MEMO

To: Detroit City Planning Commission (CPC)
From: DTE Electric Co (DTE)
Date: July 19, 2024
RE: Questions relative to the Neighborhood Solar Agreement

1. **What is the extent to which the solar generation sites will incorporate features such as urban agriculture, animal keeping, engineered stormwater management systems, functional landscapes and passive or active recreation that would offer more community benefit?**

   Though agrivoltaics is not DTE's core competence and original design for this initiative, DTE is open to discussions with the community through the neighborhood agreement. DTE intends to design the system using ballasted racking, which eliminates the need for ground penetration, and will perform minimal land grading. There are no plans to alter existing water runoff paths, and the solar system is not expected to increase runoff. Current storm drains are deemed sufficient to manage stormwater. During construction, DTE will control stormwater using silt fencing and coir bales. After construction, at a minimum, DTE will seed the site to establish ground cover, ensuring soil stability and erosion control. Further details would be discussed with the communities through the neighborhood agreement.

2. **If urban agriculture is incorporated through agrivoltaics and the public is not allowed to benefit from these developments, who will manage and maintain these sites? Additionally, regarding stormwater management features, would the contractors or the city be responsible for their maintenance and upkeep?**

   DTE will manage and maintain the site. Since DTE won't be implementing any advanced stormwater management features as mentioned above, the City of Detroit will be responsible for maintenance of existing storm water drains. City personnel will have access to the site for maintenance.

3. **Whether or not such additional community benefit features are incorporated, will any portion of the sites be open to public access at any time?**

   The site will not be open to the public.

4. **Will any of the sites provide for through pedestrian traffic to provide secure and efficient circulation within the host neighborhoods?**

   No, the public will not have access to the solar site.

5. **What right of way adjustments are anticipated to facilitate the sites? To what extent will existing underground utilities be removed/impacted from each solar site? How is this being coordinated with utility agencies to ensure adequate services remain available to adjacent areas?**

   DTE will use ballasted systems to minimize impact on underground utilities and will cap off DTE Gas lines within the project area, coordinating with the City before site demolition. DTE will also remove and reroute overhead electrical lines in the project area. Sewer and water lines will remain unchanged; DWSD and GLWA will have access as necessary for maintenance and repairs. Street lighting would be discussed with the community through the neighborhood agreement.

6. **Will lighting be provided internal to sites in order to facilitate viewing for safety?**

   Lighting would be discussed and negotiated with the community through the neighborhood agreement.

7. **Will perimeter lighting be provided to complement public street lighting to ensure safety and security immediately exterior to the site?**

   DTE may implement perimeter lighting. DTE will work alongside the residents to determine the interest and need for exterior lighting.

8. **Given the increasing presence of wildlife in the city, how do you propose to manage the life that may want to take up residence on site?**

   DTE conducts desktop and field habitat surveys for sensitive wildlife species prior to construction. We adhere to USFWS and MDNR recommendations to the extent practicable to avoid and minimize potential impacts to sensitive species. Additionally, DTE utilizes wildlife safe materials during construction to ensure that wildlife does not get entangled in soil erosion and sedimentation materials.

   Outside of these core components, additional site details would be negotiated with the communities in the neighborhood agreement.

   The DTE Operations and Maintenance Team does its best not to disturb wildlife and follows environmental training to report any issues.

9. **What are the metrics for determining success with this project? What are the ends you hope to achieve? What are the values driving the project toward those ends?**

   DTE is committed to providing our customers with cleaner, reliable, and affordable electricity. Developing renewable energy projects like this one is a key component of making that happen. DTE's wind and solar parks throughout the state currently generate enough clean energy to power more than 750,000 homes, and the company plans to grow that number to approximately 5.5 million homes by 2042. These renewable energy projects also support DTE's, and the City of Detroit's, decarbonization goals. Our shared focus on reducing carbon emissions supports a

more sustainable future for generations to come, within the City and across Michigan.