

Appendix 15-4

## **Drainage Remediation Plan**



Highest standards



# BROOKSIDE SOLAR, LLC

Matter No. 21-00917

Towns of Chateaugay and  
Burke, Franklin County, NY

Appendix 15-4

Drainage Remediation Plan

February 2022

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## 1.0 Introduction

Brookside Solar, LLC (the Applicant) has prepared this Drainage Remediation Plan to address inadvertent damages to surface and subsurface drainage associated with the construction of the Brookside Solar Facility (the Facility) located in the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay in Franklin County, New York. This Plan will address the identification of surface and subsurface drainage features, the likelihood of impacts, as well as anticipated repair methods.

## 2.0 Identification of Surface and Subsurface Drainage and Avoidance Measures

Identifying surface and subsurface drainage systems early in the design process can help reduce, minimize, and mitigate potential damage to such systems. The Applicant will continue to work with landowners to obtain and document the locations of drain tile systems located within the privately owned land leased for the Facility. Surface and subsurface drainage will be considered in the development of the final Facility design and avoided where practicable.

Prior to construction, the Applicant will hire an independent, third-party Environmental Monitor (EM) to oversee all construction and restoration activities to oversee compliance with the applicable environmental commitments and siting permit requirements. Prior to the commencement of Facility-related construction, an overall site survey will be performed to effectively locate and demarcate the exact location of Facility components and routes. Additionally, the EM, with the support of construction management personnel, will conduct specific site reviews at locations to be impacted, or potentially impacted, by associated construction activities. Pre-construction site review will direct attention to previously identified sensitive features, such as the location of drainage features (e.g., culverts, ditches) and known locations of agricultural tile lines. Work area limits and sensitive features will be defined prior to construction using flagging, staking, and/or fencing. Additionally, any agreed-upon landowner-imposed development restrictions and the placement of erosion and sediment control features will be defined during the pre-construction walk over.

## 3.0 Impacts to Surface and Subsurface Drainage

As previously stated, early identification of existing surface and subsurface drainage systems will aid to reduce, minimize, and mitigate impacts. The Applicant is committed to working with landowners/farm operators to minimize impacts to agricultural operations and address unanticipated post-construction impacts. The Applicant will work with landowners/farm operators to identify drainage infrastructure and areas of landowner-imposed development restrictions to avoid damage to this infrastructure to the maximum extent practicable.

In the event that impacts to surface or subsurface drainage occur during construction of the Facility, components that are damaged will be identified with flags or stakes until evaluation of damage and permanent repairs are completed. Damage to drainage systems during certain aspects of Facility construction may not be immediately visible or apparent but may become more apparent over time. Upwelling of water during high flow periods or holes in the ground above drain tiles during low flow periods are potential indicators of potential drain tile damage.

#### **4.0 Methods of Repair**

The Applicant is committed toward promoting continued agricultural land use within the area hosting the Facility. However, agricultural land within the Facility fence line will be largely removed from production for the duration of the Facility's useful life. The Applicant will keep record of any damages to drain tile systems that are identified during construction of the Facility. The Applicant will perform repairs to these damaged drain tile systems as described below.

- The Applicant will immediately and temporarily repair the tile line, until such time that the Applicant can make permanent repairs to the extent practicable. Exposed tile lines will be screened or otherwise protected to prevent the entry of foreign materials or animals into the tile lines.
- All subsurface drains subject to repair shall be repaired or replaced with materials of equal or higher quality and of an equal or larger inside diameter as those which were damaged or removed.
- Reasonable efforts shall be made to maintain the tile line to its original alignment/gradient.
- Following completion of the work, the Applicant will be responsible for correcting or paying for the correction of the performed tile repairs that fail post-construction. The Applicant will not be responsible for tile line repairs performed by the landowner.

Prior to construction, the Applicant will work with landowners to document the condition of drain tiles, to the extent the condition is known. As part of Facility decommissioning, the Applicant will use reasonable efforts to restore the drainage in the area to pre-construction conditions.