

## ASTGU ANNUAL REPORT & WAIVER REQUEST 2024

### **PURPOSE**

This Annual Report form is required to be completed and submitted annually for all projects with the MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER) which received qualification as an Agricultural Solar Tariff Generation Unit (ASTGU) under the SMART program. The form is provided to demonstrate conformance with the general provisions required for ASTGUs in 225 CMR 20.00; in particular pertaining to Section 20.06(1)(d) therein as well as associated ASTGU Guidelines; and specifically pertaining to annual reporting requirements.

The completed form will be reviewed by DOER and the MA Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) to determine that the farm is in conformance with all ASTGU provisions in general under the SMART Program, although more specifically to the annual production requirements.

### **BASIC FARM INFORMATION**

Farm Contact Person Name: Jesse Robertson-DuBois ☐ Farm Owner ☒ Preliminary Farm Operator

Farm Name: Formerly Jim Cabral, Cabral Farms, Inc. - retired

Legal Structure: ☐ Sole Proprietor ☐ LLC ☐ Corporation  
☐ Partnership ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: 413-450-1950 Contact E-mail: jrobertson@bluewave.energy

Check all that apply: ☒ Solar facility owner ☐ Landowner ☒ Applicant

Current Type of ASTGU Farm Operation (Check all that apply):

☒ Vegetables ☐ Fruit ☒ Livestock ☐ Poultry ☐ Hay  
☐ Nursery ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acreage in ASTGU Farm Production: 17 acres (when fully operational)

Gross Annual Revenue for ASTGU Farm Production: Total \$s N/A

Are any major modifications to the farm business expected in the next 5 years? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Check all that apply.)

☐ Business Legal Structure ☐ Operation Type ☐ Expansion ☐ Diversification  
☐ Retirement ☐ Sale ☐ Subdivision ☒ Other Transition to new farm operator

### **BASIC SOLAR PROJECT INFORMATION**

Solar System Company Owner: BWC Greene Brook, LLC

Solar System Company Address: 116 Huntington Ave, Suite 601, Boston, MA 02116

Solar Company Contact Person/email/tel#: Jesse Robertson-DuBois, BlueWave Energy, jrobertson@bluewave.energy (agvops@bluewave.energy), 413-450-1950

## **ASTGU PROJECT START-UP / HISTORY INFORMATION:**

Date ASTGU Approved by DOER: Pre-Determination Application Approval: 29 April 2020

Date Solar Portion of ASTGU Project Commenced Construction: Notice to Proceed: 5 April 2023;  
Construction Start (Mobilization): 29 May 2023

Date Solar Portion of ASTGU Project was Completed & Operational: Permission to Operate: 15  
April 2024; Incentive Start Date: 1 May 2024; Stormwater Committee partial approval to begin  
agricultural operations in limited portions of the array: 5/15/2024; Con Com and Stormwater permit  
Final Completion: TBD

Date Original Agricultural Portion of the ASTGU Project Commenced: 10 June 2024 (initiated  
field work & cover-cropping)

Date Original Agricultural ASTGU Portion of Project Harvested/Sowed Products: TBD

How many complete years, that is both solar and agricultural production, has the ASTGU been  
in operation? None

## **SOLAR ARRAY DESIGN – PLEASE PROVIDE AS-BUILT SYSTEM INFORMATION**

Please provide the following information regarding the solar array design:

Nameplate capacity AC (in MW): 2.000 MW (Note: 1 MW=1000 kW)

Expected annual generation AC (MWh): 5,684.000 MWh (Note: 1 MWh=1000 kWh)

Acreage of farmland over which array was installed: 21 acres (fenced acreage)

System type: ☐ Fixed ☒ Tracking ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Height of lowest panel edge (in feet): 7'

Height of lowest elevated horizontal mounting (in feet): 10'

Type of mounting (mono poles, racking, etc.): Single-axis tracker (Array Technologies, Inc)

Description of materials and process to be used for ground penetration: Driven I-beam pilings with  
polyethylene frost sleeve

Number of panels, capacity per panel, and panel spacing: 6,250 modules at 580W capacity,  
mounted in rows; the majority of the array is on 26'-0" on center (18'-1" edge-to-edge spacing); a  
limited area is 19'+/- on center (11'+/- edge-to-edge spacing)

*If you wish to provide additional descriptive information regarding the solar array design,  
including any system changes since original completion, you may include this information below,  
or in a typed attachment labeled "Solar Array Design."*

N/A

## **AGRICULTURAL PLAN FOR DUAL-USE AREA**

Planned agricultural use, Year 1. Check all that apply.

☒ Vegetable, fruit, grains, for human consumption

☐ Hay

☐ Livestock production

☐ Poultry production

☐ Horticulture

☐ Floriculture

☐ Aquaculture

☐ Other, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

## **AGRICULTURAL NARRATIVE – 2024 SEASON**

Town delays in approving stormwater and conservation permits delayed the start of agricultural field preparations and cover crop seeding beyond viable dates for butternut squash production. Field preparation (decompaction, rock-picking and cover-crop seeding) commenced June 10, 2024 and proceeded throughout the season, self-performed by BlueWave where approved for soil disturbance. Conservation Commission and Stormwater permits have still not been finally closed out and full agricultural activity cannot proceed until they are approved. A row of kale was planted for demonstration purposes.

## **CROP NARRATIVE – NEXT SEASON**

*Please detail the crop management planned for next season, including approximate **dates** and **equipment** used. The purpose of this form is to provide planned data for the upcoming season regarding compatible equipment usage and crop management needs. If you need additional space, please include a typed attachment labeled “Crop Narrative.”*

Following retirement of Jim Cabral from active agricultural production due to age and health issues, BWC Greene Brook began discussions with other farmers about farming in the array, including direct outreach and posting the farm on NewEnglandFarmlandFinder.org website. Negotiations with two new farmers are nearing completion, and full agricultural activity is expected in 2025. The two operations will be sharing the site, producing vegetables and grazing livestock, respectively. BWC Greene Brook expects to have more detailed farm plans to share by the ASTGU reporting deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Crop: \_\_\_\_\_

Planting Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Soil Amendment Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultivation Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Irrigation Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pesticide/Herbicide Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Harvest Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **GRAZING NARRATIVE – NEXT SEASON**

*Please detail the next season animal and pasture management, including **dates** and **equipment** used. The purpose of this form is to provide planned data for the upcoming season regarding compatible equipment usage and production needs. If you need additional space, please include a typed attachment labeled “Grazing Narrative.”*

Following retirement of Jim Cabral from active agricultural production due to age and health issues, BWC Greene Brook began discussions with other farmers about farming in the array, including direct outreach and posting the farm on NewEnglandFarmlandFinder.org website. Negotiations with two new farmers are nearing completion, and full agricultural activity is expected in 2025. The two operations will be sharing the site, producing vegetables and grazing livestock, respectively.

Type(s) of Animals Grazed: \_\_\_\_\_

Pasture Management Plan: List any anticipated seeding, soil amendment, irrigation, pesticide, mowing, etc., including approximate dates and equipment used.

---

---

---

---

---

---

Animal Management Plan:

For each type of animal grazed, describe management regarding housing/shelter, water source, fencing, movement, disease treatment, harvest, etc. that was carried out within the solar array area. Describe equipment used in these activities.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Describe any modifications to the solar array design that were made in order to reduce the risk of animal damage to the solar array, or risk of electrocution to animals.

---

---

---

---

## **WAIVER FOR DECREASED YIELD**

### **i. Waiver for Decreased Yield**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, such as but not limited to weather events, pests, or change in crops, the projected agricultural yield for any given year may be lower than stated in the agricultural plan or previous year's annual report. In these instances, an applicant can request a waiver to the Department for the decreased yields. The applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department, and in consultation with MDAR, that a waiver is warranted for good cause. Waiver requests must be submitted by December 1st of the applicable calendar year and sent to DOER.SMART@mass.gov.

Based on the timing of array final completion and anticipated closeout of Conservation Commission and Stormwater permits in early 2025, BWC Greene Brook, LLC is unable to determine from the language of the ASTGU Guideline whether a waiver is required for the 2024 agricultural year. Should a formal waiver be determined to be necessary, it is hereby requested.

### **ii. Failure to Report**

If the ASTGU fails to submit an annual report, the Department may declare the project ineligible for the ASTGU adder for one year. If the annual report is not completed for a second year, then the Department may permanently disqualify the ASTGU from continuing to receive the ASTGU Adder for the remainder of the STGU's tariff term.