# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATORY BOARD PUERTO RICO ENERGY BUREAU

IN RE: REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION PALMETTO SOLAR LLC

**CASE NO.:** NEPR-CT-2025-0011

**SUBJECT:** Resolution and Order regarding *Motion to Request Certification and Request for Confidential Treatment* filed by Palmetto Solar LLC.

## **RESOLUTION AND ORDER**

On September 29, 2025, Palmetto Solar, LLC ("Palmetto Solar") filed before the Energy Bureau of the Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board ("Energy Bureau") a document titled *Motion to Request Certification and Request for Confidential Treatment* ("September 29 Motion") with several documents corresponding to its Certification as an Electric Power Service Company ("Certification Application").

Palmetto Solar is seeking certification as an Electric Power Service Company as per Regulation 8701<sup>1</sup>, specifically as a provider of distributed photovoltaic (PV) generation with an aggregated capacity of one (1) MW or more.

The Application includes the following documents:

1. Attachment 1: *Personal Information Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B01) with supporting information and documentation.

As shareholders or owners of the company: Palmetto Clean Technology Inc. is named as holding company.

#### Annexes for Palmetto Solar

- Certificate of Good Standing issued on September 2, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- Certificate of Legal Entity issued on September 2, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- Certificate of Authorization to do Business in Puerto Rico issued on September 2, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- Certificate of Authorization to do Business of a Foreign Corporation issued on September 2, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.

## Annexes for Palmetto Clean Technology Inc.

- Certificate of Authorization to do Business in Puerto Rico issued on September 16, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- Certificate of Authorization to do Business of a Foreign Corporation issued on September 16, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- Certificate of Legal Entity issued on September 16, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State.
- 2. Attachment 2: Filing Fee Evidence for *Personal Information Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B01).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Amendment to Regulation No. 8618, on Certifications, Annual Fees and Operational Plans of Electric Service Providers in Puerto Rico, Regulation 8701, February 17, 2016 ("Regulation 8701"), as amended by Amendment to Regulation No. 8701, on Certifications, Annual Fees and Operational Plans of Electric Service Providers in Puerto Rico, Regulation 9182, June 24, 2020 ("Regulation 9182").

- 3. Attachment 3: *Operational Report Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B03) and supporting information.
- 4. Attachment 4: Filing Fee for *Operational Report Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B03).
- 5. Attachment 5: *Request for Certification Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04) with the following information:
  - Aggregated capacity of company's generation (MW): Project not yet operational. Estimated Aggregate Capacity for 2025 is 1 – 3 MW.
  - Annual energy billed (MWh): Project not yet operational. Estimated annual energy billed (MWh) in 2025 is approximately 1,800 MWh.
  - Energy source used in installations: Solar PV and battery energy storage systems with a nominal capacity of less than 1 MW.
- 6. Attachment 6: Filing Fee for *Request for Certification Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04).
- 7. Attachment 7: Certifications required by *the Request for Certification Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04); and Financial Statements:
  - Certification of sufficient financial and economic resources to operate and offer its proposed energy services signed on September 26, 2025, by a Certified Public Accountant.
  - Certification issued on January 2, 2025, by the Puerto Rico Department of State, Puerto Rico Board of Accountancy for the Certified Public Accountant.
  - Palmetto Clean Technology Inc., Consolidated Financial Statements for Fiscal Year ending on December 31, 2024.
- 8. Attachment 8: Supporting documentation for *Request for Certification Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04) about human resources and personnel:
  - Statement of Sufficient Human Resources signed on August 29, 2025, by Palmetto Solar President.
  - Summary of operational personnel and their technical qualifications.
     Licenses, Certifications or academic information included for technical and specialized personnel.

Palmetto Solar requested confidential designation and treatment of the September 29 Motion and the documents attached to it. Palmetto Solar further indicated it submitted redacted versions of the documents for which confidential treatment was being sought. Nonetheless, the filing did not include such public/redacted versions.

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#### II. Applicable Law and Analysis

A. Request of Certification Electric Power Companies (Form NEPR-B04)

Act No. 57-2014<sup>2</sup> requires all electric service companies<sup>3</sup> to obtain a certification<sup>4</sup> and to file certain information under the terms established by the Energy Bureau. Section 3.05 of Regulation 8701 empowers the Energy Bureau to issue a cease-and-desist order, revoke, and annul any decision, ruling or order issued in relation to the process of any Request for Certification, when an electric service company "... has failed to comply with its duty to provide or update the information required under Act 57-2014, as amended, or this Regulation."

Sections 2.01 and 3.03 of Regulation 8701 describe the information that every electric service company seeking to offer services in Puerto Rico must submit with its Request for Certification.

The Energy Bureau **TAKES NOTICE** of the September 29 Motion and the information, forms and documents included or attached to it, including its Request for Certification (Form NEPR-B04) and **DETERMINES** that Palmetto Solar **COMPLIED** with the applicable regulatory criteria to be certified as an electric service company under Regulation 8701.

B. Operational Report Electric Power Companies (Form NEPR-B04)

In the September 29 Motion Palmetto Solar reports "that it has no direct employees in Puerto Rico. Instead, Palmetto Solar engages a qualified third-party company to provide all asset management and operational services."

The *Operational Report Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04) filed by Palmetto Solar with its Certification Application includes an annex where there are two (2) contractors identified, with the following caption: "Any and all installation and/or servicing work related to the systems will be contracted through licensed contractors with proper DACO credentials."

Furthermore, through Attachment 8 to the September 29 Motion, Palmetto Solar included a *Statement of Sufficient Human Resources* through which it restated that it has no direct employees in Puerto Rico and that it hires a competent company for all asset management and operation services. Palmetto also included *Curiculum Vitae* and technical credentials of the personnel that would carry out the operations.

The Energy Bureau **DETERMINES** Palmetto Solar **COMPLIED** with proof of legal personality to operate in Puerto Rico for the contracted entities for their system operations.

C. Regulation 8863 Requirements for Electric Bill and Informal Administrative Procedure for Objection and Suspension of Service



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Known as the Puerto Rico Energy Transformation and RELIEF Act, as amended, ("Act 57-2014").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 1.3(1) of Act 57-2014 defines the term 'Electric Power Company' or 'Electric Power Service' as follows: 'Shall mean any natural or juridical person or entity, energy cooperative, engaged in the provision of generation services, transmission and distribution services, billing, wheeling, grid services, energy storage, resale of electric power as well as any other electric power service as defined by the Bureau. The Electric Power Authority or its successor as well as any Contractor under a Partnership or Sales Contract executed in relation to PREPA Transactions conducted by virtue of Act No. 120-2018 shall be deemed Electric Power Service Companies for purposes of this Act.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Section 6.13 of Act 57-2014. See also Section 1.3(h) of Act 57-2014 which defines the term "Certified" as follows: "Shall mean every electric power service company that has been evaluated and authorized by the Energy [Bureau]."

Section 1.08 of Regulation 8863<sup>5</sup> defines the terms of the principal requirements that electric service companies in the business of providing retail electric power service must establish for their customers:

8) "Electric Power Service Bill" or "Electric Bill" or "Bill" refers to the document sent periodically by the Electric Service Company to Customers or consumers wherein all the components, charges, or rates that make up the final consumption cost each Customer or Consumer must pay are listed. Bills may be sent by regular mail, email, or accessed by the Customer through a website.

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13) "Informal Administrative Procedure" or "Informal Procedure" refers to the rules established in Article 6.27 of Law 57-2014, as amended, and in this Regulation. Said Informal Procedure shall include the process to be followed by persons and Customers in relation to objections to electric bills and the procedure for the suspension of service before Electric Service Companies.

Sections 3.01 and 3.02 of Regulation 8863 details the format and content of electric bills. Section 2.01 of Regulation 8863 establishes the requirement of an informal administrative procedure for objecting to electric bills:

All Electric Service Companies must publish the Informal Administrative Procedure for Objecting to Electric Bills established in this Regulation, including the procedure for requesting reconsideration and review before the Commission, on their website, together with the information requirements that the Customer must file and the forms related to it within a period of fifteen (15) days, beginning on the effective date of this Regulation. The referred websites must include a direct link from their homepage to the place where the Informal Procedure and related forms are stored, for the purposes of ease of access. Furthermore, Electric Service Companies must publish the Informal Procedure in a place that is easily accessible by the public in each one of their regional and commercial offices where Customer service is provided.

The Energy Bureau **DETERMINES** if Palmetto Solar will engage in retail electric power billing operations it **SHALL COMPLY** with the requirements of Regulation 8863.

D. Confidentiality Designation and Treatment Request

Palmetto Solar requested confidential treatment of the September 29 Motion and the documents attached to it under Section 6.15 of Act 57-2014; Section 1.15 of Regulation 8701; and *In Re: Policy on Management of Confidential Information in Procedures before the Commission*, Case No.: CEPR-MI-2016-0009, Resolution and Order issued on August 31, 2016 ("Confidential Treatment Resolution"). Palmetto Solar further indicated it submitted redacted versions of the documents for which confidential treatment was being sought. Nonetheless, the filing did not include such public/redacted versions. The Energy Bureau **DETERMINES** Palmetto Solar **SHALL COMPLY** with the corresponding requirements of confidential designation and treatment.

## III. Conclusion

Upon reviewing the September 29 Motion and the documents filed by Palmetto Solar as part of the *Request for Certification Electric Power Companies* (Form NEPR-B04), the Energy Bureau **DETERMINES** Palmetto Solar complied with Regulation 8701 and **CERTIFIES** Palmetto Solar as an Electric Service Company. Palmetto Solar **IS NOT** authorized to offer energy services until it complies with the information described below.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Regulation on the Procedure for Bill Review and Suspension of Electric Service Due to Failure to Pay, December 1, 2016 ("Regulation 8863").

The Energy Bureau **ORDERS** Palmetto Solar to, **within thirty (30) days from the notification of this Resolution and Order**, provide the corresponding information and documentation described in Part II-C of this Resolution and Order. Specifically, a model customer bill reflecting the required elements for the Energy Bureau's review and approval, along with a model outlining the procedure for customer objections. Additionally, the Energy Bureau **ORDERS** Palmetto Solar to, within **ten (10) days from the notification of this Resolution and Order**, submit public/redacted versions of the documents for which confidential treatment is being sought, as discussed in Part II-D of this Resolution and Order.

Furthermore, the Energy Bureau **HIGHLIGHTS** that this certification does not exempt Palmetto Solar from complying with LUMA's safety and interconnection requirements.

The Energy Bureau **WARNS** Palmetto Solar that, in accordance with Art. 6.36 of Act 57-2014, noncompliance with this Resolution and Order will carry the imposition of fines.

Be it notified and published,

Edison Avilés Deliz Chairman

Ferdinand A. Ramos Soegaard Associate Commissioner Lillian Mateo Santos Associate Commissioner

Sylvia B. Ugarte Araujo Associate Commissioner

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the majority of the members of the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau agreed on October 1/2, 2025. Associate Commissioner Antonio Torres Miranda did not intervene. Also certify that on October 1/2, 2025, I have proceeded with the filing of the Resolution and was notified by email to: apc@mcvpr.com.

I sign this in San Juan, Puerto Rico, today, October 17, 2025.

Sonia Seda Gaztambide Clerk