



July 10, 2009

Mr. Peter C. Lowitt
Land Use Administrator/Director
Devens Enterprise Commission
33 Andrews Parkway
Devens, MA 01434

RE: Evergreen Solar Update – Noise Compliance

Dear Mr. Lowitt:

As discussed and agreed at the May 7 open meeting of the Devens Enterprise Commission (the “DEC”), Evergreen Solar would provide updates on the activities to reduce the noise level heard by the neighboring area.

We have made noticeable progress toward the required compliance levels while continuing to make very aggressive steps to address this problem, including the addition of key mitigation measures to our noise compliance implementation plan. We believe that steps taken to date and the updated plan will accomplish significant progress toward the goal of compliance by mid-September. We may have an opportunity to achieve noise levels that are below the required compliance levels.

1. Noise Level Update – Our sound consultants, Cavanaugh Tocci Associates, Inc., determined on July 10, 2009 at 4 a.m. that noise levels at the nearest Harvard residential property line to the Evergreen Solar facility measured 44 dBA, which demonstrates continued improvement.
2. Key enhancements to our planned mitigation measures – As a result of continuing measurement and analysis of the noise sources, we have shifted our focus to accelerate our Tier 2 mitigation efforts as follows:
 - a. Noise Barriers – Our sound consultants confirmed that barriers made of specialized sound deadening steel material can be installed to provide significant attenuation of noise emanating from two key noise producing areas. One barrier will enclose the Silicon Dust Collectors area and another will enclose the VOC scrubber area.
 - b. Silicon Dust Collectors - We will be installing sound proof enclosures around the Silicon Dust Collectors (SDX) blowers. –.
 - c. Acid Scrubbers – We will be installing sound proof enclosures around the Acid Scrubber (ASX) blowers.



The foregoing changes to the mitigation plan and other changes we are confirming over the weekend and will describe on Monday give us significant additional confidence that we can meet the noise compliance levels and possibly achieve further reductions. We will also provide additional details on Monday regarding the timeframe for implementation of this mitigation measures and an update regarding the balance of the mitigation plan.

3. Process gas delivery area – We have also planned enhancements to our temporary sound wall at the process gas delivery area to be installed in the next 1 to 2 weeks. This sound wall which was installed on July 2 has already reduced the noise during gas deliveries by 10 dBA at the Dunroven Farm property line. The planned enhancements to the temporary wall include further enclosure of the delivery area with doors on each end of the wall and adding a cantilevered section to the upper edge of the wall to extend the sound deadening material partially over the parking area for the delivery trucks. These measures will provide additional relief from this transient noise source, particularly for the Dunroven Farm property.
4. New Noise Reporting Call In Number 978-266-2200 – In an effort to respond quickly to neighbors concerns and help identify noise sources, we are instituting a new call in system starting Sunday July 12.

If there is an increase or change in noise that is suspected to be generated by Evergreen Solar, a sound consultant will be dispatched to investigate the source. Please call 978-266-2200, which will be covered 24/7 by our security desk. They will have access to a noise consultant resource that will be sent to your area as soon as possible to follow up on the situation. We cannot guarantee a response time for these calls but this new system will allow for better response time in many instances. If somebody is available and can be onsite within a timeframe that will help assess the situation they will be dispatched to your property. We believe that being able to assess particular noise concerns on a real-time basis will be beneficial for both our neighbors and for Evergreen Solar.

You are still welcome to email or call Brian LaValley at any time with information regarding noise developments or with whatever questions or concerns you may have about our ongoing efforts to resolve the noise problem. His email is blavalley@evergreensolar.com and his phone number is 978-266-7320.

We are very pleased with our progress this week and look forward to providing the DEC with a more complete review of the entirety of our noise mitigation compliance plan first thing next week.



Sincerely,

Rodolfo Archbold

CC:

Carl Stegerwald

Christian Ehrbar

Phil McRae

Brian LaValley

Pete Hosford

Tom Cusson – MA DEP