



October 23, 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 plan to conduct the ‘worst case scenario’ sound level test within 30 days of the first frost to avoid the interference of noise that has complicated testing efforts in recent weeks. Therefore, we expect to have the test completed by mid November.

On Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> we determined the cooling tower maximum fan speed. The cooling tower fans were incrementally increased until the reference monitor limit was exceeded. By mid-next week, the Company will have the parameters defined for all equipment for the worse case test and review it with the DEC and the neighbor’s representatives.

Current 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.

We are also continuing to monitor the Evergreen Solar facility 7x24 with live personnel to be able to respond and react to any sound level changes from the facility. There was one complaint received this week. After the complaint was received, the operating parameters of the noise generating equipment was reviewed, the noise patrol was questioned as to any unusual increases in noise at the time of the complaint and all noise monitoring data was examined. There was no indication that the increase in noise originated at Evergreen Solar’s facility. Doug Sheadel from Modeling Specialties was contacted to investigate and has submitted a report to the DEC.

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Permanent Long-Term Monitoring – On Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup> the long-term monitoring protocol was reviewed with the DEC and the neighborhood sound consultants. The DEC sound consultant is in agreement with the dBA and low frequency reference limit sound levels proposed by Evergreen Solar. The sound consultant retained by the Berwind Brothers and the Perry's has requested additional time for review and will respond within 2 weeks.

The long-term monitoring equipment Purchase Specification was released on October 8<sup>th</sup>. A vendor has been selected and we expect to submit a purchase order today. We plan to have the equipment installed by November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Additional Mitigation Measures Planned – In addition to the ground mounted pump for delivery of oxygen, which is scheduled to be completed on November 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be relocating the VOC combustion blowers from the elevated catwalks to the ground level and we will install compressor room louver attenuators. We expect this work to be completed by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

We will continue to work diligently to install the additional ground mounted pump, 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