### EXHIBIT B TO PETITION OF MOONSHOT SOLAR, LLC

#### **TESTIMONY OF PIPER MILLER**

## Q. Please state your name, current position and the address of your employer.

My name is Piper Miller, Director of Development for Pine Gate Renewables ("Pine Gate"). Pine Gate serves on behalf of and in partnership with Birch Creek Development, LLC ("Birch Creek") in overseeing the development of the Moonshot Solar, LLC ("Moonshot Solar") project. Pine Gate is also an upstream owner in Birch Creek, as outlined in Exhibit A.

#### Q. Please describe your professional background.

In my current role as Director of Development for Pine Gate, I oversee development strategy and execution for Pine Gate's portfolio of solar projects in the Southeast US. Prior roles at Pine Gate include working as a Market and Policy Manager leading development and government relations initiatives across multiple states. Prior to working in solar energy, I worked in the public sector as a sustainability professional, managing policy and program development for environmental and energy initiatives in local government.

#### Q. Please provide the reason for your testimony.

A. I am providing testimony in support of the petition of Moonshot Solar to receive a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Mississippi Public Service Commission.

#### Q. Please provide background information on Moonshot Solar, LLC.

Moonshot Solar is a project company created to develop, own, and operate a 78.5 megawatt (78.5 MW<sub>AC</sub>) solar generating facility in Hancock County, MS (the "Facility"). The single member of Moonshot Solar is Birch Creek Development, LLC, a Delaware limited liability corporation with offices at 880 Apollo St, Suite 333, El Segundo, CA 90245. The Facility is expected to reach commercial operation by 2022.

#### Q. Please provide background information on Birch Creek Development, LLC.

A. Birch Creek Development is a utility-scale solar company that specializes in the development, financing, ownership, and operation of utility-scale solar projects across the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic. Birch Creek Development does not intend to become a public utility in Mississippi. Birch Creek Development is working in partnership with Pine Gate Renewables to develop, finance, and construct Moonshot Solar, LLC. Pine Gate Renewables is a vertically-integrated solar company and, in addition to supporting development and financing, will be providing engineering, construction, and O&M services for Moonshot Solar.

#### Q. What are the benefits to the public from the construction of the facility?

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Α.

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- A. The Moonshot Solar project will serve as a reliable, cost-competitive source of renewable energy for Mississippi customers and the surrounding community for over 35 years of useful life. The energy offtake of the Facility is still yet to be determined, but could be sold to one or more Mississippi electric utilities for resale. The Facility intends to sell wholesale energy, and potentially other project attributes, to one or more electric utilities pursuant to a power purchase agreement at rates competitive with traditional resources. Additionally, the project will provide direct and indirect economic benefits to the state, county, and surrounding area in the form of taxes (sales and ad valorem), jobs, and related ancillary economic impacts. Construction of the Facility is expected to span roughly one year and will generate approximately 300 jobs during construction, and approximately five full-time jobs over the life of the Facility.
- Q. Please provide further details regarding the design and the specifications of the solar project for which you are seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.
- A. The planned facility is a 78.5 MW<sub>AC</sub> electric generating station delivering wholesale power directly to the Mississippi Power Company/Southern Company transmission grid. The Facility will utilize approximately 265,000 400-Watt photovoltaic panels that will be ground-mounted via steel racking structures and single-axis tracking systems. The panels will be connected to AC-DC inverters, and subsequently to an on-site step-up transformer (GSU), before ultimately interconnecting to the Mississippi Power Company/Southern Company transmission system at a voltage of 115 kV.
- Q. Are you familiar with the supporting data requirements for certificate proceedings pursuant to Schedule 1 of Appendix A to Rule 7 of the Public Utility Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Commission?
- A. Yes, and I will respond to each item in turn.
- Q. Item 1: If corporation, a copy of the corporate charter or its articles of incorporation as filed with the Secretary of State.
- A. A true and correct copy of the Limited Liability Company Certificate of Formation of Moonshot Solar, LLC has been provided as an exhibit to the Petition.
- Q. Item 2: If foreign corporation, a copy of its authority to do business in the State of Mississippi.
- A. A true and correct copy of the foreign limited liability company registrations for Moonshot Solar, LLC in the State of Mississippi has been provided as an exhibit to the Petition.
- Q. Items 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 17.
- A. I understand from counsel that the Commission previously has determined that these items are not required for petitioners like Moonshot Solar, LLC which are not public utilities. Moonshot Solar respectfully requests a waiver of those requirements.

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- Q. Item 4: If a corporation, the names and addresses of its board of directors, officers and any person owning fifteen percent (15%) or more of its stock. If not a corporation, the names and addresses of all owners or partners.
- A. Moonshot Solar, LLC is a limited liability of which Birch Creek Development, LLC is a sole member. For additional ownership information, please see Exhibit A to the Petition.

Q. Item 6: A full legal description of the proposed service area.

A. Moonshot Solar, LLC will be selling energy and related products into broader wholesale power markets via the Mississippi Power Company/Southern Company transmission system, and thereby does not have a specific service area.

# Q. Item 8: A general description of new facilities.

- A. The Facility will be a 78.5 MW<sub>AC</sub> (105 MW<sub>DC</sub>) solar photovoltaic energy generating facility that intends to use single-axis tracker technology. The Facility will be comprised of approximately 265,000 400-Watt photovoltaic modules, as well as corresponding inverters, racking structures, tracking systems, and transformer.
- Q. Item 13: A complete set of engineering plans and specifications.
- A. Please see Exhibit E.
- Q. Item 14: A copy of any required approvals from Health or Environmental Quality authorities.
- A. Any such approvals required, such as an NPDES permit, will be obtained and provided as a supplement to the Petition.

Q. Item 15: An exhibit listing the names and addresses of all interested persons as defined in RP 2.115 herein together with a certificate that the filing utility has served a notice of the filing upon each.

- A. Please see Exhibit C.
- Q. Item 16: A copy of all testimony to be relied upon at hearing.
- A. The written testimony of Piper Miller and the Exhibits to the Petition will be relied upon at any hearing on the Petition.
- Q. Please describe any permits or approvals other than the Commission's approval required for the Facility to be constructed.
- A. Standard building and electrical permits and a state NPDES permit is required for this project. Upon further site investigation, we may determine that the wetland permits are required for construction of the facility. To date, Hancock County requires a Special Use Permit to be approved prior to construction of this facility.
- Q. Please provide a description of the timing of the project and any reasons you might have for the need for the Mississippi Commission to act before a certain date.
- A. Moonshot Solar is scheduled to reach Notice to Proceed to construction ("NTP") in the fourth quarter of 2021. The Facility will be constructed throughout the 2022 calendar year with the goal of reaching commercial operation by 12/31/2022.

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# BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# MOONSHOT SOLAR, LLC

# DOCKET NO. 20 -UA-059

# IN RE: PETITION OF MOONSHOT SOLAR, LLC, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION, OWNERSHIP, AND OPERATION OF A SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY IN HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

# AFFIDAVIT OF PIPER MILLER

PERSONALLY appeared before the undersigned officer authorized to administer oaths. Piper Miller, who being duly sworn, deposes and says; that the foregoing direct testimony was prepared by her or under her supervision; that said testimony was prepared for use as direct testimony on behalf of Moonshot Solar, LLC in the captioned proceeding; that the facts stated therein are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief; and that if asked the questions appearing therein, her answers, under oath, would be the same.

Dated at Asheville, North Carolina, the 21 day of May, 2020.

PIPER MILLER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 21 day of May, 2020.

Notary

My Commission Expires:

My Commis

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