct buried electricalconduits and conductors with less than 48-inches of cover shall be removed by means causing the least amount of disturbance possible.
- 5. Underground electric conduits and direct buried conductors with 48-inches or moreof soil cover shall be abandoned in place. In accordance with NYSDAM guidelines, abandoned conduit must be sealed or capped in accordance with the best practices the time of decommissioning to avoid the potential to direct subsurface drainageonto neighboring land uses.
- 6. Galvanized steel PV module support and racking system support posts shall be removed and disposed off-site or recycled/salvaged at an approved facility.
- Electrical and electronic devices, including transformers, inverters, switch gear, and support structures shall be removed and disposed off-site at an approved facility. Any components not required for return to the power authority will be disposed off-site or recycled/salvaged at an approved facility.
- 8. Concrete foundations shall be removed and disposed off-site at an approved facility.
- 9. Access roads are to be removed, as required by the Town of Canandaigua.
- 10. Remove any vegetative screening.
- 11. Provide additional soil restoration.
- 12. Provide proper seeding, mulching, and fertilizing, as needed.
- 13. Remove temporary erosion and sediment controls.
- 14. Fencing and gates shall be removed and will be disposed off-site at an approved facility.
- 15. Close out any remaining permits.

#### 2. <u>Environmental Effects</u>

Decommissioning activities, particularly the removal of project components, could result in environmental effects like those of the construction phase. There is the potential for ground disturbance, erosion/sedimentation, soil compaction, spills, and related impacts to adjacentwatercourses or significant natural features. Construction best management practices and mitigation measures, similar to those employed during the construction phase of the Solar Facility, will be implemented. In addition, temporary erosion and sediment controls shall be provided during the decommissioning process. These will be installed in accordance with the most current NYSDEC standards, specifications, and requirements. These will remain in place until the site is stabilized and the ground cover has been reestablished in order to mitigate erosion, silt/sediment runoff and any impacts on significant natural features or water bodies located adjacent to the Project Site.

Road traffic will temporarily increase due to the movement of decommissioning crews and equipment. There may be an increase in particulate matter (dust) in adjacent areas duringthe decommissioning phase. Decommissioning activities may lead to temporary elevated noise levels from heavy machinery and an increase in vehicle trips to the project location. Work will be undertaken during daylight hours and will conform to any applicable restrictions. Recycling of structural components will be maximized to the extent possible toreduce solid waste disposal.

#### 3. <u>Site Restoration</u>

During the decommissioning phase, all project components (Appendix 1) will be removed, and the FacilitySite will be restored to a state similar to its pre-construction condition. The site is currently considered vacant agricultural land, so the goal of site restoration for this Facility Site is as a vacant agricultural field. The pre-construction condition has been documented in the photos in Appendix 2. At the time of decommissioning, Aura or the future owner-operator will coordinate with the landowner, the Soil and Water ConservationDistrict, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, and will follow the environmental monitoring and restoration requirements of the NYSDAM guidelines (see Appendix 4). In addition, any disturbed areas, including areas where soil compaction is likely to accuse, shall receive soil restoration in accordance with the most current NYSDEC standards. All disturbed areas shall receive mulching and seeding, and fertilizer, if so required.

Additionally, if access roads will be removed, as required by the Town of Canandaigua.

Rehabilitated lands shall be re-seeded to help stabilize soil conditions, enhance soilstructure, and increase soil fertility.

#### 4. Managing Materials and Waste

Through the decommissioning phase, a variety of excess materials and wastes will be generated (Appendix 1). Most of the materials used in a Solar Facility are reusable or recyclable and some equipment may have manufacturer take-back and recycling requirements. Any remaining materials will be removed and disposed of off-site at an appropriate facility. Aura or the future owner-operator will establish policies and procedures to maximize recycling and reuse and will work with manufacturers, local subcontractors, and waste firms to segregate material to be disposed of, recycled, or reused.

Aura or the future owner-operator will be responsible for the logistics of collecting and recycling the PV modules and to minimize the potential for modules to be discarded in themunicipal waste stream.

Currently, some manufacturers and new companies are looking for ways to recycle and/ orreuse solar modules when they have reached the end of their lifespan. It is anticipated there will be more recycling options available for solar modules at the end of the project lifespan. Aura or the future owner-operator will determine the best way of disposing of thesolar modules using best management practices at the time of decommissioning. Aura or the future owner-operator will coordinate with the municipality if the disposal of any project component at the municipal waste facility is necessary.

#### 5. Decommissioning During Construction or Abandonment Before Maturity In

case of abandonment of the Solar Facility during construction or before the Expected Decommissioning Date, the same decommissioning procedures used for decommissioningafter ceasing operation will be undertaken and the same decommissioning and restorationprogram will be completed, in as far as construction proceeded before abandonment. The

Solar Facility will be dismantled, materials removed and recycled/disposed, the soil that wasremoved will be graded and the site restored to a state similar to its pre-construction condition.

#### 6. Decommissioning Notification

Decommissioning activities may require the notification of stakeholders given the natureof the work at the Facility Site. The Town of Canandaigua will be notified prior to commencement of any decommissioning activities. In accordance with NYSDAM guidelines, Aura or the future owner-operator will also notify NYSDAM prior to decommissioning.

Notification activities will be initiated six months prior to decommissioning. At this time, Aura or the future owner-operator will update their list of stakeholders and notify appropriate jurisdictions and overseeing agencies of decommissioning activities. Federal,county, and local authorities, including the utility company, will be notified as needed to discuss the potential approvals required to engage in decommissioning activities. The list of stakeholders of note is below:

-Town of Canandaigua Development Office -Management Team at Aura Power or future owner-operator -Property Owner -AvanGrid Utility (RG&E) -Ontario County Sheriff -Local Fire Department -EMTs

#### 7. <u>Approvals</u>

Well-planned and well-managed renewable energy facilities are not expected to pose environmental risks at the time of decommissioning. Decommissioning of a Solar Facility will follow the regulatory standards of the day. Aura or the future owner-operator will ensure that any required permits areobtained prior to decommissioning. This Decommissioning Report will be updated as necessary in the future, but not less than every five years, to ensure that changes in technology and site restoration methods are taken into consideration. All revisions to this Decommissioning Report shall require review and approval from the Town of Canandaigua.

#### 4. Costs of Decommissioning & Decommissioning Bond

The current cost to decommission the (Project MW) MW Solar Facility has been estimated onbehalf of Aura by their engineering consultants, following industry standards and using guidance from NYSERDA, at \$227,500 (see Appendix 3). The estimate considers the location of the site within a NYS AgriculturalDistrict, including compliance with the NYS Department of Agriculture& Markets Guidelines dated 10/18/19 (see Appendix 4). The cost estimate is based upon the best available information and engineering and demolition experience with other types of construction projects.

In addition, the salvage values of valuable recyclable materials (aluminum, steel, copper, etc.) have *not* been factored into the decommissioning cost estimate, and the scrap valuewill be determined on current market rates at the time of salvage.

At the start of construction, Aura will post a surety bond in the amount of approximately \$404,005 which is the total amount at the project's 30-year maturity (see Appendix 3).

#### 5. Estimated Timeline

Aura has prepared a timeline for the major actions to be undertaken during decommissioning. As it is difficult to know what specific approvals and protocols will be in place when decommissioning begins, thetiming of these actions is estimated based on bestavailable information.

- Notifications to Stakeholders: Months 0 to 6 (Town notified 6 months prior todecommissioning activities)
- Permitting and environmental review: Months 2 to 6
- Physical Decommissioning and Removal of Equipment: Months 6 to 9
- Restoration: Months 6 to 15 (depending on timing of growing season)

#### 6. Additional Notes

- All items installed as part of this project shall be removed at the time of decommissioning. Vegetative screening, if desired to remain, may remain upon request of the landowner and approval of the Town Planning Board. Portions of the access road supporting shared access may also remain.
- The decommissioning bond shall be in place for the full life of the project (30 years) plus additional 18 months to cover the decommissioning period and to allow the site to be fully stabilized.
- All parties involved agree that they are aware of and will adhere to the requirements of the decommissioning plan.

Agreed hereto:

JOHN AIKEY

AURA POWER

# **APPENDIX A**

Management of Excess Materials and

### Waste

Materials/ Waste	Means of Managing Excess Materials and Waste
PV Modules	If there is no possibility for reuse, the panels will either be returned to the manufacturer for appropriate disposal or will be transported to a recycling facilitywhere the glass, metal, and semiconductor materials will be separated and recycled.
Metal racking	These materials will be disposed off-site at an approved facility
Transformers and substatio n compone nts	The small amount of oil from the transformers will be removed onsite toreduce the potential for spills and will be transported to an approved facility for disposal. The substation transformer, step-up transformers and the inverter units will be transported off-site to be sentback to the manufacturer, recycled, reused, or safely disposed off- site inaccordance with current standards and best practices.
Inverters, fans, switchgearand fixtures	The metal components of the inverters, fans, and fixtures will be disposed of or recycled, where possible. Remaining components will bedisposed of in accordance with the standards of the day.
Gravel (or other granular)	It is possible that the municipality may accept uncontaminated materialwithout processing for use on local roads; however, for the purpose of this report it is assumed that the material will be removed from the project location by truck to a location where the aggregate can be processed for salvage. It will then be reused as fill for construction. It is not expected that any such material will becontaminated.
Geotextile fabric	It is assumed that during excavation of the aggregate, a large portion ofthe geotextile will be "picked up" and sorted out at the aggregate reprocessing site. Geotextile fabric that is remaining or large pieces thatcan be readily removed from the excavated aggregate will be disposed of off-site at an approved disposal facility.
Concrete inverter/ BESS/ transform er foundatio ns	Concrete foundations will be broken down and transported by certifiedand licensed contractor to a recycling or approved disposal facility.
Cables and wiring	The aboveground electrical line that connects the substation to the point ofcommon coupling will be disconnected and disposed of at anapproved facility. Support poles, if made of untreated wood, will be chipped for reuse. Associated electronic equipment (isolation switches, fuses, metering) will be transported off-site to be sent back to the manufacturer, recycled, reused, or safely disposed off-site in accordance with current standards and best practices. Underground conduits, conductors, and other facilities originally installed at less than 48" in depth will be removed and recycled orsafely disposed of in accordance with current standards and best practices.
Fencing	Fencing will be removed and recycled at a metal recycling facility.
Utility Poles	Customer-owned utility poles will be dismantled and transported to alicensed treated wood recycling facility to be assessed for reuse for operational use or for secondary use in construction projects.
Debris	Any remaining debris on the site will be separated into recyclables/ residualwastes and will be transported from the site and managed as appropriate.

## **APPENDIX B**

Photo Documentation of Pre-ConstructionConditions



Photo 1: General site conditions (facing south)



Photo 2: General site conditions (facing east)







Photo 3: General site conditions including accessory structures on-site (facing west)



Photo 4: General site conditions (facing east)





Aura Power Solar USA – County Road 10 Canandaigua Solar ProjectJanuary 13, 2021 Town of Canandaigua, Ontario County, New York



Photo 5: General site conditions (facing south)



Photo 6: General site conditions (facing north)





Aura Power Solar USA – County Road 10 Canandaigua Solar ProjectJanuary 13, 2021 Town of Canandaigua, Ontario County, New York



Photo 7: Wetland 2 (PEM; facing north)



Photo 8: Wetland 2 (PUB; facing east)







Photo 9: Wetland 2 (PFO; facing west)



Photo 10: Wetland 3 (PEM; facing south)



# **APPENDIX C**

# Estimated Decommissioning Costs

# County Road 10 Solar Farm

Description	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total
Remove Rack Wiring	33,400	Per LF	\$0.07	\$2,338
Remove Panels	7,000	Each	\$0.50	\$3,500
Dismantle Racks	150	Each	\$125	\$18,750
Remove Electrical Equipment	5	Each	\$1,500	\$7,500
Remove Utility Poles & Wires	1	Lump Sum	\$5,000	\$5,000
Breakup and Remove Concreate Pads	24	per SF	\$104	\$2,496
Remove Racks	5	Each	\$3,000	\$15,000
Remove Cables	12,200	Per LF	\$0.48	\$5,856
Remove Posts or Ground Screws	5	Each	\$6,000	\$30,000
Remove Wire Mesh Fence	3,834	per LF	\$3	\$11,502
Remove Gravel Road	430	per CY	\$20.10	\$8,643
Earthwork & Grading to Restore to Original Contours	5,000	per CY	\$2.00	\$10,000
Re-Seeding per seed mixes/rate approved with site plan with Mulch, Fertilizer & Tackifier in Disturbed Areas	51,122	per SF	\$0.40	\$20,449
Disposal and Transportation to Recycling Center	1	Lump Sum	\$8,000	\$8,000
E&S Controls (Installation, Maintenance and Removal) & Environmental Monitoring	1	Lump Sum	\$7,500	\$7,500
Contractor Mobilization & Demobilization	1	Lump Sum	\$5,000	\$5,000
Re-Grading, Soil Restoration and Decompaction	24,750	Per CY	\$2.00	\$49,500
Removal of Vegetative Screening	27	Each	\$50	\$1,350
SWPPP Preparation and Permitting	1	Lump Sum	3,500	\$3,500
SWPPP Inspections and File Notice of Termination	1	Lump Sum	2,000	\$2,000
Decommissioning Cost – Current Total				\$217,884
Decommissioning Cost After 30 Years (2% Inflation Rate)				\$394,667
10% Contingency				\$39,467



Eric Redding, PE

Decommissioning Bond Value with				
Escalation Rate of 2%				
Year	Amount			
1	\$217,884			
2	\$222,242			
3	\$231,220			
4	\$235,845			
5	5 \$240,562			
6	\$245,373			
7	\$250,280			
8	8 \$255,286			
9	\$260,392			
10	\$265,599			
11	\$270,911			
12	12 \$276,330			
13	\$281,856			
14	\$287,493			
15	\$293,243			
16	\$299,108			
17	\$305,090			
18	\$311,192			
19	\$317,416			
20	\$323,764			
21	\$330,239			
22	\$336,844			
23	\$343,581			
24	\$350,453			
25	\$357,462			
26	\$364,611			
27	\$371,903			
28	\$379,341			
29	\$386,928			
30	\$394,667			