



# HEARTWOOD SOLAR II

Dark Skies Lighting Plan  
Fayette Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan

**Prepared for:**

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## **Dark Skies Lighting Plan**

Heartwood Solar II, LLC (“Heartwood Solar II” or “the Applicant”) proposes to construct and operate a ground-mounted photovoltaic solar system known as Heartwood Solar II Project (“the Project”). The Project entails the development of a 140-megawatt (MW) ground-mounted photovoltaic solar system, spanning approximately 1,015 fenced acres in Fayette Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. The Applicant has provided Fayette Township with this Dark Skies Lighting Plan (“the Plan”) which follows the five principles for responsible outdoor lighting outlined by Dark Sky International. This Plan is designed to minimize light pollution by using lighting strategies that prevent unnecessary light spill into the environment, particularly the night sky. The goal is to reduce/minimize light pollution while preserving natural nightscapes.

As part of the Plan, Heartwood Solar II will follow the Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting as outlined below:

### **1. Use the Minimum Amount of Light Needed – Useful Lighting**

- a. Heartwood Solar II will avoid over-lighting and unnecessary lighting in areas where it is not required throughout the Project. The Project will not require exterior lighting within the PV array. The Project will include permanent lighting at the Project substation and operations and maintenance (O&M) building. Lighting from the substation and O&M building will not adversely impact adjacent properties or traffic on adjacent streets, nor produce significant light pollution.

### **2. Use Properly Shielded Fixtures – Targeted Lighting**

- a. Heartwood Solar II will direct light where it is needed and not allow the light to spill into the sky or onto neighboring properties. If needed, Heartwood Solar II will use full cutoff or fully shielded fixtures that direct light downward, minimizing light spill and reducing the amount of light that escapes into the sky.

### **3. Use Appropriate Lighting Types – Lighting Level**

- a. Heartwood Solar II will utilize energy-efficient lighting, such as LED bulbs with low color temperatures. Heartwood Solar II will also consider solar-powered lights where possible to reduce energy usage.

### **4. Consider the Timing of Lighting – Controlled Lighting**

- a. Heartwood Solar II may utilize motion sensors and dimming controls to automatically adjust lighting levels throughout the night based on the amount of

project related activity. Lights at the Project substation and O&M building may be dimmed or turned off during late hours when activity is low.

#### **5. Avoid Blue Light – Warm Colored Lighting**

- a. Where possible, Heartwood Solar II will choose lighting with warm color temperatures (below 3000K) instead of cooler, bluer light, which has the tendency to attract insects and wildlife.

Heartwood Solar II is committed to reducing light pollution while ensuring safety and functionality. By following the principles outlined above, this plan aims to protect the nighttime environment.