8 MONUMENT SQUARE, LEOMINSTER, MA 01453 PHONE: (978) 534-1234 FAX (978) 534-6060 CIVIL ENGINEERS & LAND SURVEYORS

Steve Parretti, Chairman

LEICESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

3 Washburn Square

Leicester, Massachusetts 01524

RECEIVED

APR 18 2017

April 14, 2017

RE:

Request for Amended Order of Conditions

DEP File #197-0596

Boutilier Road

Town of Leicester

Development & Inspectional Services

Dear Mr. Parretti,

On behalf of our client ZPT Energy Solutions, Hannigan Engineering, Inc. is submitting this request for an Amended Order of Conditions (DEP File #197-0596), issued by the Conservation Commission for the construction of solar energy array off of Boutilier Road in Leicester, Massachusetts. It is the intent of the applicant to perform trimming and select cutting of trees within the "No Disturbance Zone" per the Leicester Wetland Protection Bylaws.

Since the approval of the project under the original Order of Conditions, the general layout of the solar panels have been rearranged due to changes in solar module type and further studies of the shading characteristics of the land, all while maintaining the approved limits of disturbance. In order to further improve the efficiency of the solar array, it is requested that the Commission allow for additional work to be performed beyond the limits of disturbance for the implementation of a Shade Buffer within the No Disturbance Zone. The Shade Buffer will include the cutting of all trees larger than 12-inches in diameter and all evergreen species within the areas. These trees will be cut to grade and the stumps will remain to maintain slope stability. All trees smaller than 12-inches will cut to a height of 5-feet. No trees within the resource areas will be cut as part of this additional work.

In addition to the initial implementation of the Shade Buffer, a regular maintenance schedule is also proposed to allow for the continued use of the Shade Buffer. It is proposed that every five (5) years maintenance crews will enter the Shade Buffer with hand tools and chainsaws to cut trees to a height of 5feet, there will be no heavy equipment used as part of this maintenance. Once the area is trimmed select slash material will be scattered over the area to provide additional wildlife habitat enhancement.

The applicant is requesting that the Commission Amend the existing Order of Conditions to allow for the implementation of a Shade Buffer and its corresponding maintenance schedule. Included with this letter is an updated plan showing the proposed Shade Buffer. Hannigan Engineering, Inc. hopes this information is sufficient for your needs at this time. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the office.

Sincerely,

HANNIGAN ENGINEERING, INC.

Christopher M. Anderson, EIT

Project Engineer

President

PC:

Brendon Gove

Ernie Mello

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