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HOLLAND & HART LLP
 377 S. NEVADA STREET
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AMOUNT

\$ 200.00

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Memo

New Filing

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June 24, 2016

RECEIVED
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF NEVADA CARSON CITY
2016 JUN 24 PM 4:05

VIA HAND-DELIVERY

Breanne Potter
Commission Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Docket No. 16-_____. Initial application of Yellow Pine Solar, LLC for a permit to construct a utility facility under the Utility Environmental Protection Act.

Dear Ms. Potter:

Accompanying this letter, for filing with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (the "Commission") and pursuant to the Nevada Utility Environmental Protection Act, is the Notice of Yellow Pine Solar, LLC of an application for approval to construct a utility facility under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act ("UEPA"). Also enclosed is a Draft Notice and a check payable to the Commission for the \$200.00 filing fee.

Please contact me at 775-327-3067 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Frederick J. Schmidt
for HOLLAND & HART LLP

FJS/cma
Enclosures

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Initial Application of Yellow Pine Solar, LLC)
for a Permit to Construct Utility Facility Under the)
Utility Environmental Protection Act)

Docket No. 16-_____

**INITIAL APPLICATION OF YELLOW PINE SOLAR, LLC FOR A PERMIT TO
CONSTRUCT A UTILITY FACILITY UNDER
THE UTILITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT**

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the requirements of the Utility Environmental Protection Act (“UEPA”), Yellow Pine Solar, LLC (“Yellow Pine”) hereby files with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (“Commission”) an Initial Application that provides notice of the need for a federal agency environmental assessment or environmental impact statement to construct the proposed Yellow Pine solar facility (“Proposed Facility”). The Proposed Facility will have a nameplate capacity of up to 250 megawatts (“MW”) and the gen-tie transmission alternatives as explained below. As required by Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) 704.870(2), this filing constitutes notice that a federal agency is required to conduct an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for the Proposed Facility.

II. BACKGROUND

The Proposed Facility is to be located in the Clark County, near the Town of Pahrump, Nevada. The site for the Proposed Facility will require a right-of-way grant from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”), pursuant to the Federal Land Policy Management Act (“FLPMA”), and, therefore, an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement will be conducted pursuant to the National Environmental Act (“NEPA”), 42, U.S.C. § 4321 *et. seq.* Given the need for BLM to conduct an environmental assessment

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CARSON CITY, NV 89703

1 or environmental impact statement, this Initial Application sets forth the information required
2 by the first step of the two step UEPA process under NRS 704.870(2)(a).

3 Under NRS 704.870(2)(b), the second step of the UEPA process requires that Yellow
4 Pine not later than 30 days after the issuance of the final federal environmental assessment or
5 environmental impact statement file an application that complies with NRS 704.870(1). Thus,
6 Yellow Pine will submit its NRS 704.870(1) application no later than 30 days after the issuance
7 of the final BLM environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.
8

9 **III. THE APPLICANT**

10 Yellow Pine is a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources,
11 LLC. Yellow Pine's principal place of business and mailing address are: 700 Universe
12 Blvd., Juno Beach, FL 33408.
13

14 All correspondence related to the Initial Application should be sent to the undersigned:

15 Jesse Marshall
16 Project Director
17 NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
18 700 Universe Blvd FBD/JB
19 Juno Beach, FL 33408
20 Telephone: 760-846-4421
21 Email: jesse.marshall@nee.com

22 Brian J. Murphy
23 Senior Attorney
24 NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
25 700 Universe Blvd LAW/JB
26 Juno Beach, FL 33408
27 Telephone: 561-695-3814
28 Email: brian.j.murphy@nee.com

Fred Schmidt
Holland & Hart, LLP
377 S. Nevada Street
Carson City, NV 89703
Telephone: (775) 684-6000
Email: fschmidt@hollandhart.com

1 IV. INFORMATION REQUIRED BY NAC 703.421

2 a. Contact information of person responsible for the federal environmental application
3 (NAC 703.421.1)

4 Jesse Marshall
5 Project Director
6 NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
7 700 Universe Blvd FBD/JB
8 Juno Beach, FL 33408
9 Telephone: 760-846-4421
10 Email: jesse.marshall@nee.com

11 b. Date of filing of the federal environmental application (NAC 703.421.2)

12 The BLM SF299 will be filed on June 24, 2016, which is the same date as this filing.

13 c. A general description of the location of the proposed utility facility (NAC 703.421.3)

14 The Proposed Facility is located in Pahrump Valley just south of the intersection of
15 Nevada State Route 160 and Tecopa Road, which is approximately 10 miles southeast of the
16 Town of Pahrump and approximately 32 miles west of Las Vegas, Nevada. See Exhibit A,
17 Site Location Map and Exhibit B, Regional Map. Subject to final design and engineering,
18 the Proposed Facility will be located on approximately 3,000 acres of land within a larger
19 9,290 acre parcel located in a sparsely populated area ("Project Area"). A legal description
20 of the Project Area is also attached as Exhibit C. The total road improvements for the main
21 access road are currently unknown, although it is anticipated the main access road would
22 connect to S.R. 160 to the north.

23 d. A general description of the proposed utility facility (NAC 703.421.4)

24 The Proposed Facility is a photovoltaic ("PV") solar-power electric generating
25 facility and associated gen-tie. Yellow Pine anticipates that it will use single-axis tracking
26 PV panels at the Proposed Facility or possibly fixed-tilt panels mounted on a fixed mounting
27 structure, commonly referred to as "racking." PV modules are electrically connected in
28 series (called a string) by wire harnesses that conduct direct current ("DC") electricity to

1 combiner boxes. Each combiner box will collect power from several strings of modules and
2 feed a power conversion station (“PCS”) via cables placed in covered underground DC
3 trenches. Inverters change the DC output from the combiner boxes to alternating current
4 (“AC”) electricity. The resulting AC current from each individual PCS will then be
5 transformed to the AC collection voltage at the adjacent padmounted transformers.
6

7 Two interconnection alternatives are currently under considered for the gen-tie. The
8 first alternative would consist of construction of a 138 kV gen-tie that would cross S.R. 160
9 and the existing nearby Valley Electric Association Inc.’s (“VEA”) 230 kV transmission line
10 and then parallel the line southeast to the VEA-owned Sandy Valley Substation. The total
11 length of the 138 kV gen-tie line that would be constructed for this alternative would depend
12 on final design and would be between approximately 7 and 11 miles in length depending on
13 the final Project Area location. The second alternative consists of constructing a substation
14 within the Project Area that would provide an interconnection point to loop in to the existing
15 VEA 230 kV transmission line that parallels S.R. 160. The second alternative would only
16 require the construction of a short 230 kV gen-tie line. In either case, a gen-tie line or loop-in
17 line will cross S.R. 160 and therefore a road crossing through a Nevada Department of
18 Transportation right-of-way will be required.
19

20
21 **e. Proof that a copy of the notice has been submitted to the Nevada State Clearinghouse**
22 **within the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (NAC 703.421.5;**
NRS 704.870.3)

23 A copy of this Initial Application has been submitted to Nevada State Clearinghouse
24 within the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. See Exhibit D.
25

26 **f. Proof of service of a copy of the application on the clerk of each local government in the**
27 **area in which any portion (NRS 704.870.4(a))**

28 A copy of the Initial Application has been served on the clerk of each local
government in the area in which any portion of the facility is to be located. See Exhibit D.

1 **g. Proof of compliance with the Nevada Department of Wildlife Energy Cost Recovery**
2 **Fund Program (NRS 701.600-.640)**

3 The required notice to the Nevada Department of Wildlife (“NDOW”) pursuant to NRS
4 701.610 was sent to NDOW on June 24, 2016. *See* Yellow Pine Application for Energy Projects
5 “Fund for the Recovery of Costs,” attached as Exhibit E.
6

7 **h. Notice of Proceeding (NAC 703.162)**


8 A copy of the Draft Notice pursuant to NAC 703.162 is attached as Exhibit F.

9 **V. CONCLUSION**

10 Yellow Pine respectfully submits this Initial Application, and shall no later than 30
11 days after the issuance of the final federal environmental assessment or environmental
12 impact statement file an application that complies with NRS 704.870(1) for a UEPA Permit
13 to Construct the Proposed Facility.
14

15 Respectfully submitted this 24th day of June, 2016

16 HOLLAND & HART, LLP

17 

18 Fred Schmitt
19 377 S. Nevada Street
20 Carson City, NV 89703
21 Attorney for Applicant
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CARSON CITY, NV 89703

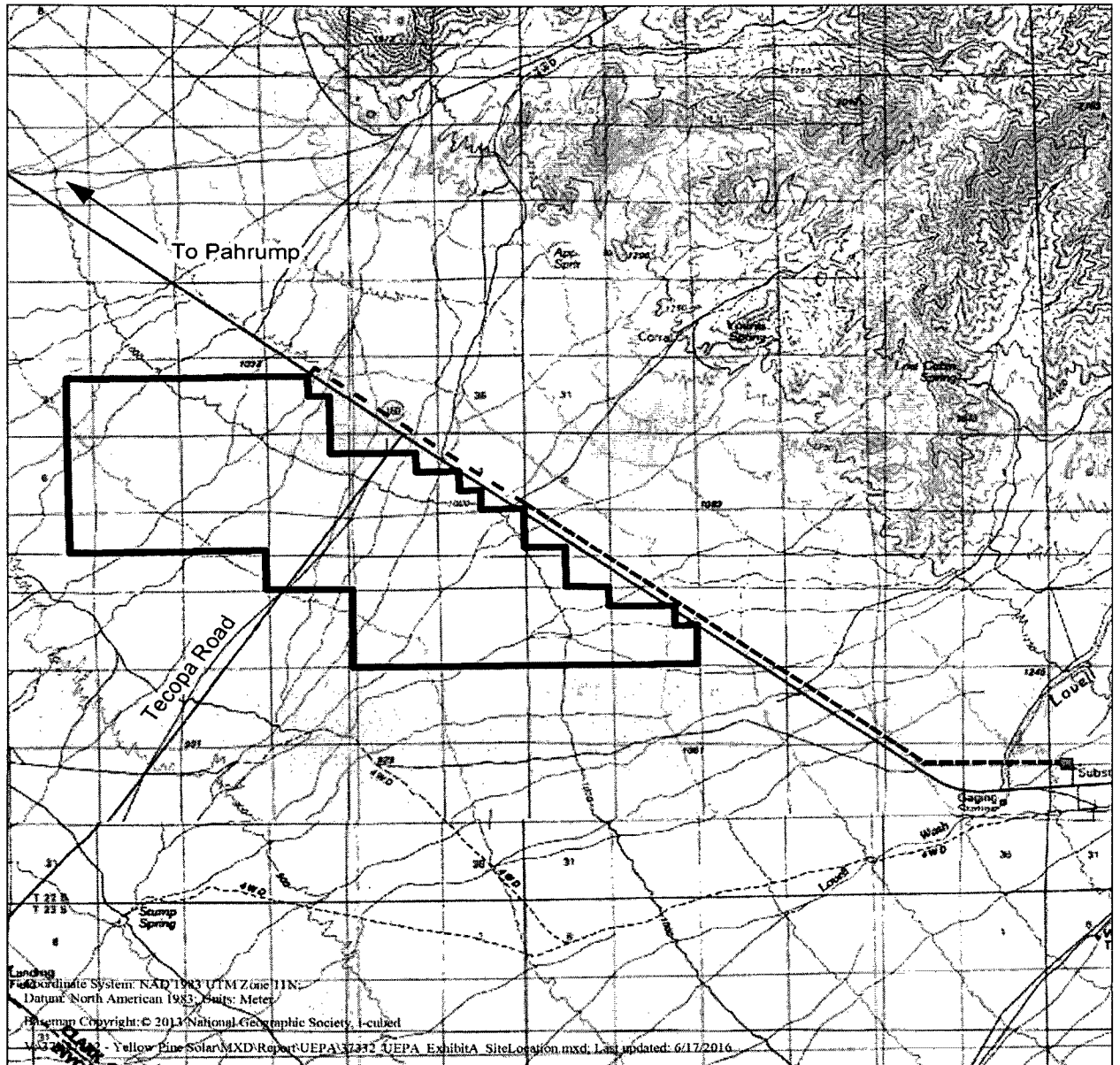
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EXHIBITS LIST

- Exhibit A Site Location Map
- Exhibit B Regional Map
- Exhibit C Legal Descriptions
- Exhibit D Proof of Service
- Exhibit E Application for Energy Projects “Fund for Recovery of Costs”
- Exhibit F Draft Notice

EXHIBIT A: SITE LOCATION

MAP



Application Area
 Sandy Valley Substation
 Proposed gen-tie
 Additional gen-tie (depending on final design)

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
 SCIENTIFIC SOLUTIONS

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Kilometers 0 2

Miles 0 2

Nevada

White Pine
 Mineral
 Esmeralda
 Nye
 Lincoln
 Clark

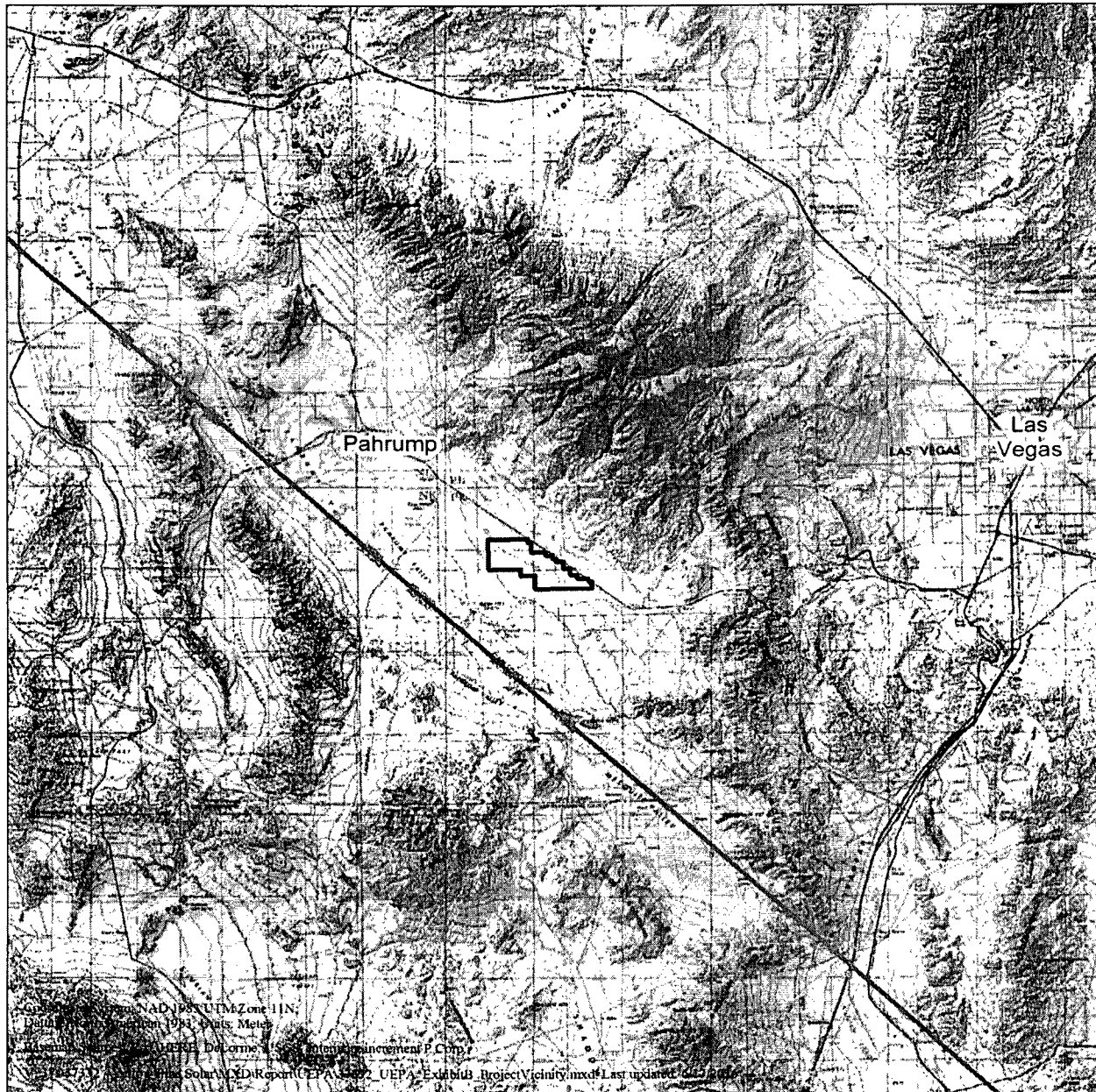
Area Enlarged

Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N
 Datum: North American 1983 Units: Meter
 Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society, Inc.
 File Path: \\yellow-pine-solar\MD\Report\UEPA\3332\UEPA ExhibitA_SiteLocation.mxd, Last updated: 6/17/2016

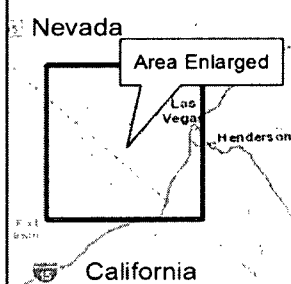
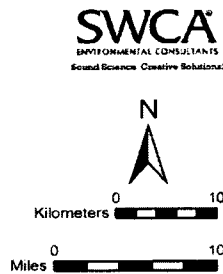
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EXHIBIT B: REGIONAL

MAP



 Application Area



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EXHIBIT C

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Table 1. Application Area and Gen-tie Alignment aliquot parts

Meridian	Township	Range	Section	Subdivision
<i>Application Area</i>				
MDM 21	21 South	55 East	31	SE1/4 of NE1/4
			31	E1/2 of SE1/4
			32	S1/2
			32	S1/2 of N1/2
			33	S1/2
			33	S1/2 of N1/2
			34	SW1/4
			34	S1/2 of NW1/4
MDM 21	22 South	55 East	1	S1/2 of SW1/4
			1	NW1/4 of SW1/4
			2	S1/2
			2	S1/2 of NW1/4
			2	SW1/4 of NE1/4
			3	W1/2
			3	SE1/4
			3	W1/2 of NE1/4
			3	SE1/4 of NE1/4
			4	All
5	All			

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