RNTPC Paper No. A/YL-NTM/399 For Consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee on 26.5.2020

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

APPLICATION NO. A/YL-NTM/399

(for 1st Deferment)

Applicant : Cornerstone Renewable Energy Limited

Site : Lots 978 (Part), 979 (Part), 1043 and 1047 in D.D. 102, Siu Hum Tsuen, San

Tin, Yuen Long

Site Area : About 2,264 m²

<u>Lease</u> : Block Government Lease (demised for agricultural use)

<u>Plan</u>: Approved Ngau Tam Mei Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/YL-NTM/12

Zoning : "Green Belt" ("GB")

Application: Proposed Public Utility Installation (Solar Photovoltaic System)

1. Background

On 6.2.2020, the applicant submitted an application for public utility installation (solar photovoltaic system) at the application site (**Plan A-1**). In light of the special work arrangement for Government departments due to the novel coronavirus infection, the meeting originally scheduled for 3.4.2020 for consideration of the application has been rescheduled, and the Town Planning Board (the Board) has agreed to defer consideration of the application. The application is now scheduled for consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee (the Committee) at this meeting.

2. Request for Deferment

On 18.5.2020, the applicant wrote to the Secretary of the Board and requested the Board to defer making a decision on the application in order to allow two months' time for the applicant to wait for the formulation of assessment criteria on applications for installation of solar energy system for preparation of further information (**Appendix I**).

3. Planning Department's Views

- 3.1 The Planning Department <u>has no objection</u> to the request for deferment as the justification for deferment meets the criteria for deferment as set out in the Town Planning Board Guidelines on Deferment of Decision on Representations, Comments, Further Representations and Applications made under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 33) in that the applicant is awaiting the formulation of assessment criteria on applications for installation of solar energy system for preparation of further information, the deferment period is not indefinite and the deferment would not affect the interests of other relevant parties.
- 3.2 Should the Committee agree to defer making a decision on the application, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration within two months upon receipt of further submission from the applicant. If the further information submitted by the applicant is not substantial and can be processed within a shorter time, the application could be submitted to an earlier meeting for the Committee's consideration. The applicant should be advised that the Committee has allowed two months for preparation of submission of further information, and no further deferment would be granted unless under very special circumstances.

4. Decision Sought

The Committee is invited to consider whether or not to accede to the applicant's request for deferment. If the request is not acceded to, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration at the next meeting.

5. Attachments

Appendix I Email dated 18.5.2020 from the applicant

Plan A-1 Location Plan

PLANNING DEPARTMENT MAY 2020