

CLOSING ITEM NO.: A-7

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HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

AND

HCCC SOLAR, LLC

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UNIFORM AGENCY PROJECT AGREEMENT

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DATED AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

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RELATING TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTED BY THE  
AGENCY WITH RESPECT TO A CERTAIN PROJECT LOCATED  
AT 164 SHELLS BUSH ROAD (TAX MAP NUMBER 113.2-1-29) IN  
THE TOWN OF HERKIMER, HERKIMER COUNTY, NEW YORK.

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and is for convenience of reference only.)

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## UNIFORM AGENCY PROJECT AGREEMENT

THIS UNIFORM AGENCY PROJECT AGREEMENT, dated as of May 1, 2022 (the “Uniform Agency Project Agreement”) by and between HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, a public benefit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York (the “State”) having an office for the transaction of business located at 420 E. German Street, Suite 101A, Herkimer, New York (the “Agency”) and HCCC SOLAR, LLC, a limited liability company duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of New York and having an office for the transaction of business located at 500 La Terraza Boulevard, Suite 350, Escondido, California (the “Company”);

### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Title 1 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (the “Enabling Act”) was duly enacted into law as Chapter 1030 of the Laws of 1969 of the State of New York, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Enabling Act authorizes and provides for the creation of industrial development agencies for the benefit of the several counties, cities, villages and towns in the State of New York and empowers such agencies, among other things, to acquire, construct, reconstruct, lease, improve, maintain, equip and dispose of land and any building or other improvement, and all real and personal properties, including, but not limited to, machinery and equipment deemed necessary in connection therewith, whether or not now in existence or under construction, which shall be suitable for manufacturing, warehousing, research, commercial or industrial purposes, in order to advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of the State and to improve their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, the Enabling Act further authorizes each such agency, for the purpose of carrying out any of its corporate purposes, to lease or sell any or all of its facilities, whether then owned or thereafter acquired; and

WHEREAS, the Agency was created, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Enabling Act, by Chapter 410 of the Laws of 1970 of the State, as amended, codified as Section 898 of the General Municipal Law of the State (said Chapter and the Enabling Act being hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Act”) and is empowered under the Act to undertake the Project (as hereinafter defined) in order to so advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of the State and improve their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, in March, 2023, HCCC Solar, LLC (the “Company”), a limited liability company duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of New York, submitted an application (the “Application”) to the Agency, which Application requested that the Agency consider undertaking a project (the “Project”) for the benefit of the Company, said Project to include the following: (A) (1) the acquisition of an interest in approximately 29.5 acres of land (tax map number 113.2-1-29) located at 164 Shells Bush Road in the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York (the “Land”), (2) the construction on the Land of an approximately 3.168 MWAC solar energy generating facility, including panels, racking, inverters, electrical cables, battery storage, grid interconnection, site preparation, access roads and any other required improvements (all said improvements being collectively referred to as the “Facility”) and (3) the acquisition and installation therein and thereon of related fixtures, machinery, equipment and other personal property (the “Equipment”), all of the foregoing to constitute a solar energy generating facility to be owned and operated by the Company (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment

being collectively referred to as the “Project Facility”); (B) the granting of certain “financial assistance” (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the Act) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes, real estate transfer taxes and mortgage recording taxes (collectively, the “Financial Assistance”); and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase) or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other person as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authorization contained in a resolution adopted by the members of the Agency on March 28, 2023 (the “Public Hearing Resolution”), the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency (A) caused notice of a public hearing (the “Public Hearing”) of the Agency pursuant to Section 859-a of the Act, to hear all persons interested in the Project and the Financial Assistance being contemplated by the Agency with respect to the Project, to be mailed on March 29, 2023 to the chief executive officers of the county and of each city, town, village and school district in which the Project Facility is to be located, (B) caused notice of the Public Hearing to be posted on March 29, 2023 on a public bulletin board located at the Town of Herkimer Town Hall located at 114 N Prospect Street in the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York and on the Agency’s website, (C) caused notice of the Public Hearing to be published on March 31, 2023 in the Times Telegram, a newspaper of general circulation available to the residents of the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York, (D) conducted the Public Hearing on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023 at 9:00 o’clock a.m., local time, at the office of the Agency located at 420 E German Street, Suite 101A in the Village and Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York, (E) prepared a report of the Public Hearing (the “Public Hearing Report”) fairly summarizing the views presented at such Public Hearing and caused copies of said Public Hearing Report to be made available to the members of the Agency and (F) caused a copy of the Public Hearing Resolution to be sent via certified mail, return receipt requested on March 29, 2023 to the chief executive officer of the County and of each city, town, village, and school district in which the Project Facility is to be located; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, Chapter 43-B of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended (the “SEQR Act”) and the regulations (the “Regulations”) adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York (collectively with the SEQR Act, “SEQRA”), by resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Herkimer (the “Town Board”), on October 18, 2022 (the “SEQR Resolution”), which SEQR Resolution was thereby renewed and ratified by the Agency by a resolution adopted on April 20, 2023 (the “Approving Resolution”), the Town Board determined (A) to act as “lead agency” with respect to SEQRA with respect to the acquisition, construction and installation of the Project Facility, (B) that the acquisition, construction and installation of the Project Facility was determined to be a Type 1 action with regard to SEQRA, and (C) that the Project would not have “a significant adverse environmental impact” and, therefore, that an “Environmental Impact Statement” is not required to be prepared with respect to the acquisition, construction and installation of the Project Facility; and

WHEREAS, further pursuant to the Approving Resolution, the Agency determined to grant the Financial Assistance and to enter into a lease agreement dated as of September 1, 2023 (the “Lease Agreement”) between the Agency and the Company and certain other documents related thereto and to the Project (collectively with the Lease Agreement, the “Basic Documents”). Pursuant to the terms of the Lease Agreement, (A) the Company will agree (1) to cause the Project to be undertaken and completed, and (2) as agent of the Agency, to undertake and complete the Project and (B) the Agency has leased the Project Facility to the Company. The Lease Agreement grants to the Company certain options to acquire the Project Facility from the Agency; and

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the execution and delivery of the Lease Agreement (the “Closing”), (A) the Company will execute and deliver to the Agency a certain lease to agency dated as of

September 1, 2023 (the “Lease to Agency”) by and between the Company, as landlord, and the Agency, as tenant, pursuant to which the Company will lease to the Agency a portion of the Land and all improvements now or hereafter located on said portion of the Land (collectively, the “Leased Premises”); (B) the Company and the Agency will execute and deliver (1) a certain payment in lieu of tax agreement dated as of September 1, 2023 (the “Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement”) by and between the Agency and the Company, pursuant to which the Company will agree to pay certain payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the Project Facility and (2) a certain recapture agreement (the “Section 875 GML Recapture Agreement”) by and between the Company and the Agency, required by the Act, regarding the recovery or recapture of certain sales and use taxes; (C) the Agency and the Company will execute and deliver the uniform agency project agreement dated as of September 1, 2023 (the “Uniform Agency Project Agreement”) by and between the Agency and the Company relating to the terms of the granting by the Agency of the Financial Assistance to the Company; (D) the Agency will file with the assessor and mail to the chief executive officer of each “affected tax jurisdiction” (within the meaning of such quoted term in Section 854(16) of the Act) a copy of a New York State Board of Real Property Services Form 412-a (the form required to be filed by the Agency in order for the Agency to obtain a real property tax exemption with respect to the Project Facility under Section 412-a of the Real Property Tax Law) (the “Real Property Tax Exemption Form”) relating to the Project Facility and the Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement; (E) the Agency will execute and deliver to the Company a sales tax exemption letter (the “Sales Tax Exemption Letter”) to ensure the granting of the sales tax exemption which forms a part of the Financial Assistance and (F) the Agency will file with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance the form entitled “IDA Appointment of Project Operator or Agent for Sales Tax Purposes” (the form required to be filed pursuant to Section 874(9) of the Act) (the “Thirty-Day Sales Tax Report”); and

WHEREAS, (A) the Agency has established certain policies allowing denial of Financial Assistance to any project which does not deliver the public benefits promised at the time said project was approved by the Agency (the “Public Benefits”), (B) the Agency is unwilling to grant Financial Assistance to a project unless the beneficiary of such project agrees that the amount of Financial Assistance to be received by such beneficiary with respect to such project shall be contingent upon, and shall bear a direct relationship to, the success or lack of success of such project in delivering the promised Public Benefits, and (C) the Agency has created this Uniform Agency Project Agreement in order to establish the conditions under which the Agency will be entitled to recapture some or all of the Financial Assistance that has been granted to the Company under the Basic Documents if the Project is unsuccessful in whole or in part in delivering the promised Public Benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Company desires to receive certain Financial Assistance from the Agency with respect to the Project, and accordingly is willing to enter into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement in order to secure such Financial Assistance from the Agency; and

WHEREAS, all things necessary to constitute this Uniform Agency Project Agreement a valid and binding agreement by and between the parties hereto in accordance with the terms hereof have been done and performed, and the creation, execution and delivery of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement have in all respects been duly authorized by the Agency and the Company;

NOW, THEREFORE, FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PREMISES AND THE MUTUAL COVENANTS HEREINAFTER CONTAINED, THE PARTIES HERETO HEREBY FORMALLY COVENANT, AGREE AND BIND THEMSELVES AS FOLLOWS TO WIT:

## ARTICLE I

### DEFINITIONS

SECTION 1.01. DEFINITIONS. All capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Lease Agreement. The following words and terms used in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall have the respective meanings set forth below unless the context or use indicates another or different meaning or intent.

“Application” means the application submitted by the Company to the Agency in March, 2023 with respect to the Project, a copy of which is attached as Schedule D, in which the Company (A) described the Project, (B) requested that the Agency grant certain Financial Assistance with respect to the Project, and (C) indicated the Public Benefits that would result from approval of the Project by the Agency.

“Basic Documents” shall have the meaning set forth in the Lease Agreement, and includes this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

“Completion Date” means the earlier to occur of (A) December 31, 2024 or (B) such date as shall be certified by the Company to the Agency as the date of completion of the Project pursuant to Section 4.2 of the Lease Agreement, or (C) such earlier date as shall be designated by written communication from the Company to the Agency as the date of completion of the Project.

“Contract Employee” means (A) a full-time, private-sector employee (or self-employed individual) that is not on the Company’s payroll but who has worked for the Company at the Project Facility for a minimum of 35 hours per week for not less than 4 consecutive weeks providing services that are similar to services that would otherwise be performed by a Full Time Equivalent Employee, or (B) 2 part-time, private-sector employees (or self-employed individuals) that are not on the Company’s payroll but who have worked for the Company at the Project Facility for a combined minimum of 35 hours per week for not less than 4 consecutive weeks providing services that are similar to services that would otherwise be performed by a Full Time Equivalent Employee.

“Conveyance Documents” shall have the meaning set forth in the Lease Agreement.

“Equipment” shall have the meaning set forth in the Lease Agreement.

“Facility” shall have the meaning set forth in the Lease Agreement.

“Financial Assistance” means exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes, and real property transfer taxes as more particularly described in the Basic Documents.

“Full Time Equivalent Employee” means (A) a full-time, permanent, private-sector employee on the Company’s payroll, who has worked at the Project Facility for a minimum of 35 hours per week for not less than 4 consecutive weeks and who is entitled to receive the usual and customary fringe benefits extended by the Company to other employees with comparable rank and duties; or (B) two part-time, permanent, private-sector employees on Company’s payroll, who have worked at the Project Facility for a combined minimum of 35 hours per week for not less than 4 consecutive weeks and who are entitled to receive the usual and customary fringe benefits extended by the Company to other employees with comparable rank and duties; or (C) a Contract Employee.

“Initial Employment Plan” means the initial plan, based on the employment projections contained in the Application, regarding the number of people expected to be employed at the Project Facility and certain other matters, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit C to the Lease Agreement.

“Land” means an approximately 29.5 acre parcel of land located at 164 Shells Bush Road (Tax Map Number 113.2-1-29) in the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York.

“Lease Agreement” means the lease agreement dated as of September 1, 2023 by and between the Agency, as landlord, and the Company, as tenant, pursuant to which, among other things, the Agency has leased the Project Facility to the Company, as said lease agreement may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

“Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement” means the payment in lieu of tax agreement dated as of September 1, 2023 by and between the Agency and the Company, pursuant to which the Company has agreed to make payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the Project Facility, as such agreement may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

“Project” shall have the meaning set forth in the Lease Agreement.

“Project Facility” means, collectively, the Land, the Facility, and the Equipment.

“Recapture Events” shall mean the following:

- (1) failure to complete the acquisition, construction, and installation of the Project Facility;
- (2) failure by the Company to meet at least eighty percent (80%) of the Employment Level requirements contained in Section 3.02(E) hereof and in the Application or the Initial Employment Plan;
- (3) liquidation of substantially all of the Company’s operating assets and/or cessation of substantially all of the Company’s operations;
- (4) relocation of all or substantially all of Company’s operations at the Project Facility to another site, or the sale, lease or other disposition of all or substantially all of the Project Facility;
- (5) transfer of jobs equal to at least fifteen percent (15%) of the Company’s Employment Level out of Herkimer County, New York;
- (6) failure by the Company to comply with the annual reporting requirements or to provide the Agency with requested information;
- (7) sublease of all or part of the Project Facility in violation of the Basic Documents;
- (8) a change in the use of the Project Facility, other than as a solar energy generating facility and other directly and indirectly related uses; or
- (9) failure by the Company to make an actual investment in the Project by the Completion Date equal to or exceeding eighty percent (80%) of the Total Project Costs as set forth in the Application.



“Recapture Period” means the approximate fifteen (15) year period ending on December 31, 2040.

SECTION 1.02. INTERPRETATION. In this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

(A) the terms “hereby”, “hereof”, “herein”, “hereunder” and any similar terms as used in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, refer to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, and the term “heretofore” shall mean before, and the term “hereafter” shall mean after, the date of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement;

(B) words of masculine gender shall mean and include correlative words of feminine and neuter genders;

(C) words importing the singular number shall mean and include the plural number, and vice versa;

(D) any headings preceding the texts of the several Articles and Sections of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, and any table of contents or marginal notes appended to copies hereof, shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall neither constitute a part of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement nor affect its meaning, construction or effect; and

(E) any certificates, letters or opinions required to be given pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall mean a signed document attesting to or acknowledging the circumstances, representations, opinions of law or other matters therein stated or set forth or setting forth matters to be determined pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

## ARTICLE II

### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

SECTION 2.01. REPRESENTATIONS OF AND WARRANTIES BY THE AGENCY. The Agency does hereby represent, warrant, and covenant as follows:

(A) Power. The Agency is a public benefit corporation of the State, has been duly established under the provisions of the Act, is validly existing under the provisions of the Act and has the power under the laws of the State to enter into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and to carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and to perform and carry out all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

(B) Authorization. The Agency is authorized and has the corporate power under the Act, its by-laws and the laws of the State to enter into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby and to perform and carry out all the covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement. By proper corporate action on the part of its members, the Agency has duly authorized the execution, delivery, and performance of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated.

(C) Conflicts. The Agency is not prohibited from entering into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and discharging and performing all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement by the terms, conditions or provisions of any order, judgment, decree, law, ordinance, rule or regulation of any court or other agency or authority of government, or any agreement or instrument to which the Agency is a party or by which the Agency is bound.

SECTION 2.02. REPRESENTATIONS OF AND WARRANTIES BY THE COMPANY. The Company does hereby represent, warrant, and covenant as follows:

(A) Power. The Company is a limited liability company duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of New York, is duly authorized to do business in the State and has the power under the laws of the State of New York to enter into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and to perform and carry out the transactions contemplated hereby and to perform and carry out all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, and by proper action of its members has been duly authorized to execute, deliver and perform this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

(B) Authorization. The Company is authorized and has the power under its articles of organization, operating agreement and the laws of the State of New York to enter into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby and to perform and carry out all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement. By proper action of its members, the Company has duly authorized the execution, delivery, and performance of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated.

(C) Conflicts. The Company is not prohibited from entering into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and discharging and performing all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement by (and the execution, delivery and performance of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, the consummation of the transactions

contemplated hereby and the fulfillment of and compliance with the provisions of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement will not conflict with or violate or constitute a breach of or a default under) the terms, conditions or provisions of its articles of organization, operating agreement or any other restriction, law, rule, regulation or order of any court or other agency or authority of government, or any contractual limitation, restriction or outstanding indenture, deed of trust, mortgage, loan agreement, other evidence of indebtedness or any other agreement or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which it or any of its property is bound, and neither the Company's entering into this Uniform Agency Project Agreement nor the Company's discharging and performing all covenants and obligations on its part to be performed under and pursuant to this Uniform Agency Project Agreement will be in conflict with or result in a breach of or constitute (with due notice and/or lapse of time) a default under any of the foregoing, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien of any nature upon any of the property of the Company under the terms of any of the foregoing, and this Uniform Agency Project Agreement is the legal, valid and binding obligation of the Company enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as enforceability may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights generally and by general principles of equity (regardless of whether enforcement is sought in a proceeding in equity or at law).

(D) Governmental Consent. No consent, approval or authorization of, or filing, registration or qualification with, any governmental or public authority on the part of the Company is required as a condition to the execution, delivery, or performance of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement by the Company or as a condition to the validity of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

ARTICLE III

COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS

SECTION 3.01. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. (A) Financial Assistance. In the Application the Company certified to the Agency employment information with respect to the Project Facility, and the operations of the Company. In reliance on the certifications provided by the Company in the Application, the Agency agrees to provide the Company with the following Financial Assistance related to the Project:

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) sales and use tax exemptions:  | \$541,509.79 (estimated) |
| (2) a real property tax exemption: | \$525,812.39 (estimated) |

(B) Description of Project and Public Purpose of Granting Financial Assistance to the Project. In the Application and in the discussions had between the Company and the Agency with respect to the Company's request for Financial Assistance from the Agency with respect to the Project, the Company has represented to the Agency as follows:

(1) That the Project is described as follows: (a) The acquisition of an interest in approximately 29.5 acres of land (tax map number 113.2-1-29) located at 164 Shells Bush Road in the Town of Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York (the "Land"), (b) the construction on the Land of an approximately 3.168 MWAC solar energy generating facility, including panels, racking, inverters, electrical cables, battery storage, grid interconnection, site preparation, access roads and any other required improvements (all said improvements being collectively referred to as the "Facility") and (c) the acquisition and installation therein and thereon of related fixtures, machinery, equipment and other personal property (the "Equipment"), all of the foregoing to constitute a solar energy generating facility to be owned and operated by the Company (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment being collectively referred to as the "Project Facility").

(2) That the Project will furnish the benefits to the residents of Herkimer County, New York (the "Public Benefits") as described in Exhibit A to the Approving Resolution.

(C) Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement. A copy of the Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement is attached as Schedule C. The attached Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement describes the dates the payments in lieu of taxes are to be made and includes a formula describing the amount of payments in lieu of taxes to be made.

(D) Contingent Nature of the Financial Assistance. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.01(A) of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, the Agency and the Company agree that the amount of Financial Assistance to be received by the Company with respect to the Project shall be contingent upon, and shall bear a direct relationship to, the success or lack of success of the Project in delivering the promised Public Benefits.

SECTION 3.02. COMPANY AGREEMENTS. The Company hereby agrees as follows:

(A) Filing – Closing Date. To file with the Agency, prior to the Closing Date, an employment plan, based on the employment projections contained in the Application, regarding the number of people expected to be employed at the Project Facility and certain other matters, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit G to the Lease Agreement.

(B) Filing – Annual. To file with the Agency, on an annual basis, within sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year, a report regarding the number of people employed at the Project Facility and certain other matters as required under Applicable Law, an annual status report (the “Annual Status Report,” in substantially the form attached hereto as Schedule E and attached as Exhibit H to the Lease Agreement).

(C) Employment Listing. To list new employment opportunities created as a result of the Project with the following entities (hereinafter, the “JTPA Entities”): (1) the New York State Department of Labor Community Services Division and (2) the administrative entity of the service delivery area created by the Federal Job Training Partnership Act (P.L. No. 97-300) in which the Project Facility is located (while currently cited in Section 858-b of the Act, the Federal Job Training Partnership Act was repealed effective June 1, 2000, and has been supplanted by the Workplace Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. No. 105-220)).

(D) Employment Consideration. Except as otherwise provided by collective bargaining agreement, the Company agrees, where practicable, to first consider for such new employment opportunities persons eligible to participate in federal job training partnership programs who shall be referred by the JTPA Entities.

(E) Employment Level. (1) Pursuant to the Application there will be no full-time equivalent employees at the Project Facility.

(2) (a) To verify that the Employment Level is being achieved at the Project Facility and the information contained in the Annual Status Report, the Company is required to submit, or cause to be submitted, within sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year: a form NYS-45 as of the last payroll date in the month of December (the “Quarterly Report,” a copy of which is attached hereto as Schedule A and, together with the Annual Status Report described in Section 3.02(B) above, being collectively referred to as the “Employment Affidavits”) or some other form that is explicitly approved by the Agency. Full Time Equivalent Employees for each calendar year during the term of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall be the number reported in the Employment Affidavits delivered by the Company pursuant to Section 3.02(B) and this Section 3.02(E)(2).

(b) In the event that some or all of the Full Time Equivalent Employees employed at the Project Facility constitute Contract Employees, it shall be the responsibility of the Company to deliver, or cause to be delivered, the Quarterly Reports of the employers relating to such Contract Employees. The Company hereby agrees to provide such Quarterly Reports in accordance with the terms contained in Section 3.02(E)(2)(a) above.

(3) For purposes of determining the number of Full Time Equivalent Employees, (i) no more than ten percent (10%) of such Full Time Equivalent Employees may consist of Contract Employees, and (ii) up to ten percent (10%) of such Full Time Equivalent Employees may be employed off site in other facilities located in Herkimer County, New York.

(F) Non-Discrimination. (1) At all times during the term of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, the Company shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin. The Company shall use its best efforts to ensure that employees and applicants for employment with the Company or any subtenant of the Project Facility are treated without regard to their race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin. As used herein, the term “treated” shall mean and include, without limitation, the following: recruited, whether by advertising or

other means; compensated, whether in the form of rates of pay or other forms of compensation; selected for training, including apprenticeship; promoted; upgraded; downgraded; demoted; transferred; laid off; and terminated.

(2) The Company agrees that, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Company during the term of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, the Company will state in substance that all qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, creed or national origin, age or sex.

(G) The Company will endeavor to consider MWBE companies when making decisions to contract with third party vendors, contractors and materialmen.

(H) The Company agrees to provide the Agency with at least fourteen (14) days prior written notice of any groundbreaking, grand opening or other event relating to the undertaking and completion of the Project and to provide the officers of the Agency and such other officials as they may designate with an opportunity to speak at and participate in such event or events.

## ARTICLE IV

### EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND REMEDIES

SECTION 4.01. EVENTS OF DEFAULT DEFINED. (A) The following shall be “Events of Default” under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, and the terms “Event of Default” or “default” shall mean, whenever they are used in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, any one or more of the following events:

- (1) A default in the performance or observance of any of the covenants, conditions or agreements on the part of the Company in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the continuance thereof for a period of thirty (30) days after written notice thereof is given by the Agency to the Company, provided that, if such default is capable of cure but cannot be cured within such thirty (30) day period, the failure of the Company to commence to cure within such thirty (30) day period and to prosecute the same with due diligence.
- (2) The occurrence of an “Event of Default” under any other Basic Document.
- (3) Any material representation or warranty made by the Company herein or in any other Basic Document proves to have been false at the time it was made.

SECTION 4.02. REMEDIES ON DEFAULT. (A) Whenever any Event of Default hereunder shall have occurred, the Agency may, to the extent permitted by law, take any one or more of the following remedial steps:

- (1) declare, by written notice to the Company, to be immediately due and payable, whereupon the same shall become immediately due and payable, (a) all amounts payable pursuant to Section 5.3 of the Lease Agreement, and (b) all other payments due under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement or any of the other Basic Documents; or
- (2) terminate the Lease Agreement and the Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement and convey to the Company all the Agency’s right, title and interest in and to the Project Facility (the conveyance of the Agency’s right, title and interest in and to the Project Facility shall be effected by the delivery by the Agency of the Termination of Lease to Agency. The Company hereby agrees to pay all expenses and taxes, if any, applicable to or arising from any such transfer of title); or
- (3) take any other action at law or in equity which may appear necessary or desirable to collect any amounts then due or thereafter to become due hereunder and to enforce the obligations, agreements, or covenants of the Company under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

(B) No action taken pursuant to this Section 4.02 (including repossession of the Project Facility) shall relieve the Company from its obligations to make any payments required by this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the other Basic Documents.

SECTION 4.03. RECAPTURE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. (A) General. Upon the occurrence of a Recapture Event that occurs during the Recapture Period, the Agency may require the Company to provide for the recapture of the project financial assistance provided as of the date of determination (the “Project Financial Assistance”), all in accordance with the terms of this Section 4.03. The Company

hereby agrees, if requested by the Agency, to pay within thirty (30) days to the Agency the recapture of the Project Financial Assistance, as provided in this Section 4.03.

(B) Project Financial Assistance to be Recaptured. The Project Financial Assistance to be recaptured, as adjusted by the provisions of Section 4.03(C) below, by the Agency from the Company upon the occurrence of a Recapture Event during a Recapture Period shall be an amount equal to a percentage (as provided in subsection (C) below) multiplied by the sum of the following:

(1) the portion of the amount of New York State sales and use taxes allocable to Herkimer County that the Company would have paid as of the date of determination in connection with the undertaking of the Project if the Project Facility was privately owned by the Company and not deemed owned or under the jurisdiction and control of the Agency; and

(2) the difference between the amount of the payment in lieu of tax payments paid by the Company under the Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement and the amount of the general real property ad valorem taxes that would have been payable by the Company to the Taxing Entities if the Project Facility was privately owned by the Company and not deemed owned or under the jurisdiction and control of the Agency.

(C) Amount of Project Financial Assistance to be Recaptured. Upon the occurrence of a Recapture Event, the Company shall pay to the Agency the following amounts as recapture:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount of Recapture</b>
2023	100% of the Project Financial Assistance
2024	100% of the Project Financial Assistance
2025	95% of the Project Financial Assistance
2026	90% of the Project Financial Assistance
2027	85% of the Project Financial Assistance
2028	80% of the Project Financial Assistance
2029	75% of the Project Financial Assistance
2030	70% of the Project Financial Assistance
2031	65% of the Project Financial Assistance
2032	60% of the Project Financial Assistance
2033	55% of the Project Financial Assistance
2034	50% of the Project Financial Assistance
2035	45% of the Project Financial Assistance
2036	40% of the Project Financial Assistance
2037	30% of the Project Financial Assistance
2038	20% of the Project Financial Assistance
2039	10% of the Project Financial Assistance
2040	5% of the Project Financial Assistance

(D) Redistribution of Project Financial Assistance to be Recaptured. Upon the receipt by the Agency of any amount of Project Financial Assistance pursuant to this Section 4.03, the Agency shall redistribute such amount within thirty (30) days of such receipt to the Taxing Entity that would have received such amount but for the granting by the Agency of the Project Financial Assistance.

(E) Survival of Obligations. The Company acknowledges that the obligations of the Company in this Section 4.03 shall survive the conveyance of the Project Facility to the Company and the termination of the Lease Agreement.



(F) Agency Review of Recapture Determination. The Agency's determination to recapture all or a portion of the Project Financial Assistance shall be made by the Agency after an evaluation of the criteria for recapture set forth in the Agency's "Policy Respecting Recapture of Project Benefits" as in effect as of the Closing Date (a copy of which policy is attached hereto as Schedule B). If the Agency determines that a Recapture Event has occurred, it shall give notice of such determination to the Company. The Company shall have thirty (30) days from the date the notice is deemed given to submit a written response to the Agency's determination and to request a written and/or oral presentation to the Agency why the proposed recapture amount should not be paid to the Agency. The Company may make its presentation at a meeting of the Agency. The Agency shall then vote on a resolution recommending (i) a termination of Financial Assistance, (ii) a recapture of Financial Assistance, (iii) both a termination and a recapture of Finance Assistance, (iv) a modification of Financial Assistance or (v) no action.

SECTION 4.04. LATE PAYMENTS. (A) One Month. If the Company shall fail to make any payment required by this Uniform Agency Project Agreement within thirty (30) days of the date that written notice of such payment is sent from the Agency to the Company at the address provided in Section 5.05 of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, the Company shall pay the amount specified in such notice together with a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of the amount due.

(B) Thereafter. If the Company shall fail to make any payment required by this Uniform Agency Project Agreement when due and such delinquency shall continue beyond the thirty (30) days after such notice, the Company's obligation to make the payment so in default shall continue as an obligation of the Company to the Agency until such payment in default shall have been made in full, and the Company shall pay the same to the Agency together with (1) a late payment penalty of one percent (1%) per month for each month, or part thereof, that the payment due hereunder is delinquent beyond the first month, plus (2) interest thereon, to the extent permitted by law, at the greater of (a) one percent (1%) per month, or (b) the rate per annum which would be payable if such amount were delinquent taxes, until so paid in full.

SECTION 4.05. PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES. If the Company should default in performing any of its obligations, covenants or agreements under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement and the Agency should employ attorneys or incur other expenses for the collection of any amounts payable hereunder or for the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation, covenant or agreement on the part of the Company herein contained, the Company agrees that it will, on demand therefor, pay to the Agency within thirty (30) days not only the amounts adjudicated due hereunder, together with the late payment penalty and interest due thereon, but also the reasonable fees and disbursements of such attorneys and all other reasonable expenses, costs and disbursements so incurred, whether or not an action is commenced.

SECTION 4.06. REMEDIES; WAIVER AND NOTICE. (A) No Remedy Exclusive. No remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the Agency is intended to be exclusive of any other available remedy or remedies, but each and every such remedy shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other remedy given under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute.

(B) Delay. No delay or omission in exercising any right or power accruing upon the occurrence of a Recapture Event or an Event of Default hereunder shall impair any such right or power or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof, but any such right or power may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient.

(C) Notice Not Required. In order to entitle the Agency to exercise any remedy reserved to it in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, it shall not be necessary to give any notice, other than such notice as may be expressly required in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement.

(D) No Waiver. In the event any provision contained in this Uniform Agency Project Agreement should be breached by any party and thereafter duly waived by the other party so empowered to act, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach hereunder. No waiver, amendment, release, or modification of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall be established by conduct, custom, or course of dealing.

## ARTICLE V

### MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 5.01. TERM. This Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall become effective and the obligations of the Company shall arise absolutely and unconditionally upon the execution and delivery of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement by the Company and the Agency. Unless otherwise provided by amendment hereof, this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall continue to remain in effect until December 31, 2040.

SECTION 5.02. FORM OF PAYMENTS. The amounts payable under this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall be payable in such coin and currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts.

SECTION 5.03. COMPANY ACTS. Where the Company is required to do or accomplish any act or thing hereunder, the Company may cause the same to be done or accomplished with the same force and effect as if done or accomplished by the Company.

SECTION 5.04. AMENDMENTS. This Uniform Agency Project Agreement may not be effectively amended, changed, modified, altered, or terminated except by an instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto.

SECTION 5.05. NOTICES. (A) General. All notices, certificates or other communications hereunder shall be in writing and may be personally served, telecopied or sent by courier service or United States mail and shall be sufficiently given and shall be deemed given when (1) delivered in person or by courier to the applicable address stated below, (2) when received by telecopy or (3) three business days after deposit in the United States, by United States mail (registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, properly addressed), or (4) when delivered by such other means as shall provide the sender with documentary evidence of such delivery, or when delivery is refused by the addressee, as evidenced by the affidavit of the Person who attempted to effect such delivery.

(B) Addresses. The addresses to which notices, certificates and other communications hereunder shall be delivered are as follows:

IF TO THE COMPANY:

HCCC Solar, LLC  
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 350  
Escondido, California 092025  
Attention: Carina Hartmann, Manager

WITH A COPY TO:

Phillip Lytle LLP  
125 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203  
Attention: Milan K. Tyler, Esq.

IF TO THE AGENCY:

Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency  
420 East German Street, Suite 101A  
Herkimer, New York 13350  
Attention: Chairman

WITH A COPY TO:

Hodgson Russ LLP  
The Guaranty Building  
140 Pearl Street, Suite 100  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
Attention: Daniel A. Spitzer, Esq.

(C) Change of Address. The Agency and the Company may, by notice given hereunder, designate any further or different addresses to which subsequent notices, certificates and other communications shall be sent.

SECTION 5.06. BINDING EFFECT. This Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon, the Agency, the Company and their respective successors and assigns. The provisions of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement are intended to be for the benefit of the Agency.

SECTION 5.07. SEVERABILITY. If any article, section, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, provision or portion of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall for any reason be held or adjudged to be invalid or illegal or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such article, section, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, provision or portion so adjudged invalid, illegal or unenforceable shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent and the remainder of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall be and remain in full force and effect and shall not be invalidated or rendered illegal or unenforceable or otherwise affected by such holding or adjudication.

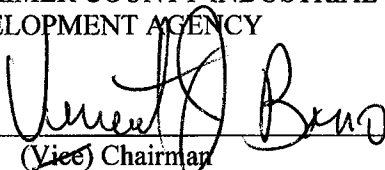
SECTION 5.08. COUNTERPARTS. This Uniform Agency Project Agreement may be simultaneously executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

SECTION 5.09. APPLICABLE LAW. This Uniform Agency Project Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State.

SECTION 5.10. SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATIONS. The obligations of the Company to make the filings and listings required by Section 3.02 hereof shall survive the termination of this Uniform Agency Project Agreement, and all such filings and reports after such termination shall be made upon demand of the party to whom such filings and reports are due.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Agency and the Company have caused this Uniform Agency Project Agreement to be executed in their respective names by duly authorized officers thereof, all being done as of the date first above written.

HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

By:   
(Vice) Chairman

HCCC SOLAR, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manager

**SPECIAL PROJECT CERTIFICATION**

As required under Section 859-a(6) of the Act, the Company hereby certifies, under penalty of perjury, that the Company is in substantial compliance with all local, state and federal tax, worker protection and environmental laws, rules and regulations.

HCCC SOLAR, LLC

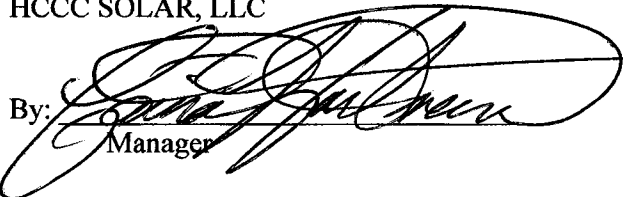
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manager

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Agency and the Company have caused this Uniform Agency Project Agreement to be executed in their respective names by duly authorized officers thereof, all being done as of the date first above written.

HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vice) Chairman

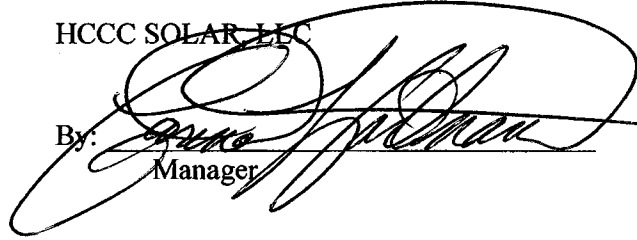
HCCC SOLAR, LLC

By:   
Manager

SPECIAL PROJECT CERTIFICATION

As required under Section 859-a(6) of the Act, the Company hereby certifies, under penalty of perjury, that the Company is in substantial compliance with all local, state and federal tax, worker protection and environmental laws, rules and regulations.

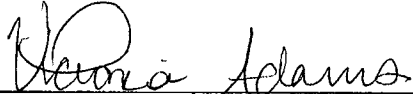
HCCC SOLAR, LLC

By:   
Manager

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
 )ss:  
COUNTY OF HERKIMER )

On the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year 2023, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared Vincent J. Bono, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same in his/her capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.

VICTORIAL ADAMS  
Notary Public, State of New York  
Reg. No. 01AD6325291  
Qualified in Herkimer County  
Commission Expires 05/26/27

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

**CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**CIVIL CODE § 1189**

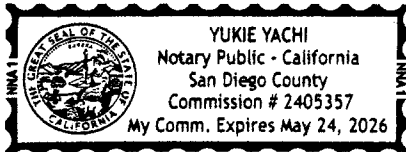
A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California )  
County of San Diego )  
On July 31, 2023 before me, Yukie Yachi, Notary Public,  
Date Here Insert Name and Title of the Officer  
personally appeared Carina Hartmann Leeward Rydner  
Name(s) of Signer(s)

who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s)  are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/~~she~~/they executed the same in his/~~her~~/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/~~her~~/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.



Signature [Signature]  
Signature of Notary Public

Place Notary Seal Above

**OPTIONAL**

Though this section is optional, completing this information can deter alteration of the document or fraudulent reattachment of this form to an unintended document.

**Description of Attached Document**

Title or Type of Document: \_\_\_\_\_ Document Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: \_\_\_\_\_

**Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s)**

Signer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate Officer — Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Partner —  Limited  General  
 Individual  Attorney in Fact  
 Trustee  Guardian or Conservator  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signer Is Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Signer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate Officer — Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Partner —  Limited  General  
 Individual  Attorney in Fact  
 Trustee  Guardian or Conservator  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signer Is Representing: \_\_\_\_\_



**SCHEDULE A**  
**NYS-45**  
**QUARTERLY REPORT**



Withholding  
Identification number

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**Part D - Form NYS-1 corrections/additions**

Use Part D only for corrections/additions for the quarter being reported in Part B of this return. To correct original withholding information reported on Form(s) NYS-1, complete columns a, b, c, and d. To report additional withholding information not previously submitted on Form(s) NYS-1, complete only columns c and d. Lines 12 through 15 on the front of this return must reflect these corrections/additions.

	a Original last payroll date reported on Form NYS-1, line A (mmdd)	b Original total withheld reported on Form NYS-1, line 4	c Correct last payroll date (mmdd)	d Correct total withheld
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
▶	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Part E - Change of business information**

22. This line is not in use for this quarter.

23. If you permanently ceased paying wages, enter the date (mmddyy) of the final payroll (see Note below) .....

24. If you sold or transferred all or part of your business:

- Mark an X to indicate whether in whole  or in part
- Enter the date of transfer (mmddyy) .....
- Complete the information below about the acquiring entity

Legal name	EIN
Address	

**Note:** For questions about other changes to your withholding tax account, call the Tax Department at 518-485-6654; for your unemployment insurance account, call the UI Employer Hotline at 1-888-899-8810. If you are using a paid preparer or a payroll service, the section below must be completed.

<b>Paid preparer's use</b>	Preparer's signature	Date	Preparer's NYTPRIN	Preparer's SSN or PTIN	NYTPRIN excl. code
	Preparer's firm name (or yours, if self-employed)	Address	Firm's EIN	Telephone number ( )	
Payroll service's name				Payroll service's EIN	

Checklist for mailing:

- File original return and keep a copy for your records.
- Complete lines 9 and 19 to ensure proper credit of payment.
- Enter your withholding ID number on your remittance.
- Make remittance payable to *NYS Employment Contributions and Taxes*.
- Enter your telephone number in boxes below your signature.
- See *Need help?* on Form NYS-45-I if you need forms or assistance.

Mail to:

NYS EMPLOYMENT  
CONTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES  
PO BOX 4119  
BINGHAMTON NY 13902-4119

SCHEDULE B  
RECAPTURE BENEFITS POLICY

- SEE ATTACHED -



## HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY POLICY RESPECTING RECAPTURE OF PROJECT BENEFITS

### SECTION 1 PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

(A) The purpose of this Policy is to outline the procedures utilized by Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") to review compliance with (1) the requirements of the Agency relating to job creation and/or retention, other expected public benefits and reporting and (2) the requirements of the State of New York (the "State") relating to sales tax exemptions and reporting.

(B) The Agency was created pursuant to Section 898 of Title 2 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law and Title 1 of Article 18-A the General Municipal Law (collectively, the "Act") for the purpose of promoting employment opportunities for, and the general prosperity and economic welfare of, residents of Herkimer County, New York (the "County") and the State of New York (the "State"). Under the Act, the Agency was created in order to advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the residents of the County and of the State.

(C) Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2013 (Part J), effective March 28, 2013 (the "2013 Budget Law"), enacted March 28, 2013, established new recordkeeping, reporting, and recapture requirements for industrial development agency projects that receive sales tax exemptions.

(D) The new sales tax recording and reporting requirements required by the 2013 Budget Law include the following: (1) a requirement to keep records of the amount of sales tax benefits provided to each project and make those records available to the State upon request; (2) a requirement to report to the State, within 30 days after providing financial assistance, the amount of sales tax benefits intended to be provided to a project; and (3) a requirement that the Agency post on the internet and make available without charge copies of its resolutions and agreements appointing an agent or project operator or otherwise related to any project it establishes. A project operator ("Project Operator") is appointed by the Agency through the filing of form ST-60 with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

(E) The 2013 Budget Law requires that the Agency recapture State sales tax benefits where: (1) the project is not entitled to receive those benefits; (2) the exemptions exceed the amount authorized, or are claimed for unauthorized property or services; or (3) the project operator failed to use property or services in the manner required by its agreements with the Agency.

(F) For purposes of this Policy, with respect to a particular calendar year and a particular project, the term "financial assistance" shall include the following:

(1) Proceeds of debt obligations issued by the Agency with respect to said project have been disbursed during the calendar year in question.

(2) Any tax exemption or abatement (a) which may have directly or indirectly benefitted the project or project operator shall during such calendar year and (b) which resulted from (i) the Agency's title to, possession of or, control of or other interest in said project, or (ii) the designation by the Agency of said project occupant (or any sublessee, contractor, supplier or other operator of the project) as an agent of the Agency.

(3) Any grant made by the Agency with respect to said project or project operator shall during such calendar year.

(4) Any loan made by the Agency with respect to said project or project operator shall during such calendar year.

(G) For purposes of this Policy, with respect to a particular project, the term "Project Agreements" shall mean the project documents between the Agency and an applicant with respect to the applicant's project. In addition to a lease agreement or installment sale agreement between the Agency and the applicant, the Project Agreements may also include a payment in lieu of tax agreement, a project agreement, and one or more recapture agreements, as well as security agreements intended to ensure compliance by the applicant with the requirements of the Project Agreements.

## SECTION 2 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

(A) Under the Act, the Agency is required to submit certain annual reports relating to Agency projects to the New York State Office of the Comptroller. In order to satisfy its annual reporting requirements and other requirements under the Act and certain other requirements imposed by the Act, as well as the new requirements imposed upon the Agency by the 2013 Budget Law, the Agency will require each applicant for financial assistance from the Agency agree to satisfy the following requirements as a condition to the receipt of such financial assistance:

(1) Any applicant requesting a sales tax exemption from the Agency must include in the application a realistic estimate of the value of the savings anticipated to be received by the applicant. Each applicant is hereby warned to provide a realistic estimate in the application, as the 2013 Budget Law and the regulations expected to be enacted thereunder are expected to require that the Agency recapture any benefit that exceeds the greater of (a) the amount listed in said application or (b) authorized by the Agency in a separate resolution.

(2) Any applicant requesting a sales tax exemption from the Agency must agree to annually file (and cause any sublessee, contractor, supplier or other operator of the project to file annually) with the State, on a form and in such manner as is prescribed by the State, a statement of the value of all sales and use tax exemptions claimed by the applicant and all contractors, subcontractors, consultants and other agents of the applicant under the authority granted to the applicant by the Agency.

(3) Any applicant requesting a sales tax exemption from the Agency must agree to furnish to the Agency a copy of each such annual report submitted to the State by the applicant or any sublessee, contractor, supplier or other operator of the project.

(4) As required by the 2013 Budget Law, the Project Agreements will provide that any sales tax benefits determined by the Agency to be subject to recapture pursuant to the 2013 Budget Law must be remitted by the applicant to the Agency within 20 days of a request therefor by the Agency.

(5) The applicant agrees that, as required by the 2013 Budget Law, the resolutions of the Agency with respect to the project and the Project Agreements will now be publicly available on the Agency's website. As provided in the New York Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL"), the applicant may request that certain information contained therein be redacted and, if the applicant

can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Agency that release of said information would result in substantial harm to the applicant's competitive position, the Agency may comply with such request.

(6) Except as otherwise provided by collective bargaining agreements, new employment opportunities created as a result of the Project will be listed with the New York State Department of Labor Community Services Division (the "DOC") and with the administrative entity (collectively with the DOC, the "JTPA Entities") of the service delivery area created by the federal job training partnership act (Public Law 97-300) ("JTPA"), as replaced by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-220), where the Project is located.

(7) Except as otherwise provided by collective bargaining agreements, where practicable, the applicant will first consider persons eligible to participate in JTPA programs who shall be referred by JTPA Entities for new employment opportunities created as a result of the Project.

(8) The applicant agrees, whenever requested by the Agency, to provide and certify or cause to be provided and certified such information concerning the Applicant, its finances and other topics as the Agency from time to time reasonably considers necessary or appropriate, including, but not limited to, such information as to enable the Agency to make any reports required by law or governmental regulation.

(9) Within sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year, the applicant shall furnish to the Agency a certificate of an Authorized Representative of the applicant stating that no event of default under the Project Agreements has occurred or is continuing or, if any Event of Default exists, specifying the nature and period of existence thereof and what action the applicant has taken or proposes to take with respect thereto, and setting forth the unpaid principal balance of the Bonds and accrued but unpaid interest thereon and that no defenses, offsets or counterclaims exist with respect to the indebtedness evidenced thereby.

(10) The applicant shall insure that all employees and applicants for employment with regard to the Project are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination.

(11) The applicant agrees to file with the Agency, no later than sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year, reports regarding the number of people employed at the project and certain other matters.

(B) In order to ensure that the project will create the public benefits anticipated by the Agency accruing to the residents and taxpayers of the County, the Project Agreements will require that each Agency project operator agree that, annually, within 60 days of the end of each calendar year during which a project has received any financial assistance from the Agency, such Agency project operator will complete and file with the Agency an annual report (the "Operator Annual Report") describing the status of the project during the calendar year just completed, including such information as: jobs projected to be created/retained; estimated salary of jobs to be created/retained; current number of jobs; construction jobs created through the year; exemptions from taxes and payments in lieu of tax made; and status of bond financing related to the project.

### SECTION 3 ENFORCEMENT

(A) The Agency will use the information contained in the Operator Annual Report, and may use site visits and follow ups, to gauge the status of a project in relation to the original commitment of the applicant as stated in the project application.

(B) Should the staff or board members of the Agency find significant deficiencies in any area; the project will be further reviewed. Examples of situations that may trigger review and/or action by the Agency include:

(1) If the project operator shifts production activity to a facility outside of the County and, as a result, fails to achieve the economic benefits projected.

(2) If the project operator moves all operations outside the County, neglects to move operations to the County, or the project does not otherwise conform to the project described in the Project Agreements.

(3) If a significant shortfall in economic benefits is identified, as compared with the application, such as a significant shortfall in new job creation/retention and/or expected major investments in the business.

(4) Failure to comply with annual reporting requirements or provide the Agency with requested information.

(5) Sale or closure of a project within the time period the applicant receives Agency financial assistance.

(C) Should the staff or board members of the Agency find significant deficiencies in the achievement of the economic benefits promised as described in the application and the Project Agreements, the project operator will be asked to provide justification for said shortfalls. The board members of the Agency will compare these statements against industry standards, as well as the current market and economic conditions, to determine whether the project operator did all that it could to meet its obligations as outlined in the application and the Project Agreements.

(D) The board members of the Agency will determine on a case-by-case basis whether a hearing is appropriate to allow a project operator to be heard on the issue regarding said project operator's failure to achieve the projected economic benefits.

(E) Should the board members of the Agency find that (1) significant deficiencies in the achievement of the economic benefits promised as described in the application and the Project Agreements have occurred and (2) there appears to be no justification satisfactory to the Agency to explain these deficiencies, the Agency may determine to undertake any enforcement action available to the Agency under the Project Agreements to seek redress for these deficiencies.

(F) Enforcement action taken by the Agency under the Project Agreements may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(1) Requesting cure of the deficiency by a final notice letter.

(2) Forwarding an event of default notice under the Project Agreements.

(3) Notifying appropriate New York State agencies of the project operator's failure to comply with such requirements.

(4) Terminating any or all of the Project Agreements early.



- (5) Reducing the value of financial assistance moving forward.
- (6) Terminating any future financial assistance.
- (7) Requiring that the value of all the financial assistance utilized to date to be repaid in full or in part, with interest.

(G) In connection with the undertaking of a Project and/or the preparation of Project Agreements, the Agency also reserves the right to negotiate the terms and conditions of these recapture provisions.

#### **SECTION 4 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy shall be effective with respect to any project undertaken by the Agency after the date of approval of this Policy, including but not limited to any Project Agreements signed or amended after such date.

Adopted March 29, 2022