



June 8, 2009

Peter Lowitt
Devens Enterprise Commission
33 Andrews Parkway,
Devens, MA 01434

RE: Evergreen Solar Update – Noise Issue
Evergreen Solar, Inc.
112 Barnum Rd., Devens, MA 01434

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. Over the past week the following actions have been taken:

- Modeling Specialties issued their preliminary report on 6/1/09. This report is based on initial observations from the noise measurements taken over a 7 day period from 5/18/09 to 5/26/09. The report showed that while the initial pure tone noise has been remedied, there are other sources of noise that need addressed. This report has defined two categories of noise generators. The first category, Tier 1, is noise sources that from the preliminary analysis have been found to need remedy to run within the code. There are three generators in this category: Praxair Gas Deliveries, the VOC Scrubber units, and cooling towers. Modeling Specialties has outlined suggestions on how to address each of these generators. The second category, Tier 2, is all other elements that may need remedy. The detailed modeling to be completed by Modeling Specialties will determine if more improvements are needed. That modeling is planned to be completed the week of 6/8/09.
- Action is underway on the Tier 1 elements as follows:
 - Praxair Gas Delivery
 - Praxair has defined Ground Mounted Pumps, as the permanent solution. PO is being placed by 6/09. Lead time on the pumps is now 8 to 10 weeks. Work is underway to expedite and pull in this date.
 - Also an enclosure of acoustical material similar to that suggested by Modeling Specialties is being designed and quoted. This structure is a walled structure that the gas delivery trucks would pump deliveries from. This structure is proposed to have an open roof (to prevent diesel fume build

- up). A rough drawing is located in the Modeling Specialties Preliminary report also on the DEC web page. This will allow us to determine if such an enclosure can be utilized without impacting the fire lane access or raising other general safety issues. This evaluation is expected to be concluded by Thursday 6/11/09 and if successful, full implementation will be contained in the plan that Evergreen will deliver to the DEC on or before 6/11/09. This is intended to be a short term improvement.
- VOC Scrubber
 - Evergreen Solar has contracted Turner Construction to design and build enclosures for the three fan units. The first (of three) structures will be complete on 6/12/09. Modeling Specialties is being asked to measure performance at that time with the intent to determine if the enclosure design is successful or requires modifications to be successful at reducing noise from the fan units. A plan to complete the construction of the units is to be in place on 6/11/09.
 - On 6/8/09, VOC Professionals visited at Evergreen Solar to determine the best method to resolve noise exiting the VOC ports. Both silencers and containment vessels are being considered. A plan to resolve the VOC noise is expected to be complete on or before 6/11/09.
 - Cooling Towers
 - Turner construction is obtaining a delivery and installation timeline from the cooling tower manufacturer for installation of the intake baffles and fan stack extensions that were suggested by Modeling Specialties. A Schedule for this work is expected by 6/11/09.
 - Evergreen Solar is now operating the cooling towers to minimize/stop operation of the unit which faces the property line and does not have the intake baffle. In conversations with Modeling Specialties and Ch2Mhill (Evergreen Solar's architectural engineering firm) and Turner Construction, this was believed to provide some noise reduction for the affected neighbors.
- Evergreen Solar will provide the DEC with a schedule of all actions and plans to implement and complete the solutions needed to address Evergreen Solar's noncompliance with the applicable DEC Industrial Performance Standard for noise. This plan will be presented to the DEC on or before 6/11/09.



Sincerely,
Craig Core

CC:
Carl Stegerwald - Evergreen Solar
Christian Ehrbar - Evergreen Solar
Dave Ogle - Evergreen Solar
Pete Hosford - Evergreen Solar
Wayne Wirtanen – Evergreen Solar
Tom Cusson – MA DEP