



October 9, 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 is providing this update on its efforts to reduce the noise levels in the neighboring area and bring its facility into compliance with the noise ordinance. This update is also provided in satisfaction of the reporting requirements specified in Conditions No. 5 and No. 6 of the Resolution adopted by the DEC on July 14, 2009 (the “DEC Resolution”).

Worst Case Scenario Sound Level Testing – Per our formal request to the DEC, we currently plan to conduct the ‘worst case scenario’ sound level test within 30 days of the first frost to avoid the interference of insect noise that has complicated noise testing efforts in recent weeks.

There will be additional evaluation measurements performed on October 11th. These measurements will help to determine conformance under ‘worst case scenario’ conditions, as well as help to determine the VOC and cooling tower reference levels for the permanent monitoring protocol. Measurements will be taken at all abutters properties, subject to the neighbors’ approval, to reaffirm that compliance at R1 can be used as a proxy for compliance at all of the abutters’ properties.

Permanent Long-term Monitoring Activity – CTA continues to monitor twelve locations near the Evergreen Solar facility. Measurement data taken to date has helped to determine the ‘reference’ location dBA levels to insure compliance at R1 and neighboring properties.

On Monday October 5th, Evergreen hosted a meeting with DEC staff and the 3 sound consultants, (CTA, Doug Sheadel and Mike Bahtiarian). A proposed permanent monitoring protocol was reviewed and general agreement was reached on the equipment to be used, the process for measurement and how the data is to be collected and stored. The remaining issues to be agreed upon are reporting and noise limits at the new monitoring locations. Confirmation of the data to be used to calculate the A weighted

noise level limits at the new locations will be reviewed after this weekend's measurements are completed.

The long-term monitoring equipment purchase specification was released on October 8th. We expect to have proposals back within one week from participating vendors and to award the contract by October 23rd. We plan to have the system installed by November 27th. However, the current "temporary" monitoring devices will be in place until the permanent system is operational.

We are continuing to monitor the Evergreen facility 7x24 with live personnel to be able to respond and react to any sound level changes from the facility. We have also enhanced our noise complaint hotline protocol to include 'real time' noise complaint investigation.

Additional Mitigation Measures Planned – In addition to the ground mounted pump for delivery of oxygen, which is scheduled to be completed on November 25th, we will be relocating the VOC combustion blowers from the elevated catwalks to the ground level and we will install compressor room louver attenuators. Both of these two new items will be complete by October 31.

We will continue to work diligently to install the additional mitigation measures, develop a long-term sound monitoring policy, complete the 'worst case scenario' test and otherwise fulfill all of our obligations under the DEC Resolution and the DEC regulations.

Sincerely,

Carl Stegerwald

CC:

Christian Ehrbar

Phil McRae

Brian LaValley

Tom Cusson – MA DEP