

RECEIVED JAN 25 2024

resourceful. naturally.
engineering and environmental consultants



January 17, 2024

Valerie Sheedy
Mower County Environmental Services Dept
1105 8th Ave NE
Austin, MN 55912

Re: Pleasant Valley Solar Project in Mower County, Minnesota

Dear Valerie Sheedy,

Aurora Solar, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables, LLC, is proposing a utility-scale solar project in Mower County, Minnesota. The project is referred to as the Pleasant Valley Solar Project (Project) and will have a nameplate capacity of up to 200-megawatt (MW) AC.

Project facilities may consist of the following:

- Photovoltaic panels installed on driven piles;
- Inverters;
- Electrical collector cable system;
- Collection substation;
- 345-kilovolt generation tie line (gen-tie line), greater than 1,500 feet but less than 5 miles in length to interconnect to the existing, GRE-owned Pleasant Valley substation;
- Temporary laydown areas, security fencing and gravel access roads; and
- Operations and maintenance facility.

The Project is situated on approximately 2,175 acres of privately-owned, predominantly agricultural land (Project Area). The Project Area is located within the following sections listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Legal Description of Project Area

Township	Range	Sections
104 N	15 W	10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

As the Project meets the definition of a large electric generating plant, it is subject to the Minnesota Public Utilities commission (PUC) siting authority (Minnesota Statute 216E.04 and Minnesota Rule 7850.1200). Additionally, the gen-tie line meets the definition of a high voltage transmission line (HVTL) and therefore requires a Route Permit from the PUC (Minnesota Statute 216E.04), which would be completed as a joint proceeding (Minnesota Rule 7850.1600). Aurora Solar, LLC retained Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) to assist with the Site Permit and Route Permit process.

The purpose of this letter is to inform your organization of the Project and anticipated PUC application to be submitted in the first quarter of 2024. If you have comments regarding the Project, please contact me at the address listed below or by email at sjohnson@barr.com. If you require further information or have questions regarding the Project, please contact me at (218) 529-7119.

Copies of all correspondence received regarding the Project will be included with the application for the PUC's records. Therefore, we would greatly appreciate receiving your comments in writing by February 29, 2024.

Sincerely,

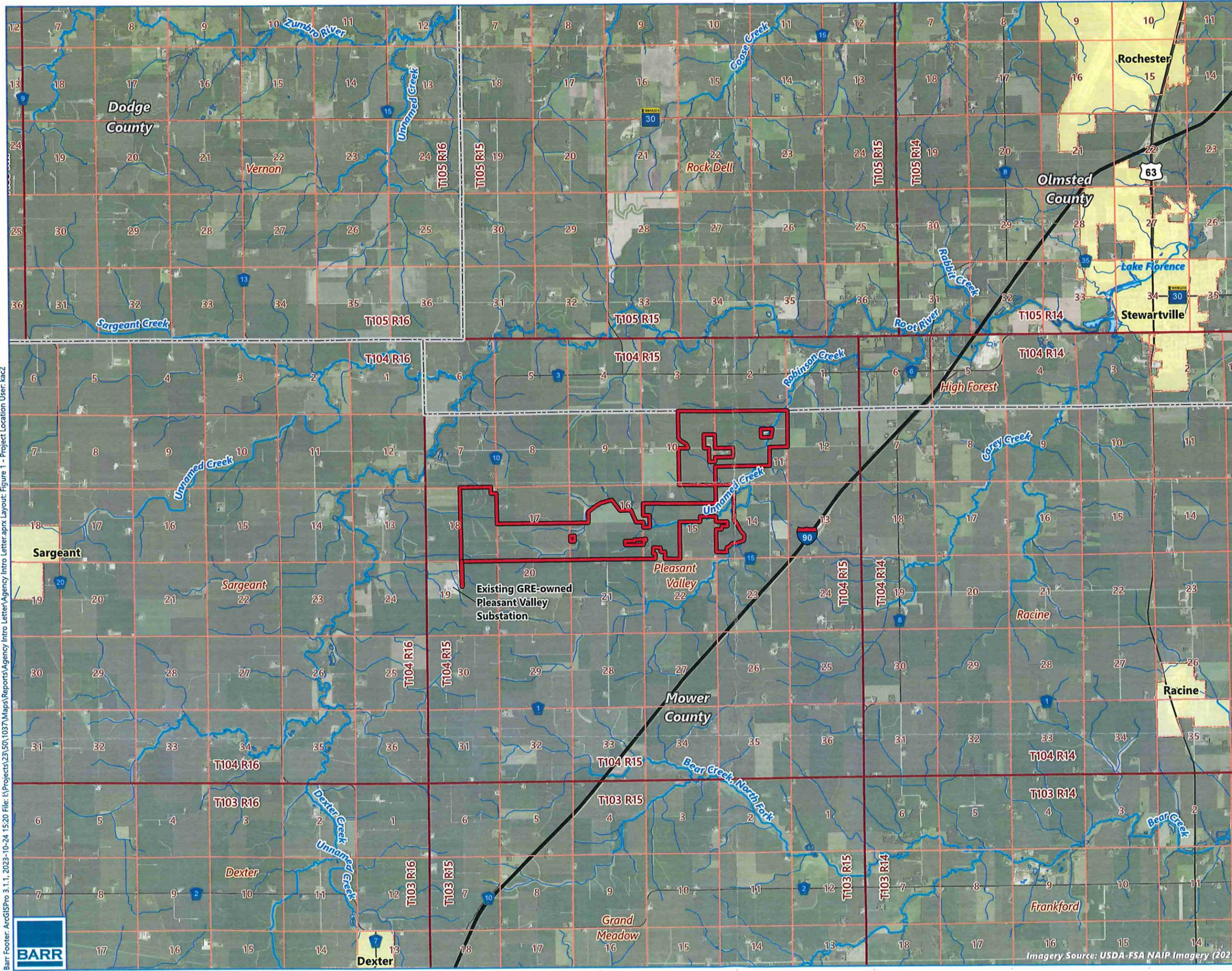
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah L. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sarah L. Johnson
Senior Environmental Specialist

cc: Jessica Setter, Avangrid Renewables
Manuela Elizondo, Avangrid Renewables

Attachment: Project Location Figure

Barr Footer: ArcGISPro 3.1.1, 2023-10-24 15:20 File: I:\Projects\231501\037\Maps\Reports\Agency Intro Letter.aprx Layout: Figure 1 - Project Location User: kac2



-  Project Area
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Civil Township Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Public Land Survey Sections
-  Public Land Survey Townships
-  PWI Watercourse
-  NHD Flowline
-  PWI Waterbody
-  NHD Waterbody



PROJECT LOCATION
Pleasant Valley Solar Project
Aurora Solar, LLC
Mower County, MN

FIGURE 1



Imagery Source: USDA-FSA NAIP Imagery (2021)