STATE OF ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Solar Power Midwest, Inc.       :
Application for Certification as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities under Section 16-128A of the Public Utilities Act. :

ORDER

By the Commission:

I. INTRODUCTION

On November 13, 2019, Solar Power Midwest, Inc. (“Applicant” or “Company”) filed a verified Application with the Illinois Commerce Commission (“Commission”) requesting a certificate of service authority to operate as an installer of distributed generation facilities in Illinois pursuant to Section 16-128A of the Public Utilities Act (“Act”). 220 ILCS 5/16-128A. The Applicant requests authority to offer services as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology in the State of Illinois. On December 4, 2019, Staff of the Commission (“Staff”) filed a Verified Statement recommending that the Commission grant the requested certificate of service authority. The Administrative Law Judge issued a ruling on December 9, 2019, and the Company complied by filing an Amended Application on December 11, 2019. The Administrative Law Judge waived the hearing in this matter, entered Staff’s Verified Statement into the record and marked the record “Heard & Taken.”

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL APPLICANTS UNDER SECTION 16-128A OF THE ACT

The Applicant has provided all pertinent contact information for itself as well as those persons or entities responsible for issues related to processing of the Application and Applicant’s applicable federal employer identification number or taxpayer identification number. The Applicant agrees to comply with informational and reporting requirements established in Section 468.50 of the Commission’s Rules. 83 Ill. Adm. Code 468.50. In addition, the Applicant agrees to accept service by electronic means as provided under the Commission’s Rules of Practice. 83 Ill. Adm. Code 200.1050. The Application also includes the following information regarding the person who will perform or directly supervise installation to satisfy the requirements of Section 468.50:

1. A copy of the certification of satisfactory completion of the relevant training programs; and/or

2. An Affidavit by each qualifying person attesting to having satisfactorily completed at least five (5) installations of distributed generation facilities for photovoltaic distributed generation technology.
III. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 468.60

Applicant has demonstrated that it meets the following five (5) requirements in Section 468.60:

a) It will remain in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations and Commission rules and orders, including, but not limited to, the requirements of Sections 16-128(a) and 16-128A of the Act and Section 468.

b) It will ensure that its employees, agents or contractors, or the employees, agents or contractors of any entity, agent or contractor with which he has contracted to perform those functions within the State of Illinois, shall:
   1) Comply with applicable building and electrical codes, including those contained in the National Electric Code;
   2) Comply with the distributed generation facility manufacturer's installation instructions;
   3) Install only distributed generation facilities that meet recognized industry standards; and
   4) Ensure that all obligations required under this Section and Sections 16-128(a) and 16-128A of the Act are met prior to placing into, or returning into, use any distributed generation facility that the certificate holder installed.

c) It will comply with applicable licensing and municipal bonding requirements to do business in the State of Illinois.

d) Every installation of a distributed generation facility will be performed only by:
   1) A qualified person; or
   2) An electrical contractor who is not a qualified person, provided he/she is directly supervised by a qualified person; or
   3) a person who is not a qualified person but is enrolled in a training program that, upon satisfactory completion, will meet the requirement to become a qualified person, provided he/she is directly supervised by a qualified person.

e) It is licensed to do business in the State of Illinois.

IV. CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

The Applicant states it is not certified or licensed to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities in any other state. It also declares it has not received consumer complaints in any state in the last five years.

V. COMMISSION CONCLUSION AND CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY

The Commission has reviewed the Application and attachments provided by Applicant and finds that the Applicant sufficiently demonstrates compliance with the requirements of the Act and Part 468. Staff reviewed the Application and recommended
that the Applicant be granted a certificate of service authority as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities. The Commission concludes, therefore, that the Applicant’s request for a certificate of service authority to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology in Illinois should be granted and should include the following authority:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY

IT IS CERTIFIED that Solar Power Midwest, Inc. is granted service authority to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology in the State of Illinois.

VI. FINDINGS AND ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

The Commission, having reviewed the entire record, is of the opinion and finds that:

(1) Solar Power Midwest, Inc. is authorized to transact business in Illinois and seeks a certificate of service authority to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology under Section 16-128A of the Act;

(2) the Commission has jurisdiction over the party hereto and the subject matter hereof;

(3) the recitals of fact and conclusions reached in the prefatory portion of this Order are supported by the record and are hereby adopted as findings of fact;

(4) Solar Power Midwest, Inc. has demonstrated that it possesses sufficient certification and experience to provide services as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology in the State of Illinois;

(5) Solar Power Midwest, Inc. has complied with Section 16-128A of the Act and Part 468 and has not been the subject of any consumer complaints in any state; and

(6) Solar Power Midwest, Inc. should be granted a certificate of service authority to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology as specified in this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Illinois Commerce Commission that Solar Power Midwest, Inc. is hereby granted a Certificate of Service Authority to operate as an Installer of Distributed Generation Facilities for photovoltaic types of distributed generation technology; said Certificate of Service Authority shall read as that set forth in Section V of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Solar Power Midwest, Inc. shall comply with the recertification requirements in 83 Ill. Adm. Code 468.80.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Solar Power Midwest, Inc. shall comply with all applicable Commission rules and orders now and as hereafter amended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Section 10-113(a) of the Public Utilities Act and 83 Ill. Adm. Code 200.880, any application for rehearing shall be filed within 30 days after service of the Order on the party.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, subject to the provisions of Section 10-113 of the Public Utilities Act and 83 Ill. Adm. Code 200.880, this Order is final; it is not subject to the Administrative Review Law.

By Order of the Commission this 8th day of January, 2020.

(SIGNED) CARRIE ZALEWSKI

Chairman