



**B. Shaw**

**Solar Power Plant**

**June 2, 2011**



**The Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 2011-241: B. Shaw

Solar Power Plant

Application No. 1607235

Proceeding ID No. 1218

June 2, 2011

Published by

The Alberta Utilities Commission

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## 1 Introduction

1. B. Shaw (the applicant) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) requesting an approval to construct, operate and connect a 18.2-kilowatt (kW) solar power plant (the solar plant). The solar plant is located in the southeast quarter of Section 22, Township 24, Range 4, west of the Fifth Meridian. The application was registered on April 26, 2011, as Application No. 1607235.
2. The application was filed under sections 11 and 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*.
3. The solar plant would be located in a rural setting on 160 acres of land, west of the City of Calgary.
4. The solar plant would face in a southerly direction and consist of 96 modules (each module has 190 watt generation capacity) with a total generating capacity of 18.2 kW. The solar plant would be 42 metres long by 3.6 metres high. The solar plant may be visible to one adjacent residence. The residence is approximately 300 metres to the southwest of the solar plant.
5. The applicant indicated that there may be a slight chance of reflection from the solar plant at the residence when the sun is shining at approximately 25° off the horizon at about 10 a.m. for no more than 45 minutes to one hour. This would likely occur only twice a year. The applicant advised that, if concerns were raised, it would plant foliage in the vicinity of the solar plant to insure that the solar plant would not be visible to the adjacent resident.
6. There are no other environmental impacts associated with the project.
7. FortisAlberta Inc. (Fortis) has agreed to connect the solar plant to its distribution system, in accordance with the *Micro-Generation Regulation* of the *Electric Utilities Act*.
8. The applicant has obtained electrical permits for the project and has met all safety inspections and applicable municipal and zoning requirements.

## 2 Findings

9. The Commission notes that the project involves an installation of a solar plant that is qualified as a micro-generator pursuant to the *Micro-Generation Regulation* of the *Electric Utilities Act*.
10. The Commission has reviewed the application and determined that the technical, location and environmental requirements of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* have been met.

11. The Commission notes that, if concerns are received from the adjacent landowner, the applicant has committed to plant foliage in the vicinity of the solar plant to insure that the solar plant would not be visible to the adjacent resident.
12. In view of the above, the Commission considered that its decision or order would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person and therefore, did not issue a notice of application or require a hearing pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.
13. Based on the foregoing, the Commission considers the project to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

### **3 Decision**

14. Pursuant to sections 11 and 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants the approvals set out in Appendix 1 – Solar Plant Approval No. U2011-208 and Appendix 2 - Connection Order No. U2011-209 – June 2, 2011, to B. Shaw to construct, operate and connect the Solar Plant (Appendices 1 and 2 will be distributed separately).

Dated on June 2, 2011

### **The Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Mark Kolesar  
Commission Member