

SUB-AGENT APPOINTMENT AGREEMENT

THIS SUB-AGENT APPOINTMENT AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”), dated as of June 2, 2023 by and between CVE US EI4 MANLIUS NORTH, LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, having an office for the transaction of business at 109 West 27th Street, New York, New York 10001 (the “Company”), and SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS, INC. d/b/a GREENSPARK SOLAR, INC., a corporation of the State of New York, having an office for the transaction of business at 318 Timothy Lane, Ontario, New York 14519 (the “Sub-Agent”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (the “Agency”) was created by Chapter 435 of the Laws of 1970 of the State of New York (the “State”) and Chapter 676 of the Laws of 1975 of the State of New York, as amended pursuant to Title 1 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (collectively, the “Act”) as a body corporate and politic and as a public benefit corporation of the State of New York (the “State”); and

WHEREAS, by a resolution duly adopted by the members of the Agency on October 6, 2022 (the “Approving Resolution”), the Agency authorized the Company to act as its agent for the purposes of undertaking a project for the benefit of the Company (the “Project”) consisting of: (A)(1) the acquisition of a leasehold interest in approximately 38.785 acres of land to be subdivided from an approximately 225 acre parcel of land located on Duguid Road (tax map no. 099.-01-03.0) and anticipated to be known as 8107 East Seneca Turnpike in the Town of Manlius, Onondaga County, New York (the “Land”); (2) the construction on the Land of an approximately 13.7 acre solar power electric generating photo-voltaic plant (the “Facility”); and (3) the acquisition and installation therein and thereon of related fixtures, machinery, equipment and other tangible personal property (collectively, the “Equipment”) (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment being collectively referred to as the “Project Facility”); (B) the granting of certain “financial assistance” (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the Act) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real estate transfer taxes and mortgage recording taxes (subject to certain statutory limitations) (the “Financial Assistance”); and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase) or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other person as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency; and

WHEREAS, by the Approving Resolution, the Agency delegated to the Company the authority to appoint sub-agents subject to the execution of a project agreement by and between the Company and the Agency and compliance with the terms set forth therein; and

WHEREAS, the Company and the Agency entered into a Project Agreement by and between the Company and the Agency dated as of March 1, 2023 (the “Project Agreement”);

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. The Company hereby appoints the Sub-Agent as an agent of the Agency for the purpose of assisting the Company and the Agency in the completion of the Project and benefitting

from the State and local sales and use tax exemption relative to expenditures made in furtherance thereof. The Sub-Agent is only an agent of the Agency for the aforementioned purposes. The Sub-Agent hereby agrees to limit its activities as agent for the Agency under the authority of this Agreement to acts reasonably related to the completion of the Project Facility.

2. The Sub-Agent covenants, agrees and acknowledges:

a. To make all records and information regarding State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits claimed by it in connection with the Project available to the Company and the Agency upon request. The Sub-Agent agrees to comply with all procedures and policies established by the State Department of Taxation and Finance, or any similar entity, regarding the documenting or reporting of any State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits, including providing to the Company all information of the Sub-Agent necessary for the Company to complete the State Department of Taxation and Finance's "Annual Report of Sales and Use Tax Exemptions" (Form ST-340).

b. To be bound by and comply with the terms and conditions of Section 875(3) of the Act as if such section were fully set forth herein. Without limiting the scope of the foregoing, the Sub-Agent acknowledges that pursuant to Section 875(3) of the Act, the Agency shall recover, recapture, receive or otherwise obtain from the Sub-Agent the portion of the Financial Assistance (the "Recapture Amount") consisting of: (1) (a) that portion of the State sales and use tax exemption claimed by the Sub-Agent to which the Sub-Agent was not entitled, which is in excess of the amount of the State sales and use tax exemption authorized by the Agency or which is for property or services not authorized by the Agency; or (b) the full amount of such State sales and use tax exemption claimed by the Sub-Agent, if the Sub-Agent fails to comply with a material term or condition regarding the use of the property or services as represented to the Agency in the application to the Agency in regard to the Project or otherwise; and (2) any interest or penalties thereon imposed by the Agency or by operation of law or by judicial order or otherwise.

c. That the failure of the Sub-Agent to promptly pay such Recapture Amount to the Agency will be grounds for the State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance to collect sales and use taxes from the Sub-Agent under Article 28 of the Tax Law, together with interest and penalties. In addition to the foregoing, the Sub-Agent acknowledges and agrees that for purposes of exemption from State sales and use taxation, "sales and use taxation" shall mean sales and compensating use taxes and fees imposed by article twenty-eight or twenty-eight-A of the Tax Law but excluding such taxes imposed in a city by section eleven hundred seven or eleven hundred eight of such article twenty-eight.

d. That all purchases made by the Sub-Agent in connection with the Project shall be made using "IDA Agent or Project Operator Exempt Purchase Certificate" (Form ST-123, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A), and it shall be the responsibility of the Sub-Agent (and not the Agency) to complete Form ST-123. The Sub-Agent acknowledges and agrees that it shall identify the Project on each bill and invoice for such purchases and further indicate on such bills or invoices that the Sub-Agent is making purchases of tangible personal property or services for use in the Project as agent of the Agency. For purposes of indicating who the purchaser is, the Sub-Agent acknowledges and agrees that the bill of invoice should state, "I, [NAME OF SUB-

AGENT], certify that I am a duly appointed agent of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency and that I am purchasing the tangible personal property or services for use in the following IDA project and that such purchases qualify as exempt from sales and use taxes under my Sub-Agent Appointment Agreement.” The Sub-Agent further acknowledges and agrees that the following information shall be used by the Sub-Agent to identify the Project on each bill and invoice: CVE US EI4 Manlius North, LLC Project; Duguid Road (to be subdivided from tax map no. 099.-01-03.0) and anticipated to be known as 8107 East Seneca Turnpike in the Town of Manlius, Onondaga County, New York; IDA Project No.: 3101-21-16A.

e. That the Sub-Agent shall indemnify and hold the Agency harmless from all losses, expenses, claims, damages and liabilities arising out of or based on labor, services, materials and supplies, including equipment, ordered or used in connection with the Project Facility (including any expenses incurred by the Agency in defending any claims, suits or actions which may arise as a result of any of the foregoing), for such claims or liabilities that arise as a result of the Sub-Agent acting as agent for the Agency pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise.

The Sub-Agent shall indemnify and hold the Agency, its members, officers, employees and agents and anyone for whose acts or omissions the Agency or any one of them may be liable, harmless from all claims and liabilities for loss or damage to property or any injury to or death of any person that may be occasioned subsequent to the date hereof by any cause whatsoever in relation only to Sub-Agent’s work on or for the Project Facility, including any expenses incurred by the Agency in defending any claims, suits or actions which may arise as a result of the foregoing.

The foregoing defenses and indemnities shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement and shall apply whether or not the claim, liability, cause of action or expense is caused or alleged to be caused, in whole or in part, by the activities, acts, fault or negligence of the Agency, its members, officers, employees and agents, anyone under the direction and control of any of them, or anyone for whose acts or omissions the Agency or any of them may be liable, and whether or not based upon the breach of a statutory duty or obligation or any theory or rule of comparative or apportioned liability, subject only to any specific prohibition relating to the scope of indemnities imposed by statutory law.

f. That as agent for the Agency or otherwise, the Sub-Agent will comply at the Sub-Agent’s sole cost and expense with all the requirements of all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations of whatever kind and howsoever denominated applicable to the Sub-Agent with respect to the Project Facility.

g. That Section 875(7) of the Act requires the Agency to post on its website all resolutions and agreements relating to the Sub-Agent’s appointment as an agent of the Agency or otherwise related to the Project, including this Agreement, and that Public Officers Law Article 6 declares that all records in the possession of the Agency (with certain limited exceptions) are open to public inspection and copying. If the Sub-Agent feels that there is information about the Sub-Agent in the Agency’s possession which are in the nature of trade secrets or information, the nature of which is such that if disclosed to the public or otherwise widely disseminated would cause substantial injury to the Sub-Agent’s competitive position, the Sub-Agent must identify such

elements in writing, supply same to the Agency prior to or contemporaneously with the execution hereof and request that such elements be kept confidential in accordance with Public Officers Law Article 6. Failure to do so will result in the posting by the Agency of all information in accordance with Section 875 of the Act.

h. That the Sub-Agent must timely provide the Company with the necessary information to permit the Company, pursuant to General Municipal Law §874(8), to timely file an Annual Statement with the State Department of Taxation and Finance on “Annual Report of Sales and Use Tax Exemptions” (Form ST-340) regarding the value of sales and use tax exemptions the Additional Agent claimed pursuant to the agency conferred on it by the Company with respect to this Project on an annual basis.

i. That the failure to comply with the foregoing will result in the loss of the exemption.

j. That if the Sub-Agent is the general contractor for the Project, then at all times following the execution of this Agreement, and during the term thereof, the Sub-Agent shall maintain or cause to be maintained the following insurance policies with an insurance company licensed in the State that has an A.M. Best rating of not less than A-:

(i) Insurance against loss or damage by fire, lightning, and other casualties customarily insured against (with a uniform standard extended coverage endorsement), such insurance to be in an amount not less than the full replacement value of the completed Project Facility, exclusive of footings and foundations, as determined by a recognized appraiser or insurer selected by the general contractor.

(ii) Workers’ compensation insurance, disability benefits’ insurance, and each other form of insurance which the general contractor is required by law to provide covering loss resulting from injury, sickness, disability, or death of employees of the general contractor who are located at or assigned to the Project Facility;

(iii) A policy of commercial general liability insurance with a limit of liability of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence on an “occurrence” basis and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate for bodily injury, including death, and property damage, including but not limited to, contractual liability under this Agreement and personal injury, with blanket excess liability coverage in an amount not less than \$2,000,000, covering the Project Facility and Equipment and the Company’s and the Agency’s use or occupancy thereof against all claims on account of bodily injury or death and property damage occurring upon, in or about the Project Facility or in connection with the ownership, maintenance, use and/or occupancy of the Project Facility and all appurtenant areas.

In addition, all insurance required by this section shall be with insurance companies of recognized financial standing selected by the general contractor and licensed to write such insurance in the State. Such insurance may be written with deductible amounts comparable to those on similar policies carried by other Persons engaged in businesses similar in size, character, and other respects to those in which the general contractor is engaged. All policies evidencing such insurance except the Workers’ Compensation policy shall name the general contractor as

insured and the Agency as an additional insured, as its interests may appear, and shall provide that such coverage with respect to the Agency be primary and non-contributory with any insurance secured by the Agency and require at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Agency of cancellation, reduction in policy limits, or material change in coverage thereof.

Prior to the effective date of this Agreement, the general contractor shall deliver to the Agency, satisfactory to the Agency in form and substance: (i) certificates evidencing all insurance required hereby; (ii) the additional insured endorsement(s) applicable to the Agency; (iii) the final insurance binder addressed to the general contractor covering the Project Facility; and (iv) evidence that the insurance so required is on a primary and non-contributory basis. In addition, the general contractor shall provide, if so requested by the Agency, a final and complete copy of each insurance policy within thirty (30) days of the execution of this Agreement.

The general contractor shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the Agency on or before the first business day of each January thereafter each of the items set forth in the immediately preceding paragraphs, dated not earlier than the immediately preceding month, reciting that there is in full force and effect, with a term covering at least the next succeeding calendar year, insurance in the amounts and of the types required hereby for so long as the general contractor is performing, supervising or causing work to be done on or at the Project Facility. The general contractor shall furnish to the Agency evidence that the policy has been renewed or replaced or is no longer required by this Agreement in each such year.

k. That every controversy, dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State, without regard to its conflicts-of-laws provisions that if applied might require the application of the laws of another jurisdiction; and that the Sub-Agent irrevocably and expressly submits to the exclusive personal jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the State and the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York, to the exclusion of all other courts, for the purposes of litigating every controversy, dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement.

3. Failure of the Sub-Agent to comply with any of the provisions of this Agreement shall result in the immediate nullification of the appointment of the Sub-Agent and the immediate termination of this Agreement and may result in the loss of the Sub-Agent's, the Company's State and local sales and use tax exemption with respect to the Project at the sole discretion of the Agency. In addition, such failure may result in the recapture of the State and local sales and use taxes avoided.

4. The Company acknowledges that the assumption of certain obligations by the Sub-Agent in accordance with this Agreement does not relieve the Company of its obligations under any provisions of the Approving Resolution, the Lease Agreement by and between the Company and the Agency dated as of March 1, 2023, the Project Agreement or of any other agreement entered into by the Company in connection with the Project.

5. The Company and the Sub-Agent agree that the Agency is a third-party beneficiary of this Agreement.

6. This Agreement shall be in effect until the earlier of: (i) the completion of the work on the Project by the Sub-Agent; or (ii) the Sub-Agent's loss of status as an agent of the Agency as set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of Sections 2(b), 2(c) and 2(e) shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

[NO FURTHER TEXT ON THIS PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company and the Sub-Agent have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their respective duty authorized officers, all as of the day and year first above written.

CVE US EI4 MANLIUS NORTH, LLC

By: 

Thibaut Delespaul
President

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
DEVELOPMENTS, INC. d/b/a
GREENSPARK SOLAR, INC.

By: 

Kevin Schulte
Chief Executive Officer

Exhibit A to Sub-Agent Appointment Agreement

Form ST-123
(see attached)



New York State Department of Taxation and Finance

New York State Sales and Use Tax

IDA Agent or Project Operator Exempt Purchase Certificate

Effective for projects beginning on or after June 1, 2014

ST-123

(7/14)

This certificate is not valid unless all entries have been completed.

Note: To be completed by the purchaser and given to the seller. Do not use this form to purchase motor fuel or diesel motor fuel exempt from tax. See Form FT-123, *IDA Agent or Project Operator Exempt Purchase Certificate for Fuel*.

Name of seller			Name of agent or project operator		
Street address			Street address		
City, town, or village	State	ZIP code	City, town, or village	State	ZIP code
Agent or project operator sales tax ID number (see instructions)					

Mark an **X** in one: Single-purchase certificate Blanket-purchase certificate (valid only for the project listed below)

To the seller:

You must identify the project on each bill and invoice for such purchases and indicate on the bill or invoice that the IDA or agent or project operator of the IDA was the purchaser.

Project information

I certify that I am a duly appointed agent or project operator of the named IDA and that I am purchasing the tangible personal property or services for use in the following IDA project and that such purchases qualify as exempt from sales and use taxes under my agreement with the IDA.

Name of IDA		
Name of project		IDA project number (see CSC number)
Street address of project site		
City, town, or village	State	ZIP code
Enter the date that you were appointed agent or project operator (mm/dd/yy)	/	/
Enter the date that agent or project operator status ends (mm/dd/yy)	/	/

Exempt purchases

(Mark an **X** in boxes that apply)

- A. Tangible personal property or services (other than utility services and motor vehicles or tangible personal property installed in a qualifying motor vehicle) used to complete the project, but not to operate the completed project
- B. Certain utility services (gas, propane in containers of 100 pounds or more, electricity, refrigeration, or steam) used to complete the project, but not to operate the completed project
- C. Motor vehicle or tangible personal property installed in a qualifying motor vehicle

Certification: I certify that the above statements are true, complete, and correct, and that no material information has been omitted. I make these statements and issue this exemption certificate with the knowledge that this document provides evidence that state and local sales or use taxes do not apply to a transaction or transactions for which I tendered this document and that willfully issuing this document with the intent to evade any such tax may constitute a felony or other crime under New York State Law, punishable by a substantial fine and a possible jail sentence. I understand that this document is required to be filed with, and delivered to, the vendor as agent for the Tax Department for the purposes of Tax Law section 1838 and is deemed a document required to be filed with the Tax Department for the purpose of prosecution of offenses. I also understand that the Tax Department is authorized to investigate the validity of tax exclusions or exemptions claimed and the accuracy of any information entered on this document.

Signature of purchaser or purchaser's representative (include title and relationship)	Date
Type or print the name, title, and relationship that appear in the signature box	

Instructions

To the purchaser

You may use Form ST-123 if you:

- have been appointed as an agent or project operator by an industrial development agency (IDA) and
- the purchases qualify for exemption from sales and use tax as described in the IDA contract.

You may use Form ST-123 as a single-purchase certificate or as a blanket certificate covering the first and subsequent purchases qualifying for the project listed.

Agent or project operator sales tax ID number — If you are registered with the Tax Department for sales tax purposes, you must enter your sales tax identification number on this certificate. If you are not required to be registered, enter *N/A*.

Industrial development agencies and authorities (IDAs) are public benefit corporations under General Municipal Law Article 18-A and the Public Authorities Law, for the purpose of promoting, developing, encouraging, and assisting in the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, equipping, and furnishing of industrial, manufacturing, warehousing, commercial, research, and recreational facilities in New York State.

IDAs are exempt from the payment of sales and use tax on their purchases, in accordance with Tax Law section 1116(a)(1). However, IDAs do not normally make direct purchases for projects. Commonly, IDAs instead appoint a business enterprise or developer, contractor, or subcontractor as its agent or project operator. Such purchases made by the agent or project operator, acting within the authority granted by the IDA, are deemed to be made by the IDA and therefore exempt from tax.

Example 1: IDA agreement with its agent or project operator states that contractor X may make all purchases of materials and equipment necessary for completion of the project, as agent for the IDA. Contractor X rents a backhoe and a bulldozer for site preparation, purchases concrete and lumber to construct a building, and purchases machinery to be installed in the building. All these purchases by contractor X as agent of the IDA are exempt from tax.

Example 2: IDA agreement with its agent or project operator states that contractor X may make all purchases of materials and equipment to be incorporated into the project, as agent for the IDA. Contractor X makes the same purchases as in Example 1. Since the concrete, lumber, and machinery will actually be incorporated into the project, contractor X may purchase these items exempt from tax. However, rental of the backhoe and bulldozer is not exempt since these transactions are normally taxable and the IDA agreement does not authorize contractor X to make such rentals as agent of the IDA.

A contractor or subcontractor not appointed as agent or project operator of an IDA must present suppliers with Form ST-120.1, Contractor Exempt Purchase Certificate, when making purchases that are ordinarily exempt from tax in accordance with Tax Law sections 1115(a)(15) and 1115(a)(16). For more information, see Form ST-120.1.

Exempt purchases

To qualify, the purchases must be made within the authority granted by the IDA and used to complete the project (not to operate the completed project).

- A. Mark box A to indicate you are purchasing tangible personal property and services (other than utility services and motor vehicles or tangible personal property installed in a qualifying motor vehicle) exempt from tax.
- B. Mark box B to indicate you are purchasing certain consumer utility services used in completing the project exempt from tax. This includes gas, electricity, refrigeration, and steam; and gas, electric, refrigeration, and steam services.
- C. Mark box C to indicate you are purchasing a motor vehicle or tangible personal property related to a qualifying motor vehicle exempt from tax.

Misuse of this certificate

Misuse of this exemption certificate may subject you to serious civil and criminal sanctions in addition to the payment of any tax and interest due. These include:

- A penalty equal to 100% of the tax due;
- A \$50 penalty for each fraudulent exemption certificate issued;
- Criminal felony prosecution, punishable by a substantial fine and a possible jail sentence; and
- Revocation of your Certificate of Authority, if you are required to be registered as a vendor. See TSB-M-09(17)S, *Amendments that Encourage Compliance with the Tax Law and Enhance the Tax Department's Enforcement Ability*, for more information.

To the seller

When making purchases as agent or project operator of an IDA, the purchaser must provide you with this exemption certificate with all entries completed to establish the right to the exemption. You must identify the project on each bill and invoice for such purchases and indicate on the bill or invoice that the IDA or agent or project operator of the IDA was the purchaser.

As a New York State registered vendor, you may accept an exemption certificate in lieu of collecting tax and be protected from liability for the tax if the certificate is valid. The certificate will be considered valid if it is:

- accepted in good faith;
- in your possession within 90 days of the transaction; and
- properly completed (all required entries were made).

An exemption certificate is accepted in good faith when you have no knowledge that the exemption certificate is false or is fraudulently given, and you exercise reasonable ordinary due care. If you do not receive a properly completed certificate within 90 days after the delivery of the property or service, you will share with the purchaser the burden of proving the sale was exempt.

You must also maintain a method of associating an invoice (or other source document) for an exempt sale with the exemption certificate you have on file from the purchaser. You must keep this certificate at least three years after the due date of your sales tax return to which it relates, or the date the return was filed, if later.

Privacy notification

New York State Law requires all government agencies that maintain a system of records to provide notification of the legal authority for any request, the principal purpose(s) for which the information is to be collected, and where it will be maintained. To view this information, visit our Web site, or, if you do not have Internet access, call and request Publication 54, *Privacy Notification*. See *Need help?* for the Web address and telephone number.

Need help?

Visit our Web site at www.tax.ny.gov

- get information and manage your taxes online
- check for new online services and features

 **Sales Tax Information Center:** (518) 485-2889

To order forms and publications: (518) 457-5431

 **Text Telephone (TTY) Hotline**
(for persons with hearing and speech disabilities using a TTY): (518) 485-6082