

**PROPOSED  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM PLAN**

**Big Tree  
SOLAR PROJECT**

**Case #19-F-0591**

Towns of Bennington and Sheldon

Wyoming County, New York

November 2019

**Prepared For:**



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION .....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Company Profile .....	2
2.2	Project Summary .....	3
2.2.1	Project Siting .....	6
2.2.2	Project Equipment .....	9
2.2.3	Potential Project Impacts .....	10
2.3	Study Area .....	13
<b>3.0</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
3.1	Host and Adjacent Landowners .....	17
3.2	State and Federal Agencies.....	18
3.3	Local Agencies .....	19
3.4	Municipalities and School Districts in the Facility Area .....	20
3.5	Municipalities and School Districts in the Study Area .....	20
3.6	Additional Stakeholders .....	20
3.7	Environmental Justice Communities .....	21
<b>4.0</b>	<b>LANGUAGE ACCESS .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>PROPOSED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM.....</b>	<b>25</b>
5.1	Project Contact Information .....	25
5.2	Proposed Public Involvement Program Plan.....	26
5.3	Consultation with the Affected Agencies and Stakeholders .....	27
5.4	Pre-Application Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation .....	30
5.5	Activities to Educate the Public on the Proposal, Process, and Funding .	30
5.5.1	Public Meetings .....	31
5.5.2	Educational Materials .....	32
5.6	Project Website.....	32
5.7	Notifications .....	33
5.8	Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation.....	34
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Required Airport/Heliport Pre-Application Consultation.....</b>	<b>36</b>



## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table 1. Most Prevalent Languages Spoken in Study Area Zip Codes .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Table 2. Schedule of Key Milestones.....</b>	<b>34</b>

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>Figure 1: ConnectGen Team’s Development Experience .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Figure 2: Regional Facility Location.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Figure 3: Preliminary Facility Area (Aerial).....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Figure 4: Preliminary Facility Area (Topo) .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Figure 5: Facility Study Area.....</b>	<b>15</b>

## LIST OF EXHIBITS

<b>Exhibit A.</b>	Notification List
<b>Exhibit B.</b>	Goals and Objectives for Stakeholder Involvement
<b>Exhibit C.</b>	Example Record of Activity
<b>Exhibit D.</b>	General Guidance for Public Participation in the Article 10 Process
<b>Exhibit E.</b>	Anticipated Project and Public Participation Schedule



## **Applicant Contact, Project Information and Document Repositories**

### **Project Representative** (for the public to contact with questions, concerns, etc.):

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Company Address: 1001 McKinney Street, Suite 700, Houston, Texas 77002

Phone: (346) 998-2024

### **Toll-Free Number:**

(800) 338-8916

### **Project Email:**

[info@bigtreesolar.com](mailto:info@bigtreesolar.com)

### **Project Website:**

<https://www.bigtreesolar.com/>

### **New York State Department of Public Service Project Website:**

<http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterSeq=60716&MNO=19-F-0591>

### **Local Document Repositories:**

- Town of Sheldon Town Clerk's Office, 1380 Centerline Road Strykersville, NY 14145. Tuesday 5:00 PM-7:00 PM, Wednesday 12:00 PM-7:00 PM, Thursday 5:00 PM-7:00 PM
- Town of Bennington Town Clerk's Office, 905 Old Alleghany Road Attica, NY 14011. Monday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM, Wednesday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM, Saturday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM
- Stevens Memorial Community Library, 146 Main Street, Attica, NY 14011. Monday and Wednesday 12: 00 PM-8:00 PM, Tuesday, and Thursday 10:00 AM-7:00 PM, Friday 12:00 PM-4:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM (Closed Saturdays July & August)
- Aurora Town Library, 550 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Marilla Free Library, 11637 Bullis Road, Marilla, NY 14102. Monday and Wednesday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 PM-8:30 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM-3:00 PM



**LIST OF ACRONYMS AND COMMONLY USED TERMS**

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition/Denotation
AC	Alternating Current
ACS	American Community Survey
AGL	Above ground level
Applicant	ConnectGen Erie-Wyoming LLC, or ConnectGen
CES	Clean Energy Standard
DC	Direct Current
DMM	Document and Matter Management
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
Facility	Generating facility components, including interconnections, associated with the Big Tree Solar facility
Facility Area	Land area being considered to potentially host the Big Tree Solar Project, including generating facility components, interconnections and related facilities. The Facility Area may be refined based on landowner coordination, environmental sensitivities, and engineering/design considerations.
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GW	Gigawatt
HCA	Host Community Agreement
IBEW	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
kV	Kilovolt
LEWPA	Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance
MW	Megawatt
MW <sub>ac</sub>	Megawatt, Alternating Current
MWh	Megawatt-hour
NYCRR	New York Codes, Rules and Regulations
NYISO	New York Independent System Operator
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSEG	New York State Electric and Gas Corporation
NYSDPS	New York State Department of Public Service
PILOT	Payment In Lieu Of Taxes
PIP Plan	Public Involvement Program Plan
POI	Point of Interconnection



Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition/Denotation
Presiding Examiner	Defined by 16 NYCRR 1000.2(ad) as a presiding officer appointed by NYSDPS. The presiding officer is defined as, the commissioner, or the Administrative Law Judge or other officer or employee of the commission so authorized by the chairman or by the chairman's designee, presiding over a proceeding or conducting an investigation or hearing.
Project	The Big Tree Solar Project
PSC	New York State Public Service Commission
PSL	Public Service Law
PSS	Preliminary Scoping Statement
PV	Photovoltaic
Siting Board	New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment
Stakeholders	Defined by 16 NYCRR 1000.2(an) as those persons who may be affected or concerned by any issues within the Siting Board's jurisdiction relating to the proposed major electric generating facility and any decision being made by it.
Study Area	Area within a 2-mile radius of the Facility Area



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

ConnectGen Erie-Wyoming LLC (ConnectGen or the Applicant), a subsidiary of ConnectGen LLC, is proposing to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility under Article 10 of the New York Public Service Law. Pursuant to the rules of the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Siting Board), applicants proposing to submit an application to construct a major electric generating facility must first submit a Public Involvement Program (PIP) Plan, which is intended to outline the steps that the applicant will take to engage and solicit input from the public and other stakeholders. This document is intended to serve as the PIP Plan for the Big Tree Solar Project. The Project is proposed to be an approximately 175-megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC) photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation system in the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon, Wyoming County, New York (Facility Area). Additionally, the development may include a 20 MW battery storage component with up to 80 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy storage capacity (see Section 2.2.2 for additional information on battery energy storage). This solar generation system and potential battery storage are collectively referred to as the Big Tree Solar Project (the Facility or Project).

This PIP Plan describes how the Applicant will seek public involvement throughout the Article 10 process, including planning, pre-application, certification, compliance and implementation of the Facility. It is the Applicant's intent to facilitate communication with interested or affected stakeholders, solicit public comments, provide timely notice of proposed Project milestones and events, and encourage the public and interested parties to engage in the process and provide input. A robust public involvement program will ensure that the Siting Board is aware of stakeholder support and concerns.

The PIP Plan is organized to reflect the intended steps to be taken when conducting the PIP and at a minimum will address the requirements set forth in 16 NYCRR § 1000.4(c) of the Article 10 regulations, specifically:

- (1) Consultation with affected agencies and other stakeholders;
- (2) Pre-application activities to encourage stakeholders to participate at the earliest opportunity;
- (3) Activities designed to educate the public as to the specific proposal and the Article 10 review process, including the availability of intervenor funding for municipal and local parties;



- (4) The establishment of a website to disseminate information to the public and updates regarding the Facility and the Article 10 process;
- (5) Notifications to affected agencies and other stakeholders; and
- (6) Activities designed to encourage participation by stakeholders in the certification and compliance process.

## **2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

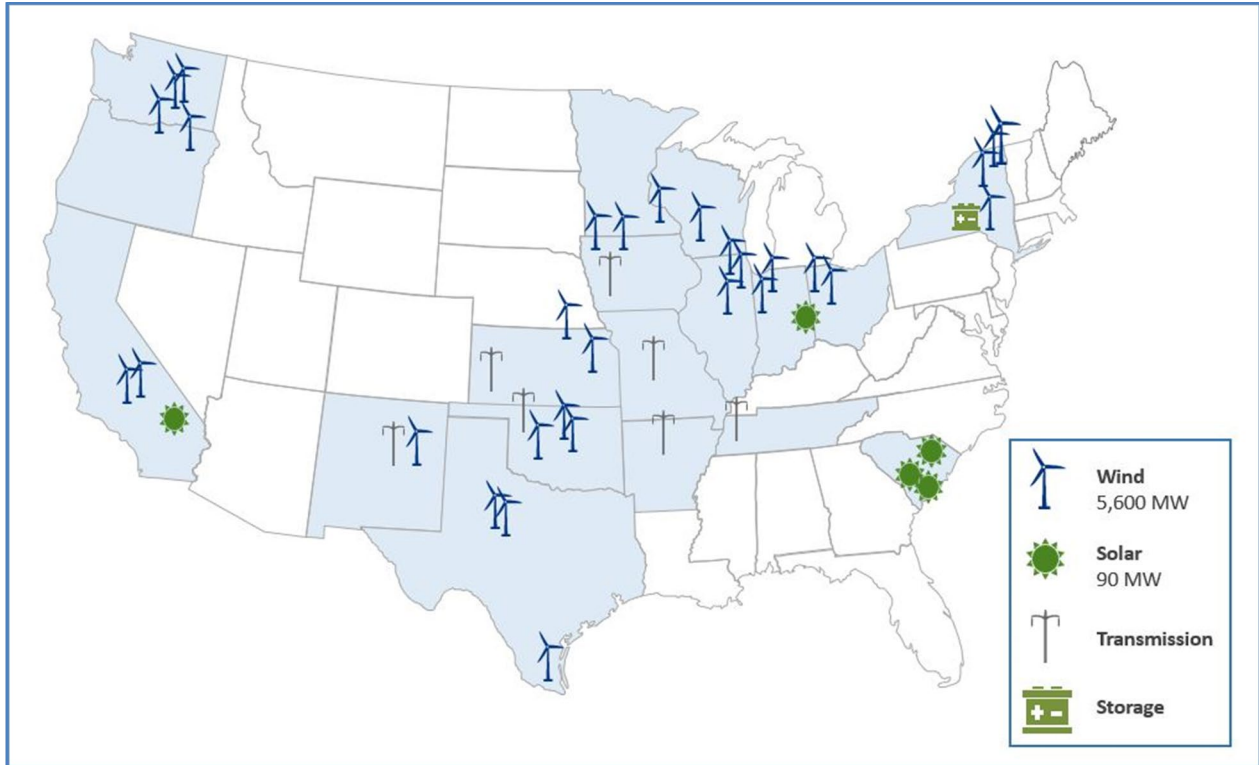
### **2.1 Company Profile**

ConnectGen is an independent renewable energy developer founded in 2018 by a group of energy industry veterans who share the vision of building utility-scale wind, solar, and energy storage projects that will increase America's supply of low-cost, domestically produced clean energy.

ConnectGen team members have worked at renewable energy companies, thermal power generation companies, oil and natural gas companies, regulated utilities, grid operators, power marketing firms, law firms and environmental consulting firms. The ConnectGen team has managed the development, financing, construction and operation of 5,600 MW of wind energy projects across 14 states (Figure 1). Team members have brought 90 MW of solar projects into operation and developed a pipeline of more than 1,000 MW of solar energy that is currently under development.







**Figure 1: ConnectGen Team's Development Experience**

ConnectGen possesses the project development experience, technical expertise, and financial resources required to responsibly develop the Big Tree Solar Project and is committed to a transparent and timely development effort. ConnectGen strives to establish and maintain close relationships with landowners, communities, local and state officials, customers and suppliers and deeply values stakeholder input and involvement in the design process. Because solar generation at the grid-scale is new to most communities, transparency, education, and listening are fundamental elements to the development process. This PIP Plan establishes ConnectGen's approach for successful public and stakeholder engagement.

## 2.2 Project Summary

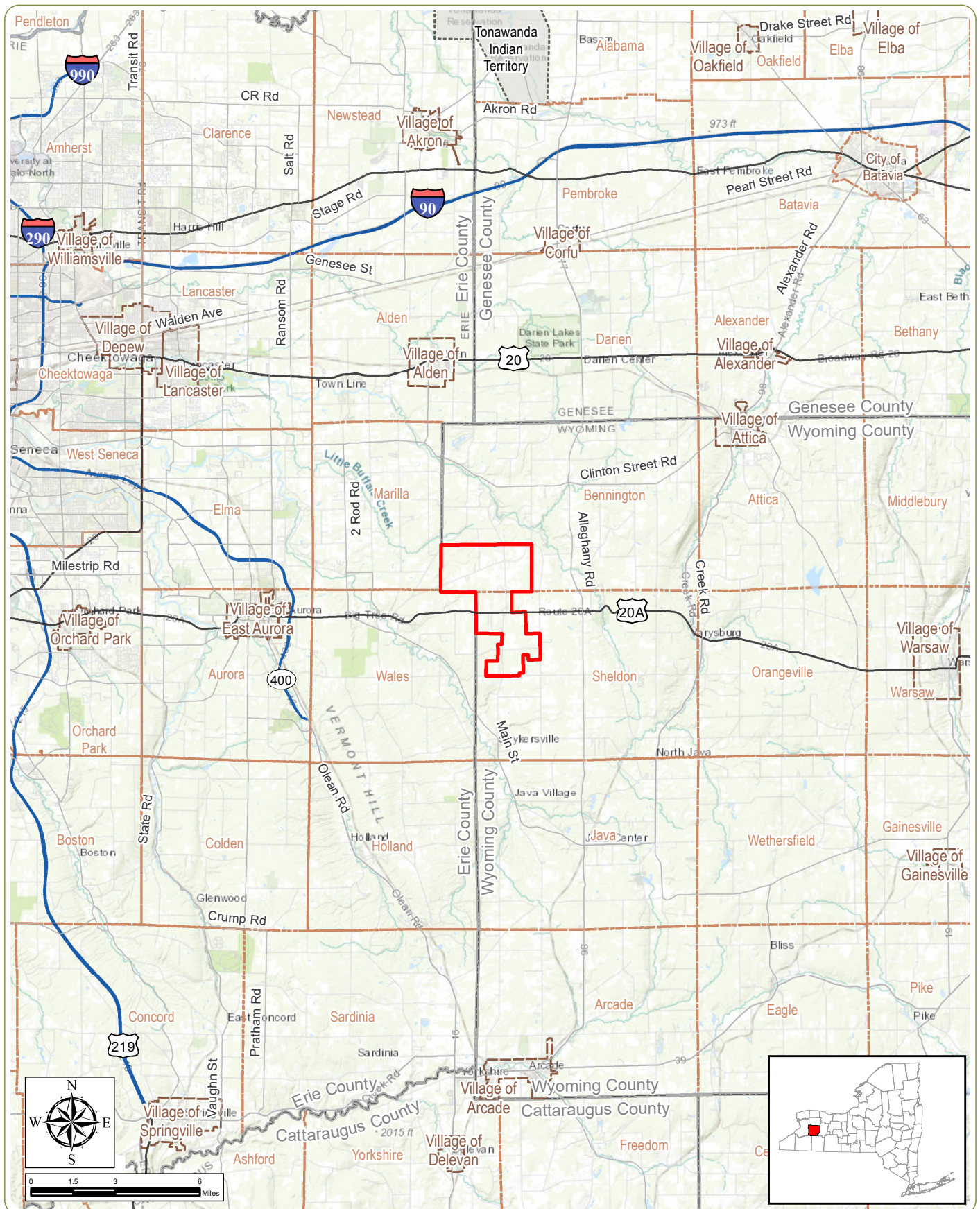
The proposed Big Tree Solar Project is an up to 175 MW<sub>ac</sub> photovoltaic solar energy facility, which may include up to 20 MW (80MWh) of battery energy storage capacity, located in the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon in Wyoming County, New York. The Facility will safely generate enough clean, renewable electricity to power up to approximately 26,000 New York households.<sup>1</sup> The

<sup>1</sup> EIA estimate New York energy usage [https://www.eia.gov/electricity/sales\\_revenue\\_price/pdf/table5\\_a.pdf](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/sales_revenue_price/pdf/table5_a.pdf).

Facility will also provide an economic stimulus to the area during construction by providing local jobs and local contracts for goods and services. During operation, the Project will offer long-term highly skilled operational positions and significant long-term economic benefits through lease revenue to local landowners and additional revenue to the community (see Section 2.2.3 for additional information on the Facilities potential impacts).

No incorporated areas are included within the Facility Area. Figure 2 depicts the Facility Area in relation to its regional context. The Project is consistent with the New York State Public Service Commission's (PSC) proceeding implementing a Clean Energy Standard (CES), which supports the development of clean energy and renewable resources in New York State. Renewable energy facilities promoted by the CES, such as the Big Tree Solar Project, will increase access to greenhouse gas-free energy while providing significant economic development within the state.





## Big Tree Solar Project

Towns of Sheldon and Bennington, Wyoming County, New York

**Figure 2: Regional Facility Location**

**Notes:** 1. Basemap: ESRI ArcGIS Online "World Topographic Map" map service.  
2. This map was generated in ArcMap on September 3, 2019. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.

- Facility Area
- Village Boundary
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary





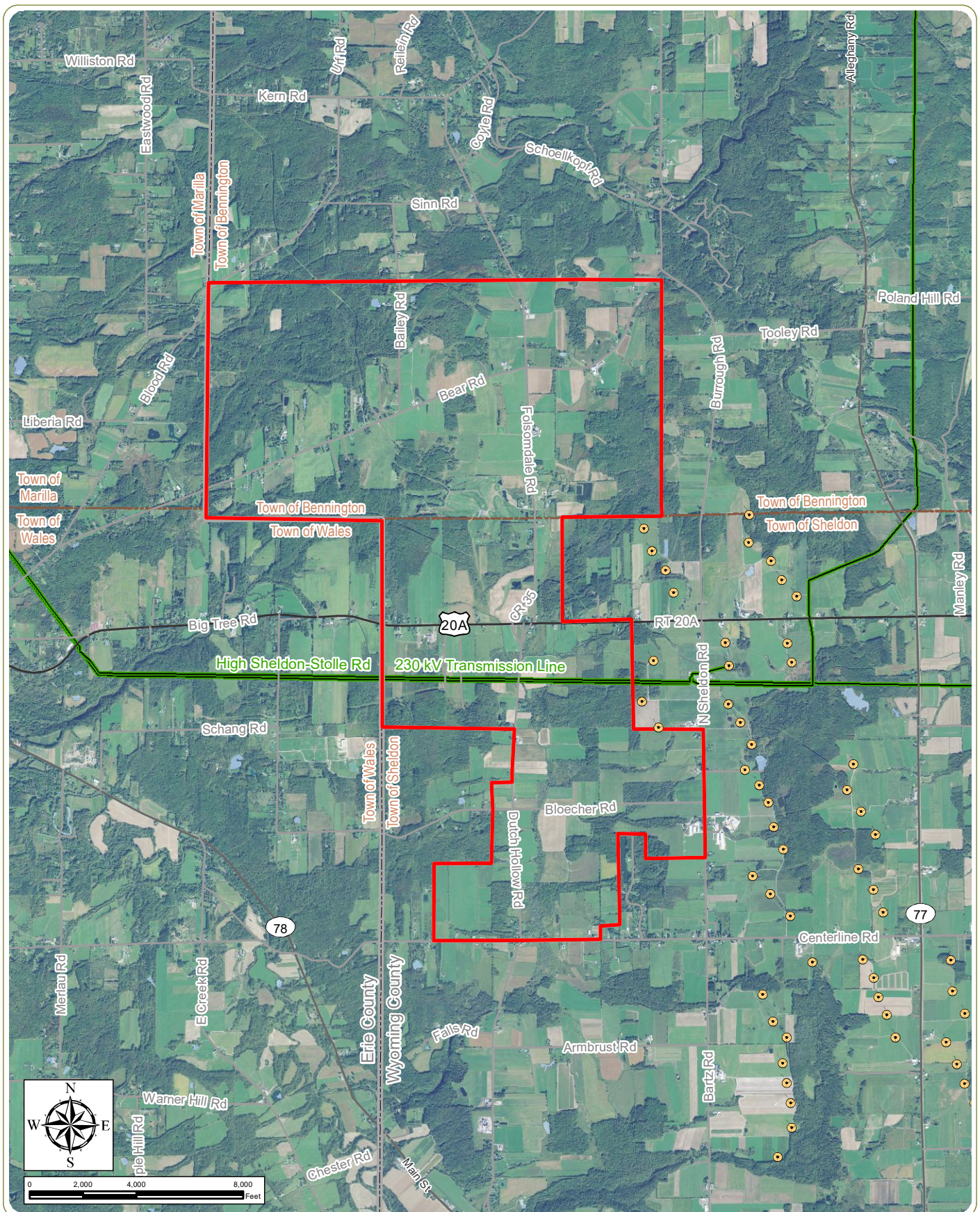
### **2.2.1 Project Siting**

Site selection for a solar-powered electric generation facility involves multiple factors and considerations to ensure a project is technically feasible and economically viable. The factors involved in the siting of a project vary by region and generally include, but are not limited to, the availability of flat, open, and appropriately oriented land to site the panels; willing land lease participants; suitable land use development regulations; and an understanding of environmental and societal sensitivities associated with solar development. A primary factor directing the siting of a solar facility is proximity to an electric transmission line with available capacity to add power from the generation facility to the transmission grid without prohibitive costs, scheduling challenges, and environmental impacts associated with permitting and constructing new transmission infrastructure. New York State's renewable energy policy goals and consumer energy demand support the need for new renewable projects that offer competitive power pricing. Therefore, the cost to interconnect new generation to the transmission system is a major factor in project siting. The Big Tree Facility Area was identified as an optimal location for siting a new solar development due to its proximity to the existing transmission system and the other factors listed above. The Facility will interconnect to the New York power grid via a new point of interconnection (POI) connecting to the existing New York State Electric & Gas Corporation's (NYSEG) 230 kilovolt (kV) Stolle Road to High Sheldon transmission line located in the Town of Sheldon in Wyoming County (Figures 3 and 4).

The lands that are being evaluated for potential solar and storage development are located in the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon in Wyoming County, New York and are identified on Figures 2 through 5 as the Facility Area. The Facility Area includes approximately 4,000 acres of land currently under consideration; however, only a portion of this area would be needed to host the Facility. The Facility Area represents the broader area being studied, within which certain parcels or areas would be selected for the siting, design, construction and operation of solar and/or storage facilities. The larger Facility Area offers greater flexibility during the development phase to modify the Project based on landowner participation and input and to avoid and minimize impacts to environmental and siting sensitivities. Based on preliminary engineering and design, the Facility may ultimately be sited on up to approximately 1,400 acres of private land within the Facility Area. The Applicant will be leasing or purchasing the land required to accommodate the Project from private landowners.







## Big Tree Solar Project

Towns of Sheldon and Bennington, Wyoming County, New York

**Figure 3: Preliminary Facility Area (Aerial Basemap)**

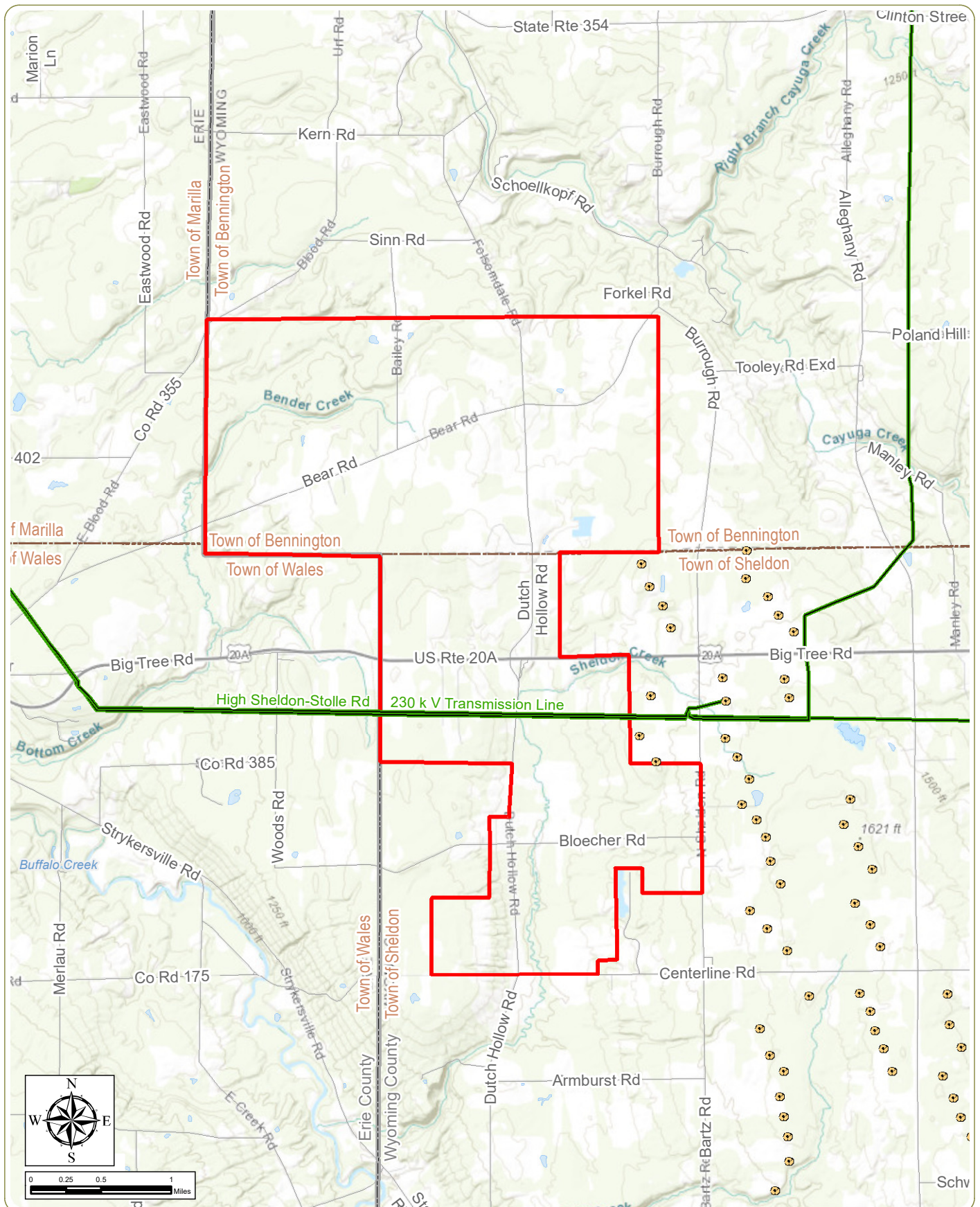
**Notes:** 1. Basemap: NYSDOP "2015" Natural Color orthoimagery map service.. 2. This map was generated in ArcMap on September 9, 2019. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.

- High Sheldon Wind Turbine
- Transmission Line
- Facility Area
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary



www.edrpsc.com





## Big Tree Solar Project

Towns of Sheldon and Bennington, Wyoming County, New York

**Figure 4: Preliminary Facility Area (Topographic Basemap)**

**Notes:** 1. Basemap: ESRI ArcGIS Online "World Topographic Map" map service.  
2. This map was generated in ArcMap on September 6, 2019. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.

- High Sheldon Wind Turbine
- Transmission Line
- Facility Area
- Town Boundary
- County Boundary



## **2.2.2 Project Equipment**

The Big Tree Solar Project will use a PV solar energy generation system. PV energy generation occurs when sunlight is exposed to naturally occurring elements in a PV cell to induce a current. A solar panel is simply a housing that aggregates multiple modules of PV cells and connects the induced current to a circuit in order to transmit the generated electricity. The Facility will utilize the same type of PV panels installed on over one million homes in the United States to convert sunlight into energy. Solar equipment is a proven safe technology in applications from fields to rooftops of homes and schools. The Facility will consist of the following components:

### **Arrays of PV Solar Panels**

PV solar panels that produce direct current (DC) electricity will be sited throughout the Facility Area, typically in uniform rows. Racks of multiple panels will be mounted on either fixed tilt or single-axis tracking structures that follow the sun throughout the day. These panel arrays will be supported by piles driven into the ground or grouted into bedrock. The combined height of the panels, racks, and piles will be no more than 12 feet in height above the ground.

### **Inverters and Medium Voltage Transformers**

Co-located inverters and medium-voltage transformers will be placed throughout the Facility Area (internal to the panel arrays). Project inverters will convert DC electricity produced by the PV solar panels to AC electricity while Project transformers will increase the electricity voltage from the solar panels to 34.5 kV for the collection system.

### **Collection System**

A medium-voltage electrical collection system will aggregate the 34.5 kV AC output from the co-located inverters and transformers and deliver electricity to the Project substation.

### **Substation**

A collection substation will be required to increase the Facility's electrical output voltage from approximately 34.5 kV to 230 kV via a step-up transformer. The collection substation may include an overhead gantry, isolators, surge arrestors, instrument transformers and a control room housing protection relays, meters and telecommunication equipment enclosed within a security fence. The collection substation is expected to be located near the existing NYSEG 230 kV Stolle Road to High Sheldon transmission line (Figures 3 and



4). Although not yet designed, taller substation equipment such as the overhead gantry and lightning shield poles could have a maximum height of 70 feet or more; additional information will be provided in the Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS), if available at that time, or in the Application.

#### **Operations and maintenance building**

The final design may incorporate a single operations and maintenance building to be used for storage of maintenance equipment and to provide an indoor working environment to facilitate operations and maintenance activities.

#### **Accessory infrastructure**

Accessory infrastructure may include roads, gates, and fencing. The construction and operation of the Facility may require new or improved temporary and permanent access roads or use of existing access roads. Any new or improved access roads will be designed to the appropriate grade and to avoid impacts to drainage.

#### **Temporary laydown areas**

Several laydown yards or equipment staging areas may be needed during the construction phase of the Project. The laydown areas would consist of graveled storage and equipment parking areas of approximately 5 to 10 acres each. Laydown yards would be reclaimed following completion of construction.

#### **Potential Battery Energy Storage System**

A battery energy storage system may be included as part of the Project design. The system would include multiple container-type batteries co-located with inverters and high voltage AC systems. These enclosures would house racks of batteries with a yet-to-be determined chemistry or type. While the exact layout and position within the Facility Area are still being determined, ConnectGen does not expect the total footprint of the full energy storage facility to exceed one-half of an acre.

### **2.2.3 Potential Project Impacts**

With a planned nameplate capacity of up to 175 MW<sub>ac</sub>, the electricity generated by the Big Tree Solar Project will deliver a material amount of greenhouse gas-free energy to the New York electricity grid. Solar energy is particularly beneficial during the summer months, as consumer





demand increases to meet air conditioning loads. Because it uses no fuel, solar energy avoids the air pollution that would result from meeting this increased demand solely from fossil fuels, and it dampens the cost of power at this time of peak conventional power cost.

The proposed Facility is expected to have positive socioeconomic impacts in the area related to employment opportunities, specifically by generating temporary construction employment, a significant portion of which will likely be drawn from the regional labor market. Local construction employment will primarily benefit those in the construction trades, including equipment operators, truck drivers, laborers, and electricians, and is anticipated to potentially generate up to 115 short term jobs during project installation. In addition, Facility operation will generate employment and contracting service opportunities for electricians, operations managers, laborers and fencing contractors, and landscaping maintenance crews.

Over the life of the Project, ConnectGen is expected to contribute millions of dollars in additional revenue to the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon, Wyoming County, and the local school districts in the form of a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement or host community agreement (HCA). Preliminary discussions have been held with staff from the Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency and the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon; however, the specific terms of a PILOT agreement or HCA are still to be determined. ConnectGen anticipates that PILOT and HCA payments to local taxing jurisdictions could total over \$10 million throughout the life of the project. The Project will bring other socioeconomic benefits to the local community, including the purchase of goods and services from local shops, hotels, restaurants and construction material suppliers, as well as indirect lease payments to participating landowners. ConnectGen anticipates that the short- and long-term payments and other benefits to the local host community could total up to \$32 million dollars.

Through very deliberate site selection, followed by careful planning and design, and by the benign nature of the technology, the operating Facility is expected to have minimal impacts on the surrounding community. Solar facilities are quiet and produce no vibration. The solar PV panels proposed to be used for the Facility have a low height profile, while setbacks, fencing and landscape buffering contribute to minimizing visual impacts on the community and natural setting of the area.



Although the Project will result in a change to the current land use practices in the locations where panel arrays are sited, this land use change is temporary. The Facility is not a permanent structure and will be decommissioned at the end of its operational life, at which time the land can be returned to its former use. Therefore, the land is not permanently lost to development but is temporarily converted to another productive and beneficial use.

In agricultural areas, responsibly sited and operated solar facilities may provide long term preservation of agricultural land, as the facility prevents other forms of development during the operational term. It can also serve to improve soil quality by allowing the land to lay fallow with appropriate ground cover planting. It is expected that the Project would take approximately one year for construction and, once completed, would have an operational life of up to 43 years. The Applicant will develop and provide a detailed decommissioning plan in the Article 10 Application. In accordance with the Article 10 regulations, the plan will ensure proper removal of the Facility and restoration of the land at the end of the Project's useful life.<sup>2</sup>

Impacts associated with the construction of a solar project are generally short-term and temporary, occurring briefly during the construction period. Construction-related noise may be associated with site preparation activities and increased traffic associated with equipment and parts deliveries. Limited ground disturbance in the form of clearing and grading may be needed; however, best management practices and stormwater protection measures would be implemented to avoid or minimize impacts to water quality. Potential impacts to wildlife could involve the displacement of resident and migratory species associated with the conversion of habitat, although the Project would implement conservation practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to sensitive species during construction. Following completion of construction of the Facility, post-construction reclamation activities would be performed to revegetate disturbed areas, reclaim temporary work zones, and remove construction-related debris.

A robust analysis of the potential Project impacts associated with the operation, construction, and decommissioning of the Facility will be performed as part of the Article 10 process.

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<sup>2</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1001.29 (Site Restoration and Decommissioning).



## 2.3 Study Area

The Study Area for the proposed Project will extend out to 2 miles from all Facility components (see Figure 5). For the purposes of this PIP Plan, the Study Area has been defined conservatively based on a Facility Area and an appropriate buffer that includes areas that may be directly or indirectly affected by the Project. This Study Area contains the following municipalities and sensitive or unique resources.

- Town of Bennington
- Town of Marilla
- Town of Sheldon
- Town of Wales
- Erie County
- Wyoming County
- The Finger Lakes Trail
- State-managed snowmobile trails
- Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor

The Article 10 regulations define the Study Area to be used for analysis of major electric generating facilities as “an area generally related to the *nature of the technology* and the *setting* of the proposed site”. The tallest components of the generating portion of the Facility will be the PV panels, inverter and substation equipment, which have a relatively low profile, and are not expected to be more than 12 feet above grade, less than a single-story residence. Equipment will be surrounded by fencing which will help to screen Facility components from surrounding viewpoints. As described above, select equipment within the collection substation could be as high as 70 feet or more above grade at a single location near the existing 230 kV Stolle Road to High Sheldon substation that will serve as the final grid interconnection point within the Facility Area. Therefore, the nature of the technology is such that visibility is anticipated to be relatively limited to those areas located immediately adjacent to the Facility.

With respect to setting, the Facility Area is located within elevations of approximately 1,100± feet to approximately 1,540± feet above sea level, while elevations within Wyoming County range from



approximately 630± feet to approximately 2,130± feet.<sup>3</sup> The Facility site is characterized by open agricultural fields interspersed with stands of mostly deciduous woodlands.

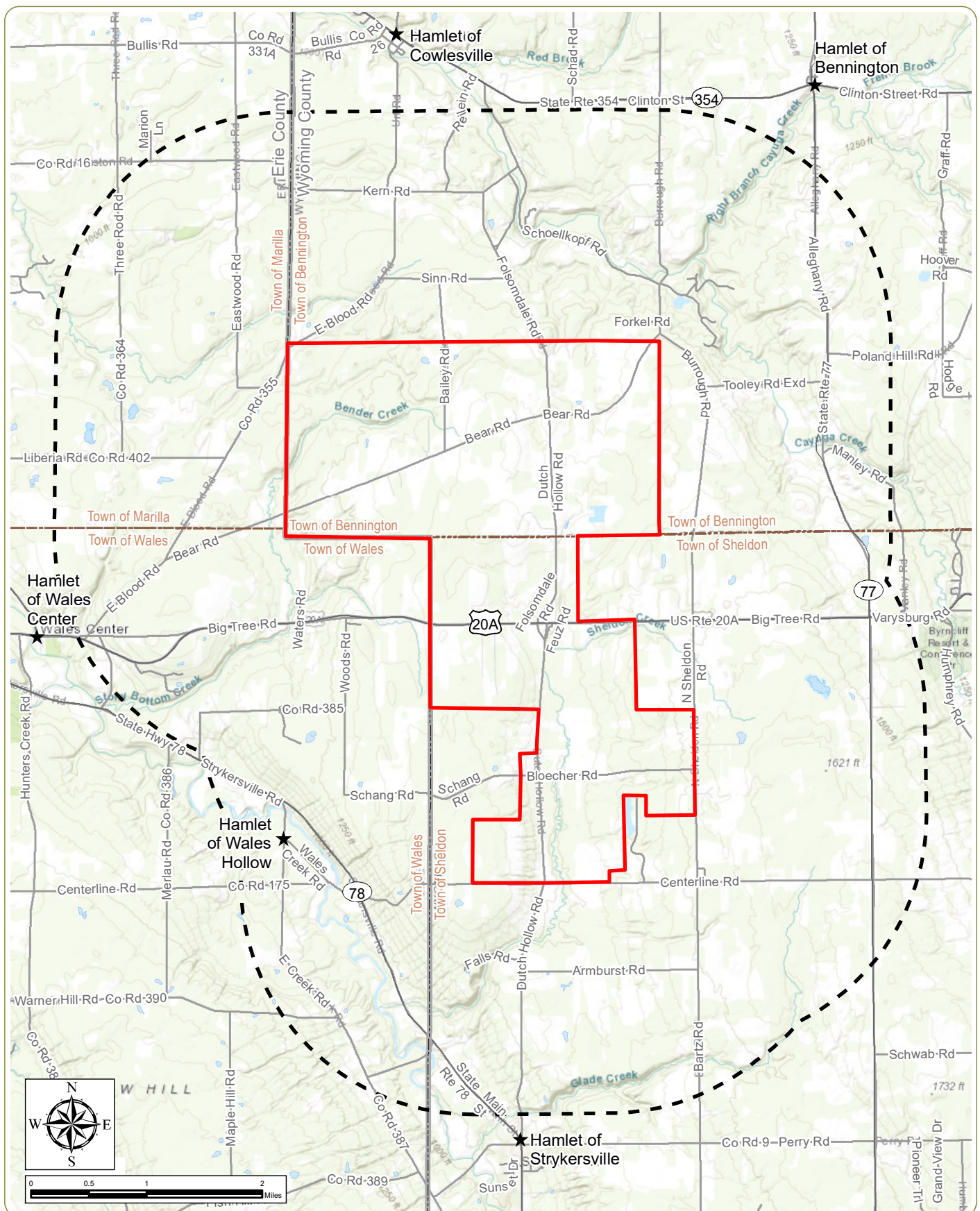
Because of the relatively flat topography in the immediate vicinity of most of the Facility Area, and because of the Project's low-profile, visibility of the Facility components will be largely limited to the immediate vicinity of the Facility, and within the two-mile buffer. A more in-depth description of the Study Area will be included in the PSS and Application, and it should be noted that the extent of the Study Area may be expanded for certain studies, such as the visual impact assessment. As the Article 10 process continues, specific Facility component locations will be identified and shared with the general public, stakeholders and all affected agencies. It is presumed that any potential alternatives would be located within the communities identified herein.

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<sup>3</sup> The New York State GIS Program Office, 2017 2-meter LiDAR







## Big Tree Solar Project

Towns of Sheldon and Bennington, Wyoming County, New York

**Figure 5: Facility Study Area**

Notes: 1. Basemap: ESRI ArcGIS Online "World Topographic Map" map service.  
2. This map was generated in ArcMap on November 11, 2019. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.

- ★ Hamlet
- ▭ Facility Area
- - - 2-Mile Study Area
- - - Town Boundary
- - - County Boundary



### 3.0 IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

A fundamental first step in the community outreach process for the Project is identifying the stakeholders that may be affected by construction and operation of the Facility. ConnectGen maintains a development approach that places transparency, safety, accountability, and respect for local communities as its core values. ConnectGen's approach is to proactively engage interested agencies, municipalities, utilities, host landowners, and other potential stakeholders by being transparent at all times and to provide timely information to consistently educate and involve all stakeholders. Further, ConnectGen understands that stakeholders may change during the development cycle of a project; therefore, ConnectGen intends to review and assess stakeholder involvement throughout the Project development process to ensure new stakeholders that may have interests in the Project are identified and informed at the earliest opportunity.

The process by which ConnectGen identifies specific stakeholders for this Facility is informed by prior experience coupled with New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS) guidance. Current and ongoing stakeholder identification efforts for the Big Tree Solar Project also include, but are not limited to, reviewing County GIS records, tax records, personal visits, word-of-mouth discussions with local community members, and internet research. At the outset, the Applicant considered the following in compiling its list of affected agencies and other actual stakeholders:

- The anticipated locations of Facility components within the Facility Area;
- "Local Party," as defined in the Article 10 regulations<sup>4</sup>;
- "Affected Agencies," as that term is used in the Article 10 regulations<sup>5</sup>;
- Host municipalities, which, for the purposes of this PIP Plan, refers to those municipalities that are currently within the Facility Area and are anticipated to host Facility components (to be determined and further described in the PSS);
- Adjacent municipalities;
- Host and adjacent landowners;
- State and federal elected officials representing the Host Municipalities and, if different, other municipalities within the Study Area; and
- Public interest groups.

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<sup>4</sup> 16 NYCRR §1000.2(s)

<sup>5</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000 et seq.



A master list of stakeholders (also referred to as the Notification List), which includes all known potentially interested stakeholders and parties, was developed based upon the combination of efforts described above (Exhibit A). ConnectGen anticipates that the Notification List will be updated as necessary based on information and requests from interested stakeholders received during PIP Plan activities. These updates will be provided on a bi-monthly basis to NYSDPS along with the PIP Plan tracking submissions (See Section 5.8 for additional information).

Sections 3.1 through 3.8, below, identify stakeholders by category.

### **3.1 Host and Adjacent Landowners**

Host landowners are landowners owning parcels within the Facility Area.<sup>6</sup> As defined in the Article 10 regulations,<sup>7</sup> adjacent landowners are landowners with property within 500 feet of proposed Project components. However, for the purposes of ensuring more inclusive and broader notification, and based on recommendation by DPS staff, ConnectGen identifies adjacent stakeholders as those parcel owners within 2,500 feet of the Facility Area.

The identities of potential host and adjacent landowners are determined from county GIS records, tax records, and personal visits by representatives of the Applicant. This list of host and adjacent landowners will be refined as the Facility layout evolves in response to input from stakeholders and field data (e.g., wetland delineations). Therefore, while specific host and adjacent landowner information is not included in this PIP, host and adjacent landowners identified by the Applicant at the time of mailings, outreach, or other notification activities will be included on the Notification List and noticed accordingly. Additional information will be submitted with the PSS, as required by 16 NYCRR § 1000.5. To preserve confidentiality, this information may be anonymized by address or tax parcel identification number and may not include names.

The Applicant has not determined when the final Facility layout will be completed. However, information obtained during the pre-application process will be used, as appropriate, to assist in developing the final layout. In addition, the final layout will be determined by incorporating further input from stakeholders, as well as processing data from fieldwork (e.g., avoidance of impacts to

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<sup>6</sup> Note: The Facility Area includes those parcels currently under, or being pursued for, lease (or other real property interests) with the Applicant for the location of all Facility components.

<sup>7</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.2(a).





wetlands identified during field delineation efforts). Therefore, specific host and adjacent landowner information is not included with this PIP Plan.

Participating and adjacent landowners will be included in mailings, outreach activities and notifications that are provided to the stakeholders identified in this PIP Plan throughout design and construction of the Facility. However, for privacy purposes, the Notification List may include addresses or parcel numbers rather than landowner identification. Additional outreach to host landowners and municipal officials will take place during decommissioning and site restoration activities at the end of the Facility's operational life, as will be further described in the Article 10 Application, including in the Facility's Decommissioning Plan, and the Facility's Complaint Resolution Plan.

### **3.2 State and Federal Agencies**

Empire State Development Corporation

Empire State Development Corporation, Finger Lakes Region

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

New York Independent System Operator

New York Power Authority

NYS Attorney General

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Central Office

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9

NYS Department of Health, Western Region

NYS Department of Public Service

NYS Department of State

NYS Department of Transportation, Central Office

NYS Department of Transportation, Region 4

NYS Department of Transportation, Region 5

NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

NYS Energy Research and Development Authority

NYS Governor's Office

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Region 1 – Niagara

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Region 3 – Genesee





State Assemblyman David J. DiPietro, 147<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

State Senator Patrick M. Gallivan, 59<sup>th</sup> Senate District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District

U.S. Federal Aviation Administration

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New York Field Office

U.S. House of Representatives, 27<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer

U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand

### **3.3 Local Agencies**

Wyoming County Executive Office

Wyoming County Health Department

Wyoming County Department of Planning and Development

Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency

Wyoming County Highway Department

Wyoming County Emergency Services

Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District

Wyoming County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

Wyoming County Building and Codes

Town of Sheldon Clerk's Office

Town of Sheldon Town Board

Town of Sheldon Highway Department

Sheldon Volunteer Fire Company

Town of Bennington Clerk's Office

Town of Bennington Town Board

Town of Bennington Zoning Office

Town of Bennington Highway Department

Bennington Volunteer Fire Company

Harris Corners Volunteer Fire Company

Cowlesville Volunteer Fire Company

Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council



### **3.4 Municipalities and School Districts in the Facility Area**

Wyoming County

Town of Sheldon

Town of Bennington

Attica Central School District

Iroquois Central School District

### **3.5 Municipalities and School Districts in the Study Area**

Erie County

Town of Wales

Town of Marilla

Alden Central School District

Holland Central School District

Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District

### **3.6 Additional Stakeholders**

Adirondack Mountain Club – Niagara Frontier Chapter

Bloecher Farm Airport

Buffalo Audubon Society

Byrncliff Golf Resort & Banquets

Cobble Hill Airport

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County

Dominion Transmission, Inc

Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.

Fisher Airport

Genesee Valley Conservancy

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 41

Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA)

National Fuel Gas Corporation

National Grid

New York Forest Owners Association

New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG)



New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA)  
Folsom Trailblazers Snowmobile Club  
Seneca Nation of Indians  
Sierra Club, Niagara Group  
The Nature Conservancy, Central & Western New York  
Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.  
Treichler Farm Airport  
Trout Unlimited, 068 – Western New York Chapter  
Western New York Land Conservancy  
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism  
Wyoming County Farm Bureau  
Wyoming County Wildlife Federation

### 3.7 Environmental Justice Communities

The Big Tree Solar Project is subject to NYSDEC rules for the analysis of environmental justice issues associated with projects subject to review and approval under Article 10 of the Public Service Law.<sup>8</sup>

Per NYSDEC Environmental Justice Policy CP-29, Potential Environmental Justice Areas include census block groups featuring populations that meet or exceed at least one of the following statistical thresholds:

1. At least 51.1% of the population in an urban area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or
2. At least 33.8% of the population in a rural area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or
3. At least 23.59% of the population in an urban or rural area had household incomes below the federal poverty level.

Based on data obtained from the *NYSDEC's Geospatial Information System (GIS) Tools for Environmental Justice* website (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/911.html>), there are no Potential Environmental Justice Areas in the Study Area. The two closest Potential Environmental Justice

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<sup>8</sup> 6 NYCRR Part 487.



Areas to the Facility are located approximately seven miles northeast of the Facility in the Town of Attica around the Attica Correctional Facility, and approximately seven miles northwest of the Facility in the town of Alden around the Buffalo and Wende Correctional Facilities.

Further discussion on Potential Environmental Justice Areas, including the cumulative impact of existing sources of air pollutants and the projected emission of air pollutants from the Facility, will be included in the PSS and the Application (Exhibit 28) pursuant to the Article 10 regulations.<sup>9</sup>

#### **4.0 LANGUAGE ACCESS**

The Siting Board's regulations require a PIP Plan to identify (1) any language, other than English, that is spoken (according to United States Census data) by 5,000 or more persons residing in any portion of a 5-digit zip code postal zone located within the Study Area for the Facility; and (2) any language other than English spoken by a significant population of persons residing in close proximity to the Facility, alternative locations, or interconnections.<sup>10</sup>

According to the U.S. Census Bureau data from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, 9.6% of Erie County residents age 5 or older speak a language other than English at home.<sup>11</sup> With a 2018 population estimate of 919,129 persons in Erie County, this means approximately 88,236 people in Erie County speak a language other than English at home. Additionally, 5.7% of Wyoming County residents age 5 or older speak a language other than English at home.<sup>12</sup> With a 2018 population estimate of 40,085 persons in Wyoming County, this means approximately 2,284 people in Wyoming County speak a language other than English at home.

The Study Area contains portions of seven zip codes in which languages other than English may be spoken. However, in all seven zip codes, fewer than 5,000 people speak a language other than English (see Table 1). Based on these findings, the Applicant is proposing to disseminate Project related materials in only the English language.

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<sup>9</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(l)(2)(xi).

<sup>10</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.4(d).

<sup>11</sup> <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>



**Table 1. Most Prevalent Languages Spoken in Study Area Zip Codes**

Zip Code	Language	Number of Speakers
14037	English	981
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	9
	Other Pacific Island languages	5
	Tagalog	5
	Polish	5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,005</b>
14145	English	1,579
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	14
	French (Including Patois, Cajun)	7
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,600</b>
14167	English	1,623
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	20
	Polish	13
	German	6
	Russian	2
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,664</b>
14011	English	7,467
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	229
	French (Including Patois, Cajun)	33
	Polish	23
	Italian	20
	Other Asian languages	12
	Korean	9
	Other Slavic languages	7
	German	7
	Russian	6
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>7,813</b>
14052	English	16,615
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	199
	Polish	130
	German	126
	French (Including Patois, Cajun)	91
	Other Slavic languages	57



Proposed Public Involvement Program Plan - Case #19-F-0591

Zip Code	Language	Number of Speakers
	Arabic	20
	Hungarian	14
	Other West Germanic languages	12
	Italian	10
	Russian	9
	Korean	8
	Persian	8
	Other Indo-European languages	6
	French Creole	6
	Navajo	5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>17,316</b>
14004	English	10,959
	Polish	225
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	219
	French (Including Patois, Cajun)	81
	Italian	48
	German	27
	Other Slavic languages	22
	Greek	9
	Hungarian	8
	Serbo-Croatian	8
	French Creole	6
	Korean	5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>11,617</b>
14139	English	1,849
	Polish	30
	Spanish or Spanish Creole	24
	Russian	16
	Italian	14
	French (Including Patois, Cajun)	13
	German	8
	Other Slavic languages	5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,959</b>

Source: [http://www.mla.org/map\\_data](http://www.mla.org/map_data) (American Fact Finder, 2000 Census Data)



## 5.0 PROPOSED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

### 5.1 Project Contact Information

- ConnectGen Erie-Wyoming LLC  
1001 McKinney Street, Suite 700  
Houston, Texas 77002  
346-998-2020  
[info@ConnectGenllc.com](mailto:info@ConnectGenllc.com)

- Project Representative:  
Colleen Nash, Director  
346-998-2024  
[info@bigtreesolar.com](mailto:info@bigtreesolar.com)

- Project Website:  
<https://www.bigtreesolar.com/>

- Project Toll-free Hotline:  
800-338-8916

- Project Office:  
ConnectGen continues to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a Project office in the vicinity of the Facility Site. Whether or not a local office is ultimately established, ConnectGen will continue to seek public involvement throughout the Article 10 process. It is ConnectGen's intent to facilitate communication with interested or affected stakeholders, and to encourage engagement in the public process.

- Local Document Repositories:
  - Town of Sheldon Town Clerk's Office  
1380 Centerline Road  
Strykersville, NY 14145  
Phone: 585-535-7644  
Town Clerk Office Hours: Tuesday 5:00 PM-7:00 PM, Wednesday 12:00 PM-7:00 PM, Thursday 5:00 PM-7:00 PM
  - Town of Bennington Town Clerk's Office  
905 Old Alleghany Road Attica, NY 14011  
Phone: 585-591-2157  
Town Clerk Office Hours: Monday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM, Wednesday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM, Saturday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM
  - Stevens Memorial Community Library  
146 Main Street, Attica, NY 14011



## Proposed Public Involvement Program Plan - Case #19-F-0591

Phone: 585-591-2733

Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12: 00 PM-8:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 10: 00 AM-7:00 PM, Friday 12:00 PM-4:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM (Closed Saturdays July & August)

- Aurora Town Library  
550 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052  
Phone: 716-652-4440  
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Marilla Free Library  
11637 Bullis Road, Marilla, NY 14102  
Phone: 716-652-7449  
Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 PM-8:30 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

The PIP Plan and other Project documents and outreach materials will be made available at the document repositories listed in this Section 5.1 above.

The Applicant can be reached via email or phone between the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Comments or questions received as voicemail to the Project team during non-business hours will be checked the following business day. All inquiries received by telephone or email will be returned as soon as reasonably practicable, generally within 1-2 business days. If additional time is required to respond to an inquiry, an acknowledgement will be provided which indicates a response is forthcoming. Where the information sought is not available, such as the results of studies not yet completed, the Applicant will provide a response estimating when the requested information should become available in the future.

### **5.2 Proposed Public Involvement Program Plan**

The Applicant's proposed PIP Plan focuses first and foremost on early and frequent communication with Host Communities and participating landowners, including the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon. ConnectGen has met with the Town Supervisors and other town officials on multiple occasions to introduce the Project, share Project details and updates, and discuss the Article 10 process. Initial outreach to town officials occurred in April and May of 2019, at which time Project Representatives provided introductory information about the Project and the Article 10 process. The Project has maintained active engagement with community leadership and has maintained a presence at various town meetings to provide Project updates and answer





questions. ConnectGen will continue to maintain such open communication with the Town, County, and interested stakeholders throughout the Article 10 process.

Aside from the Towns and the County, there are many important stakeholders to consider in developing a solar project of this scale. The Article 10 regulations provide that a PIP Plan must include: (1) consultation with the affected agencies and other stakeholders; (2) pre-application activities to encourage stakeholders to participate at the earliest opportunity; (3) activities designed to educate the public as to the specific proposal and the Article 10 review process, including the availability of funding for municipal and local parties; (4) the establishment of a website to disseminate information to the public; (5) notifications; and (6) activities designed to encourage participation by stakeholders in the certification and compliance process.<sup>12</sup> The PIP Plan is ongoing, and may evolve throughout all phases of the Article 10 review process (pre-application phase, application phase, hearing and decision phase, and post-certification phase). ConnectGen intends to disseminate information regarding the Facility to stakeholders, solicit information from those stakeholders during public outreach events, and generally foster participation in the Article 10 review.

The Applicant has established a user-friendly website ([www.bigtreesolar.com/](http://www.bigtreesolar.com/)) in plain English that describes the Facility and ConnectGen, answers frequently asked questions, and will provide updates throughout the development and construction phases of the Facility to keep the community informed of the Project's status (see Section 5.4 below for additional detail). The website also describes several avenues to contact ConnectGen regarding the Project.

Additionally, as part of the Article 10 process, the NYSDPS maintains a website (<http://documents.dps.ny.gov>) where all materials associated with the Project review will be published, including but not limited to the Public Involvement Plan, Public Scoping Statement, and Application and related materials. The NYSDPS website also provides an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the Project or request to be a party in the Article 10 process.

### **5.3 Consultation with the Affected Agencies and Stakeholders**

ConnectGen has engaged the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon on a number of occasions regarding its intentions to develop a solar and energy storage project in these Towns, providing

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<sup>12</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.4(c).



details about the Project and information about the Article 10 process (see Exhibit C), and keeping Town Officials apprised of Project development efforts and progress. ConnectGen also held initial meetings with several relevant agencies – the NYSDPS, NYSDEC and New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets – in August 2019 to introduce them to the Project and obtain feedback and perspective. ConnectGen will continue to communicate with local municipalities and other stakeholders throughout the consultation process to ensure they are aware of the Project and their interests or concerns are identified.

Potentially affected agencies were identified through review of the Article 10 regulations and are listed above in Sections 3.2 and 3.3, and affected municipalities are identified in Sections 3.4 and 3.5 above. Consultation with affected agencies and municipalities will include the following general steps:

1. The Applicant will contact each agency or municipality to make certain they are aware of the Facility, obtain information on sensitive resources and planning initiatives the Applicant should be aware of, inform them of the Article 10 process (including steps for intervenor funding), and provide information on who to contact with any questions or comments about the Facility and/or about the Article 10 process;
2. Subsequent interaction with each agency or municipality will occur as needed to answer specific questions or interests about the Facility and to identify the applicable studies and impact analyses to be performed and how they pertain to the Facility;
3. Regular consultation with NYSDPS Staff will occur during early development of the PSS and throughout the Article 10 process; and
4. Other specific consultations as required by the Article 10 regulations, or as needed to inform the process.

With respect to intervenor funding, the Applicant is required to deposit funds for intervenor participation. Funds are deposited with the NYSDPS at the time the pre-application PSS is filed, in an amount equal to \$350 for each 1,000 kilowatts (i.e. 1 MW) of generating capacity of the Facility. Pre-application funds are dispersed to qualifying parties to aid in their participation in the scoping phase of this proceeding. Each request for pre-application funds is submitted to the presiding examiner assigned to the proceeding before the Siting Board, and at least 50% of the pre-application intervenor funds shall be reserved for potential awards to municipalities. Additional funds for intervenor participation will be deposited with the NYSDPS at the time the



Project Application is filed in an amount equal to \$1,000 for each 1,000 kilowatts of capacity. Funds deposited with the Application may be used by parties for qualifying consultants and activities in the post-Application phase of the proceeding.<sup>13</sup>

The goals of the initial consultation with each municipality or agency will be to establish contact and consult with representatives, disseminate information, request information, and schedule follow-up meetings and/or consultations, as appropriate. Specific information provided to the affected agencies and municipalities will include a description of the Facility and location; explanation of the phases of the Article 10 process and how the agency or municipality can participate in each step; description of the available intervenor funding and the process for obtaining funding; description of the ad hoc committee process and local municipal responsibility; information about other planned consultations; and sources of additional information about the Facility and Article 10 (e.g., the Facility and Siting Board websites). Information to be requested from affected municipalities and agencies will vary by the involvement of each, but may include topics such as local laws, emergency response, environmental impact review, and determination of news sources to be used for official notices.

The goals of consultation with various utilities within the Facility Area include identifying and avoiding impacts to utility infrastructure and minimizing any impacts to local service providers and utility customers during Facility construction and operation.

It should be noted that in accordance with the Article 10 regulations,<sup>14</sup> comments on the PSS are due within 21 days after filing with the Secretary to the Siting Board. The Applicant intends to engage municipalities, agencies, and stakeholders throughout the PIP Plan implementation process in order to identify their respective interests, and obtain information regarding particular resources, locations, concerns and recommendations of the affected communities, agencies and interest groups. Prior to filing the PSS, this will be accomplished through a variety of methods, including open house meetings, direct correspondence, review of comments submitted through the Project and NYSDPS websites, and targeted meetings with some of the individual stakeholders identified herein. All stakeholder consultation meetings will be documented and

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<sup>13</sup> Further information on obtaining funding for participation in this proceeding can be found at: [http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/96f0fec0b45a3c6485257688006a701a/6fd11ce8db088a2785257e200054a99b/\\$FILE/02420356.pdf/Guide%20to%20Intervenor%20Funding%202-14-13.pdf](http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/96f0fec0b45a3c6485257688006a701a/6fd11ce8db088a2785257e200054a99b/$FILE/02420356.pdf/Guide%20to%20Intervenor%20Funding%202-14-13.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(g).



summarized in the PIP Record of Activity (PIP Tracking Report – see Exhibit C) and discussed in both the PSS and the Application (Exhibit 2).

The Table provided in Exhibit B lists the affected agencies and municipalities, as identified at the time this PIP Plan was prepared, along with the goals and objectives (to be developed) for each consultation and the plan for achieving these goals.

#### **5.4 Pre-Application Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation**

ConnectGen staff has engaged affected and interested agencies, municipalities, utilities, host landowners, and other potential stakeholders on solar, wind and other energy-related projects throughout North America. ConnectGen will use this prior experience to facilitate meaningful stakeholder interaction during the Article 10 review process for the Big Tree Solar Project.

In addition to the engagement activities that have already taken place, the Applicant will continue pre-application activities to encourage stakeholder participation as set forth in the Agency/Municipality Consultations and Stakeholder Participation table included in Exhibit B of this PIP Plan. The Record of Activity (Exhibit C) will be regularly updated as consultations and stakeholder participation activities take place and additional means of engagement are identified (as necessary). In addition, concerns and questions raised by the public, and the Applicant's response to these issues will be documented in Exhibit C, as well as the PSS and the Article 10 Application (Exhibit 2). Exhibit D provides general guidance for public participation in the Article 10 process.

#### **5.5 Activities to Educate the Public on the Proposal, Process, and Funding**

The Applicant plans to attend Town meetings and to conduct Applicant-sponsored public information sessions. ConnectGen will be distributing educational materials and will provide information about the Facility website, which will describe the Facility and provide links to information on the Article 10 process, intervenor funding, and other important stakeholder issues. These efforts will allow the Applicant to engage with stakeholders regarding the Facility and will offer multiple avenues of information distribution so that stakeholders and the public have multiple, varied opportunities to obtain information on the Facility and participate in the proceedings. These efforts are discussed in further detail below and Exhibit E outlines the anticipated Project and public participation schedule.



### **5.5.1 Public Meetings**

ConnectGen intends to hold public meetings at various stages of the Article 10 process, generally corresponding to filings of the PIP, the PSS, and the Article 10 Application. These meetings may be held at different times during the day, based on stakeholder feedback, to provide more opportunities for public participation. Each of these outreach efforts may consist of open-house style public meetings appropriately scheduled to provide the best opportunity for interested persons to attend. Representatives for ConnectGen will be present to provide Facility information and answer questions. It is anticipated that these meetings will be held at a public meeting space in reasonable proximity to the Facility Area. To provide early outreach to adjacent landowners, the Applicant will contact residences and businesses within the Facility Area and parties on the Notification List, notifying them of the date and time of the public meetings.

The Applicant will also conduct a mass mailing to all host and adjacent landowners to announce the initial set of meetings and will properly notice these meetings in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver at least 14 days prior to the scheduled event. Information regarding public meetings will also be posted at the document repositories identified in Section 5.1 and in the Bennington and Sheldon Town Clerks' Offices or other appropriate locations based on the pending public meeting(s). In addition, the Applicant will maintain a copy of the mailing and an affidavit of service as a record of what was mailed and to whom. The first meeting following PSS submittal will be scheduled approximately two months prior to filing of the Application, to present detailed information regarding the anticipated content of the Application and to solicit public input. The second meeting will be scheduled immediately before or after filing of the Application to present an overview of the Applications content. Notification of all public meetings held by the Applicant will also be mailed or emailed to the Notification List contained in Exhibit A. The Applicant will indicate in the PIP Record of Activity (Exhibit C) whether a mailing was sent. In addition, the Applicant anticipates maintaining the mailings and the affidavits of mailing for inclusion in Exhibit 2 of the Application.

Additional stakeholders will be added to this list as they are identified through the initial public meetings and the Facility website. The updated list will then be used for future mail and email notifications, and the list will be further updated based on additional requests. In addition, all meetings will be posted on the Facility website, [www.bigtreesolar.com/](http://www.bigtreesolar.com/). The Applicant will provide NYSDPS Staff with informal notice of all scheduled public meetings.



### **5.5.2 Educational Materials**

ConnectGen will develop outreach materials – including educational materials – that contain contact information, case number, and document repository information, detail where additional Facility information can be obtained, and outline the process for becoming a party to these proceedings or for joining the Notification List. This information will be included in a notice mailed to residences and businesses in the Facility Area as well as additional groups included in the Notification List. Additionally, the Facility website will offer information on the Facility, links to (and information regarding) solar energy, the Article 10 process, Intervenor Funding, and other important stakeholder issues. These efforts will allow the Applicant to engage with applicable stakeholders and will offer multiple avenues of information exchange, so stakeholders and the public have the best chance to obtain the right information and participate in the process.

### **5.6 Project Website**

ConnectGen has established a live, user-friendly website with up to date Project and company information in plain English ([www.bigtreesolar.com/](http://www.bigtreesolar.com/)). Concurrent with the filing of the Final PIP Plan, ConnectGen will update the Facility description on the website and will provide information regarding the Article 10 process. Additionally, ConnectGen will provide Facility updates throughout the development and construction phases of the Facility to keep the community informed of the Facility's status. For example, maps will be added to the website as the Facility layout evolves, and notices will be posted to the website prior to various milestones and public meetings/outreach events.

The Applicant anticipates that the website will include:

- Facility description;
- Facility benefits and need;
- Summary of permitting requirements;
- Links to the Siting Board Article 10 Public Information Coordinator, the Siting Board home page, and case-specific documents;
- Information on the Article 10 process;
- Instructions on how to become a party to these proceedings or join the Notification List, with a link to the appropriate webpage;
- Summary of the Intervenor Funding process and how to apply;



- Facility contact information, including email address and toll-free telephone number;
- Copies of Article 10 and related licensing documents;
- Addresses of local document repositories;
- A schedule that lists dates/times/locations for outreach events and key milestone dates, such as when the Application will be filed;
- Tracking Reports summarizing the Facility's PIP Plan activities to date;
- Information on ConnectGen;
- News and announcements; and
- Frequently asked questions about the Project, the Applicant, and solar energy.

As indicated above, the website will include the Facility contact information (email address and toll-free telephone number). Interested parties may request stakeholder status through the website. The Applicant will make efforts to respond directly to all substantive inquiries and comments submitted to the Facility contact (by email, telephone or mail) within five business days of receiving the inquiry and/or comment. The Applicant's normal business hours are from 9 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday, excluding statutory holidays and between Christmas and New Year's. Where the inquiry and comments may take longer to respond, the initial response will indicate a timeframe anticipated for the full response. Correspondence will be documented in a database. In addition, where an in-person meeting is requested, efforts will be made to accommodate such meetings within 15 business days. Email inquiries will receive an automated response acknowledging receipt of an interested party's question or comment.

## **5.7 Notifications**

The Article 10 regulations establish the notification requirements for serving documents. Pursuant to the rules, ConnectGen shall publish all required notices in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver and provide notice in accordance with Article 10 standard notice requirements for actions of the Towns of Bennington and Sheldon.<sup>15</sup>

No less than three days before filing of the PSS and the Application, ConnectGen will publish a notice of the PSS and the Application in the newspapers listed above; serve each member of the State Legislature in whose district any portion of the Facility is to be located; provide written notice to those persons who have filed a statement with the secretary that wish to receive such notices;

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<sup>15</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1000.7(a).



and provide mail and email (if available) notification to all parties on the Notification List. In addition, notifications will be posted on the Project website.

ConnectGen will publish any other notices required by the Presiding Examiner or other section of Article 10 in the manner prescribed by the Presiding Examiner or under the procedures contained in Article 10.

An updated Notification List will be provided with all filings, which will include host and adjacent landowners and parties identified through the Applicant's outreach efforts, as well as proof that a mailing has occurred.

## 5.8 Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation

Beyond the activities described above in Sections 5.1 through 5.7, ConnectGen will seek to identify additional, practical measures to encourage stakeholder participation during the certification process. It is anticipated that this will be an ongoing, evolving process throughout all phases of the Article 10 review process (pre-application phase, application phase, hearing and decision phase, and post-certification phase). These efforts are outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2. Schedule of Key Milestones**

Key Milestone	Date/Time	Milestone Details, Including Notification Summary
Public Information Sessions	Fall 2019 (prior to PSS Filing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be held in the local municipalities.</li> <li>- Two sessions will be held at different times of the day to provide more opportunities for public participation.</li> <li>- Notice of the sessions will be published in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver. Host and adjacent landowners, as well as, parties on the notification list will be contacted prior to the sessions.</li> </ul>
Filing of PSS	Three days before filing	-Notice of the Applicant's PSS filing will be published in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver, posted on the Project website, and provided via mail and email (if available) to all parties on the Notification List, as well as, served as per 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(e) on all parties identified in said regulations.
	No sooner than February 14, 2020 (150 days from proposed PIP Plan filing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Printed hardcopies of the PSS will be served on all parties identified in 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(c).</li> <li>- Printed hardcopies will be provided to the local document repositories identified in Section 5.1.</li> </ul>
Public comment on PSS	Within 21 days of PSS filing	- Public comments on the PSS will be served to the Applicant within 21 days of PSS filing.





## Proposed Public Involvement Program Plan - Case #19-F-0591

Key Milestone	Date/Time	Milestone Details, Including Notification Summary
Applicant's Response to PSS Comments	Within 21 days of comment period ending	- The Applicant's responses to public comments on the PSS will be served on those identified in 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(c) within 21 days of the comment period ending.
Additional Public Information Session	Prior to Application Filing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be held in local municipalities.</li> <li>- Two sessions will be held at different times of the day to provide more opportunities for public participation.</li> <li>- Notice of the sessions will be published in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver. Host and adjacent landowners, as well as, parties on the notification list will be contacted prior to the sessions.</li> </ul>
Filing of Article 10 Application	Three days before filing	- Notice of the Applicant's PSS filing will be published in the Batavia Daily News and the Warsaw Penny Saver; posted on the Project website; and provided via mail and email (if available) to all parties on the Notification List, Notice will also be served as per 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(e) on all parties identified in said regulations.
	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Printed hardcopies of the Application will be served on all parties identified in 16 NYCRR § 1000.5(c).</li> <li>- Printed hardcopies will be provided to the local repositories identified in Section 5.1.</li> </ul>

The Applicant will track its PIP Plan and provide bimonthly updates to be filed on the Facility Document and Matter Management (DMM) System. Specifically, the Applicant will maintain a Record of Activity (see Exhibit C) that will provide specifics on all meetings, including dates, locations, attendees, purpose, and discussion topics.

As previously stated, ConnectGen intends to hold multiple open-house style public meetings at various stages of the Article 10 process. These meetings may be held at different times of the day to accommodate workers' schedules and provide the best opportunity for interested persons to attend. In addition, the Facility website will be updated continuously with Facility developments, meetings, and announcements to keep stakeholders and the public informed.

Following Project certification, ConnectGen will conduct additional public outreach and notifications as the Project enters the construction phase. These efforts will include notification of the start of construction to various parties and implementation of a Complaint Resolution Plan (a draft of which will be included with the Article 10 Application). This plan will address public complaints and resolution procedures during Facility construction and operation per the Article 10 regulations<sup>16</sup>.

<sup>16</sup> 16 NYCRR § 1001.12.



## **6.0 Required Airport/Heliport Pre-Application Consultation**

Evaluation of potential Project impacts on aviation is governed by the rules of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). It is not anticipated the Facility will meet any of the criteria set forth in the FAA's regulations for construction or alteration activities requiring notice to the FAA.<sup>17</sup> The Facility will not involve the construction of any structure that exceeds 200 feet above ground level (AGL), and will not require construction activities on airport property. Consequently, the filing of a notice with the FAA will not be required for the Facility. However, the Applicant has identified the privately-owned Cobble Hill Airport, Bloecher Farm Airport and Treichler Farm Airport as stakeholders. The Applicant intends to consult with these stakeholders throughout the Article 10 process.

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<sup>17</sup> 14 CFR § 77.9(a-e) (Construction or alternation requiring notice).



**Exhibit A**

Notification List

## AFFECTED STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

### **Empire State Development Corporation**

Howard Zemsky, President and CEO  
633 Third Avenue, Floor 37, New York, NY 10017  
(212) 803-3100  
nys-nyc@esd.ny.gov

### **Empire State Development Corporation**

Vinnie Esposito, Finger Lakes Regional Director  
400 Andrews Street, Suite 300 Rochester, NY 14604  
(585) 367-4322  
nys-fingerlakes@esd.ny.gov

### **National Telecommunications and Information Administration**

David J. Redl, Assistant Secretary  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB) U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230  
(202) 482-1840  
*Email not available*

### **New York Independent System Operator**

Richard J. Dewey, President and CEO  
10 Krey Boulevard, Rensselaer, NY 12144  
(518) 356-6060  
stakeholder\_services@nyiso.com

### **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority**

Alicia Barton, President and CEO  
17 Columbia Circle, Albany, NY 12203  
(518) 862-1090  
info@nyserda.ny.gov

### **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority**

Richard Kaufmann, Chair  
17 Columbia Circle, Albany, NY 12203  
(518) 862-1090  
info@nyserda.ny.gov

### **NYS Attorney General**

Letitia James, NYS Attorney General  
New York State Capitol Building, State Street and Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12224  
1-800-771-7755  
*Email not available*

### **NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets**

Richard A. Ball, Commissioner  
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235  
(518) 457-8876  
info@agriculture.ny.gov

### **NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Division of Land & Water Resources**

Michael J. Saviola, MPS  
1530 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14623  
(585) 427-0200  
michael.saviola@agriculture.ny.gov

### **NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets**

Tara Wells, Senior Attorney  
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235  
(518) 457-1059  
Tara.Wells@agriculture.ny.gov

### **NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Central Office**

Basil Seggos, Commissioner  
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1011  
(518) 402-8545  
basil.seggos@dec.ny.gov

### **NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Central Office**

Daniel Whitehead, Director, Division of Environmental Permits, Major Projects Management  
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1750  
(518) 402-9167  
deppermitting@dec.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Environmental Conservation,  
Region 9**

Abby Snyder, Regional Director  
270 Michigan Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14203-2915  
(716) 851-7200  
region9@dec.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Health**

Howard A. Zucker, Commissioner  
Corning Tower Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY  
12237  
(518) 474-2011  
dohweb@health.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Public Service**

John B. Rhodes, Chair and CEO  
Empire State Plaza Agency, Building 3, Albany, NY  
12223  
(518) 474-2523  
secretary@dps.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Public Service**

James Denn, Director of Public Affairs  
Empire State Plaza Agency, Building 3, Albany, NY  
12223  
(518) 474-7080  
james.denn@dps.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Public Service's Office of  
General Counsel**

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12223  
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Noreena.Chaudari@dps.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Public Service's Office of  
General Counsel**

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**NYS Department of Public Service, Office of  
Electric, Gas, and Water**

Andrew Davis, Utility Supervisor  
Empire State Plaza Agency, Building 3, Albany, NY  
12223  
(518) 473-2293  
Andrew.Davis@dps.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Public Service**

Lorna Gillings, Outreach Contact  
Empire State Plaza Agency, Building 3, Albany, NY  
12223  
(518) 474-1788  
lorna.gillings@dps.ny.gov

**NYS Department of Transportation, Central Office**

Marie Therese Dominguez, Acting Commissioner  
50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12232  
(518) 457-4422  
*Email not available*

**NYS Department of Transportation, Region 4**

Kevin Bush, Regional Director  
1530 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14623  
(585) 272-3310  
*Email not available*

**NYS Department of Transportation, Region 5**

Francis Cirillo, Regional Director  
100 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 847-3238  
*Email not available*

**NYS Division of Homeland Security and  
Emergency Services**

Kevin Wisely, Deputy Commissioner  
1220 Washington Avenue, State Office Campus,  
Building 7A Suite 710, Albany, NY 12242  
(518) 242-5000  
*Email not available*

**NYS Governor's Office**

Andrew Cuomo, Governor of NY  
New York State Capitol Building, State Street and  
Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12224  
1-518-474-8390  
*Email not available*

**NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner  
Peebles Island State Park, P.O. Box 189, Waterford,  
NY 12188-0189  
(518) 233-9049  
Roger.Mackay@parks.ny.gov

**NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Diana Carter, Director of Planning  
Resources and Facility Planning Bureau, 625  
Broadway, Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 474-8288  
Diana.Carter@parks.ny.gov

**NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Region 1 – Niagara**

Lucinda "Cindy" Abbott Letro, Chair  
Niagara Falls State Park PO Box 1132, Niagara Falls,  
NY 14303  
(716) 278-1702  
*Email not available*

**NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Region 3 – Genesee**

Peter G. Humphrey, Chair  
1 Letchworth State Parl, Castile, NY 14427  
(585) 493-3600  
*Email not available*

**New York State Assembly**

David J. DiPietro, Assembly Member, District 147  
411 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052  
(716) 655-0951  
DiPietroD@nyassembly.gov

**New York State Senate**

Patrick M. Gallivan, NYS Senator, District 59  
2721 Transit Road, Suite 116, Elma, NY 14059  
(716) 656-8544  
gallivan@nysenate.gov

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo NY District**

Lt. Col. Jason A. Toth, District Commander  
1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207  
(716) 879-4104  
*Email not available*

**U.S. Federal Aviation Administration**

Jennifer Solomon, Eastern Regional Administrator  
1 Aviation Plaza, Jamaica, NY 11434  
(718) 553-3001  
*Email not available*

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New York Field Office**

David Stilwell, Field Supervisor  
3817 Luker Road, Cortland, NY 13045  
(607) 753-9334  
david\_stilwell@fws.gov

**U.S. House of Representatives, 27<sup>th</sup> District**

Vacant

**U.S. Senate**

Charles E. Schumer, US Senator  
Leo O'Brien Building, Room 420, Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 431-4070  
*Email not available*

**U.S. Senate**

Kirsten E. Gillibrand, US Senator  
Leo O'Brien Building, Room 420, Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 431-0120  
*Email not available*

## LOCAL AGENCIES

### **Wyoming County Executive Office**

A.D Berwanger, Chairman  
143 N Main Street, Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-8800  
ADBerwanger@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Health Department**

Greg Collins, Commissioner  
5362A Mungers Mill Road, Silver Springs, NY 14550  
(585) 786-8890  
gcollins@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Department of Planning and Development**

William Daly, Director  
36 Center Street, Suite C, Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-8820  
wdaly@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency**

Jim Pierce, Executive Director  
36 Center Street, Suite D, Warsaw, New York 14569  
(585) 786-3764  
jpierce@wycoida.org

### **Wyoming County Highway Department**

Todd Gadd  
4328 State Route 19 S  
Silver Springs, NY 14550  
(585) 786-8955  
TGadd@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Emergency Services**

William Streicher  
151 N Main Street, Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-8867  
bstreicher@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District**

Allen Fagan, District Manager  
36 Center Street, Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-3675  
wcdswcd@frontiernet.net

### **Wyoming County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board**

William Daly  
143 N Main Street, Warsaw, New York 14569  
(716) 450-4744  
wdaly@wyomingco.net

### **Wyoming County Building and Codes**

Donald Roberts  
36 Center Street, Suite C, Warsaw, NY 14569  
585-786-8820  
droberts@wyomingco.net

### **Town of Sheldon Clerk's Office**

Carol Zittel, Town Clerk  
1380 Centerline Road Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 535-7644  
sheldontownclerk@rochester.rr.com

### **Town of Sheldon Town Board**

Vince Kirsch  
1380 Centerline Road Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 535-7644  
*Email not available*

### **Town of Sheldon Highway Department**

Dave Ricketson, Superintendent  
1380 Centerline Road Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 535-0257  
*Email not available*



**Sheldon Volunteer Fire Company**

Rick Bzezicki Jr, Fire Chief  
996 Centerline Rd, Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 535-0392  
*Email not available*

**Town of Bennington Clerk's Office**

Carolyn Busch, Town Clerk  
905 Old Alleghany Road, Bennington, NY 14011  
(585) 591-2157  
benn-clerk@rochester.rr.com

**Town of Bennington Town Board**

Bernard Frounick, Councilman  
905 Old Alleghany Road, Bennington, NY 14011  
(585) 591-1718  
benningtoncourt@gmail.com

**Town of Bennington Zoning Office**

Katie-Nicole Marble  
905 Old Alleghany Road, Bennington, NY 14011  
(585) 502-8448  
zoningofficer@benningtonny.com

**Cowlesville Volunteer Fire Company**

Jeff Anderson, Chief  
361 Clinton St, Cowlesville, NY 14037  
(585) 937-6991  
contact@cowlesville.com

**Harris Corners Volunteer Fire Department**

Nicholas Kirsch  
585 US-20A, Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 655-3568  
*Email not available*

**Town of Bennington Highway Department**

Ken Czworka, Superintendent  
905 Old Alleghany Road, Bennington, NY 14011  
(585) 591-2664  
benningtonnyhighway@outlook.com

**Bennington Volunteer Fire Company**

Kimo Brandon, Chief Officer  
1353 RT 354, Attica, NY 14011  
(585) 591-1525  
*Email not available*

**Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council**

438 Main Street (Suite 503), Buffalo, New York 14202  
(716) 856-2026  
staff@gbnrtc.org

**Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council**

David Zorn, Executive Director  
50 W. Main Street, Suite 8107, Rochester, NY 14614  
(585) 454-0190 ext. 14  
dave.zorn@gflrpc.org

## **MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN FACILITY AREA**

### **Wyoming County**

Rhonda Pierce, County Clerk  
143 N. Main Street, Suite 104  
Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-8810  
county.clerk@wyomingco.net

### **Town of Sheldon**

Brian Becker, Supervisor  
1380 Centerline Road Strykersville, NY 14145  
(585) 535-7644  
*Email not available*

### **Town of Bennington**

Ellen Grant, Supervisor  
905 Old Alleghany Road, Bennington, NY 14011  
(585) 591-2157  
benn-supervisor@rochester.rr.com

### **Attica Central School District**

Bryce Thompson, Superintendent of Schools  
3338 East Main Street, Attica, NY 14011  
(585) 591-0400 ext. 1000  
bthompson2@atticacsd.org

### **Iroquois Central School District**

Douglas Scofield, Superintendent  
P.O. Box 32, 2111 Girdle Road Elma, NY 14059  
(716) 652-3000  
csadowski@iroquoiscsd.org

## MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN STUDY AREA

### **Erie County**

Michael P. Kearns, County Clerk  
92 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716) 858-6550  
ErieCountyClerkOffice@erie.gov

### **Town of Wales**

Rickey Venditti, Supervisor  
12345 Big Tree Road, Wales Center, New York  
14169  
(716) 652-0589 Ext #1  
*Email not available*

### **Town of Marilla**

Earl Gingerich Jr., Town Supervisor  
1740 Two Rod Road, Marilla, New York 14102  
(716) 652-7293  
egingerich@townofmarilla.com

### **Holland Central School District**

Cathy Fabiatos, Superintendent  
103 Canada Street, Holland, NY 14080  
(716) 537-8200  
cfabiatos@hollandcsd.org

### **Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District**

Benjamin Halsey, Superintendent  
12145 County Line Rd Yorkshire, NY 14173  
(716) 492-9300  
bhalsey@pioneerpsd.org

### **Alden Central School District**

Adam Stoltman, Superintendent  
13190 Park Street, Alden, NY 14004  
(716) 937-9116  
astoltman@aldenschools.org

## ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

### **Adirondack Mountain Club – Niagara Frontier Chapter**

Cheryl Peluso  
Amherst Community Church  
77 Washington Highway, Snyder, NY 14226  
Cherylp17@verizon.net

### **Bloecher Farm Airport**

639 Perry Rd, Strykersville, NY 14145  
(716) 652-7119  
*Email not available*

### **Buffalo Audubon Society**

Melissa Fratello  
1610 Welch Rd, North Java, NY 14113  
(585) 457-3228  
mfratello.buffaloaudubon@gmail.com

### **Byrnclyff Golf Resort & Banquets**

Scott Meidenbauer, CEO  
2357 Humphrey Rd, Varysburg, NY 14167  
(585) 535-7300  
info@byrnclyff.com

### **Cobble Hill Airport**

2826 Merkle Rd.  
Attica, NY 14011  
(585) 813-5993  
*Email not available*

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County**

Laura Fuller, Lead Executive Director  
36 Center St., Suite B, Warsaw, NY 14569  
(585) 786-2251 Ext. 127  
Llf39@cornell.edu

### **Dominion Transmission, Inc.**

974 Co Rd 99, Woodhull, NY 14898  
(607) 458-5160

### **Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs**

Joe McAdams  
8 East Main St., Ilion, NY 13357  
(716) 570-3436  
joe@joemc.net

### **Finger Lakes Trail Conference, Inc.**

6111 Visitor Center Rd, Mt Morris, NY 14510  
(585) 658-9320  
FLTinfo@fingerlakestrail.org

### **Fisher Airport**

Bear Rd., Cowlesville, NY 14037  
*Phone not available*  
*Email not available*

### **Folsom Trailblazers**

P.O. Box 55, Attica, NY 14011  
(585) 902.8387  
trailblazers@folsomtrailblazers.org

### **Genesee Valley Conservancy**

Ben Gajewski, Executive Director  
One Main Street, P.O. Box 73, Geneseo, NY 14454  
(585) 243-2190  
ben@geneseevalleyconservancy.org

### **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 41**

Matt Hilmey, President  
3546 California Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127  
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mhilmey@ibewlocal41.com

### **Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA)**

Dave Spann  
3542 Turner Road, Jamestown, NY 1470  
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**National Fuel Gas Corporation**

6363 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221  
(716) 857-7000

**National Grid**

John Bruckner, President  
300 Erie Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13202  
1-800-642-4272  
*Email not available*

**New York Forest Owners Association**

Art Wagner, President  
P.O. Box 541, Lima, NY 14485  
(718) 892-1964  
president@nyfoa.org

**New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG)**

Carl Taylor  
PO Box 3607 Binghamton, NY 13902  
866-717-2281  
*Email not available*

**New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA)**

Rosanne Warner, President  
PO Box 740, Central Square, NY 13036  
(888) 624-3849  
president@nysnowmobiler.com

**Seneca Nation of Indians**

Todd Gates, President  
Address 1: 12837 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081  
Address 2: PO. Box 231, Salamanca, NY 14779  
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Penny.kerr@sni.org

**Sierra Club, Niagara Group**

Sara Schultz, Chairperson  
744 Broadway Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 426-9144  
niagarasierra@gmail.com

**The Nature Conservancy, Central & Western New York**

Mark Tercek, CEO  
274 North Goodman Street, Suite B261, Rochester, NY 14607  
(585) 546-8030  
gholtz@tnc.org

**Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.**

Preston Troutman, Business Development VP  
P.O. BOX 2511 Houston, TX 77252-2511  
(713) 420-3022  
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**Treichler Farm Airport**

Peter Treichler  
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**Trout Unlimited, 068 – Western New York Chapter**

Chuck Godfrey, President  
33 Devereaux Ave, Buffalo, NY 14214  
(716) 440-6995  
president@wnytroutunlimited.org

**Western New York Land Conservancy**

Larry Brooks, President  
P.O. Box 471, East Aurora, NY 14052  
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**Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism**

Scott A. Gardner, President  
36 Center Street, Suite A, Warsaw, NY 14569  
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sgardner@wycochamber.org

**Wyoming County Farm Bureau**

Amanda Krenning-Muoio, Field Advisor  
29 Liberty St # 212, Batavia, NY 14020  
(585) 749-9508  
akrenning@nyfb.org

**Wyoming County Wildlife Federation**

Patricia Dudeck, Officer Manager  
8 East Main Street, Ilion, NY 13357  
315-894-3302  
nyscc@nyscc.com

## **Exhibit B**

### Goals and Objectives for Stakeholder Involvement



## Affected Agency and Municipality Consultations

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Host and Adjacent Municipalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wyoming County</li> <li>• Erie County</li> <li>• Town of Bennington</li> <li>• Town of Sheldon</li> <li>• Town of Marilla</li> <li>• Town of Wales</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community outreach</li> <li>- Solicit local feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate Information regarding the proposed Facility, Article 10, the Intervenor Funding process, the PSS/scoping process, the Application, etc.</li> <li>- Collect information necessary to complete the Article 10 process</li> <li>- Identify community concerns, local landmarks, land uses, and resources</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> <li>- Provide contact information for Facility and opportunities for direct engagement with public</li> <li>- Review local laws to determine anticipated compliance or need for waivers</li> <li>- Consult to inform the Applicant's estimate of incremental municipal, public authority, or utility operating and infrastructure costs that will be incurred for police, fire, emergency, water, sewer, solid waste disposal, highway maintenance and other municipal, public authority, or utility services during the construction and operation phases of the facility</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attend public information sessions and local meetings, develop informational mailings, and update the Facility website</li> <li>- Develop a dedicated Facility email address to respond to inquiries and accept public comment</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact with local officials and boards regarding PSS submission, Application filing, etc., at least two weeks prior to filing</li> <li>- Consult with appropriate officials/departments regarding specific topics, such as road use, visual impact assessment, land use and comprehensive plans, and exchange other information sought by the Applicant or by host municipalities</li> <li>- Provide timely public/stakeholder notices and information on public comment periods, scheduled information sessions, and opportunities for participation</li> <li>- Obtain all relevant local laws, building codes, comprehensive plans, zoning maps, etc.</li> <li>- Discuss potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address identified impacts</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Host and Adjacent School Districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attica Central School District</li> <li>• Iroquois Central School District</li> <li>• Alden Central School District</li> <li>• Holland Central School District</li> <li>• Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solicit local feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>- Discuss impacts to school bus routes, district operating budget, and school operations, if any</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> <li>- Provide contact information for Facility and opportunities for direct engagement with public</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> <li>- Consult to inform the Applicant's estimate of incremental school district operating and infrastructure costs due to the construction and operation of the facility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact with local officials and boards regarding PSS submission, Application filing, etc., at least two weeks prior to filing</li> <li>- Work with school officials to develop transportation plans to minimize or avoid delays/traffic problems associated with construction of the Facility</li> <li>- Schedule information sessions</li> <li>- Gather local feedback</li> <li>- Discuss potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address identified impacts</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>
<p>Host Municipality Highway Departments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New York State Department of Transportation</li> <li>• Wyoming County Highway Department</li> <li>• Town of Bennington Highway Department</li> <li>• Town of Sheldon Highway Department</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solicit local feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>- Gather information on transportation routes and the condition and capacity of local roads</li> <li>- Discuss impacts to transportation and local infrastructure during and after construction; transportation routes, improvements and use of rights-of-way; and contingency plans in the event of an emergency</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Obtain and review Highway Department requirements for temporary radius improvements, transportation routes, and use of rights-of-way</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact with local officials and boards regarding PSS submission, Application filing, etc., at least two weeks prior to filing</li> <li>- Meet with highway officials to discuss concerns, potential impacts, avoidance/minimization strategies and potential mitigation</li> <li>- Work with local officials to develop transportation plans to minimize or avoid delays/traffic problems associated with construction of the Facility</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Emergency Response Organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wyoming County Office of Emergency Services</li> <li>Town of Bennington Volunteer Fire Department</li> <li>Town of Sheldon Volunteer Fire Department</li> <li>NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform emergency responders about the proposal, construction and operation processes, potential impacts on transportation routes, and contingency plans</li> <li>Solicit local feedback</li> <li>Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>Initiate direct contact with local officials and boards regarding PSS submission, Application filing, etc., at least two weeks prior to filing</li> <li>Consult with departments to ascertain local concerns</li> <li>Work with emergency responders to develop transportation plans and contingency plans to minimize or avoid delays/traffic problems associated with construction of the Facility</li> <li>Schedule information sessions</li> <li>Gather local feedback</li> <li>Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Aviation and Defense</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bloecher Farm Airport</li> <li>• Cobble Hill Airport</li> <li>• Fisher Airport</li> <li>• Treichler Farm Airport</li> <li>• US Federal Aviation Administration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ascertain potential Facility impacts on radar, defense systems, flight paths, and facility operations</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> <li>- Solicit stakeholder feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request an informal Department of Defense review of the proposed construction or alteration, in accordance with 32 CFR, Section 211.7; or a formal Department of Defense review of the proposed construction or alteration in accordance with 32 CFR, Section 211.6 FAA</li> <li>- Consult, as required by law, on potential impacts to airport operations and radar, as well as potential emergency lighting requirements</li> <li>- Consult with stakeholders to identify any potential impacts to radar, flight paths, national defense, or other concerns</li> <li>- Discuss potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address identified impacts</li> <li>- Identify the necessity of consultations with the operators of airports or heliports</li> <li>- Include outreach to inform such operators of the proposed facility and its location prior to the submission of the Preliminary Scoping Statement</li> <li>- Consult with operators of airports and heliports that are nonmilitary facilities, providing a detailed map and description of such construction or alteration to such operators, and a request for review of and comment on such construction or alteration by such operators</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Utilities/Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Grid</li> <li>• National Telecommunications and Information Administration</li> <li>• New York State Electric and Gas Corporation</li> <li>• New York Power Authority</li> <li>• National Fuel Gas Corporation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ascertain potential impacts of the Facility on communications infrastructure, energy transmission and interconnection, and the electric grid</li> <li>- Solicit stakeholder feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consult with stakeholders to identify any potential impacts to utility infrastructure, communications, grid reliability/security, etc.</li> <li>- Discuss potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address identified impacts</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Environmental Agencies and Public Interest Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adirondack Mountain Club-Niagara Frontier Chapter</li> <li>• Buffalo Audubon Society</li> <li>• Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs</li> <li>• Finger Lakes Trail Conference</li> <li>• Folsom Trailblazers Snowmobile Club</li> <li>• Genesee Valley Conservancy</li> <li>• Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance</li> <li>• New York Forest Owners Association</li> <li>• New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)</li> <li>• New York State Snowmobile Association</li> <li>• Sierra Club, Niagara Group</li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy</li> <li>• Trout Unlimited-Western New York Chapter</li> <li>• US Fish and Wildlife Service</li> <li>• US Army Corps of Engineers</li> <li>• Western New York Land Conservancy</li> <li>• Wyoming County Wildlife Federation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ascertain potential Facility impacts on environmental resources, including avian and bat species, plants, wetlands, protected species and habitat, land use, public health and safety, emissions, noise, geology/soils, water resources, agricultural lands, and other matters of concern to stakeholders</li> <li>- Collect information necessary to complete the Article 10 process</li> <li>- Identify agency concerns, state parks and scenic resources, wildlife management areas, conservation easements, protected lands, and other resources</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> <li>- Consult with agencies regarding regulatory compliance, permit requirements, etc.</li> <li>- Solicit stakeholder feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information regarding the proposed Facility</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review bird/bat studies with NYSDEC and FWS to determine adequacy of scope and methodology, and compliance of proposed plan with established regulations, guidance, and study Protocols</li> <li>- Confer with NYSDEC and Army Corps regarding wetlands delineations, stream crossings, and other relevant issues</li> <li>- Confer with NYSDEC and FWS regarding potential concerns associated with endangered species, the need for incidental take permits, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act</li> <li>- Confer with NYSDEC and NYSDEC regarding Water Quality Certification requirements and process</li> <li>- Consult to develop an acceptable input dataset, including modeling for the Applicant's proposed Facility and inputs for the emissions analysis</li> <li>- Consult with state agencies and authorities to determine whether the Applicant has correctly identified applicable requirements, permits, etc., mandated by these agencies.</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Agricultural Agencies and Stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wyoming County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District</li> <li>• Wyoming County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board</li> <li>• Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County</li> <li>• New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ascertain potential impacts of the Facility on historical and cultural resources</li> <li>- Ascertain potential socioeconomic effects of Facility Consultation with agencies regarding regulatory compliance and agency guidance</li> <li>- Identify resources and landmarks of local concern</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solicit feedback from stakeholders on any potential agricultural concerns unique to the Study Area</li> <li>- Confer with Ag &amp; Markets regarding compliance with agency guidance and policies</li> <li>- Request information or guidance from stakeholders on potential agricultural impacts, as well as potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address those impacts</li> <li>- Consult with state agencies and authorities to determine whether the Applicant has correctly identified applicable requirements, permits, etc., mandated by these agencies.</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>



Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Historical/Cultural/ Socioeconomic Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wyoming County Department of Planning and Development</li> <li>Wyoming County Industrial Development Agency</li> <li>Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism</li> <li>Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council</li> <li>Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council</li> <li>NYSDEC (Environmental Justice Issues)</li> <li>Empire State Development Corporation</li> <li>NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ascertain potential impacts of the Facility on energy transmission and interconnection, and the electric grid</li> <li>Discuss the Facility's compliance with state energy planning objectives</li> <li>Solicitation of stakeholder feedback</li> <li>Information dissemination on proposed Facility</li> <li>Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> <li>Achieve compliance with Article 10 regulatory requirements, an adequate PIP and PSS, a complete Application, etc.</li> <li>Adjustment of study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult in accordance with Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law and/or Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act,</li> <li>Consult with OPRHP and NYSDEC regarding cultural resources studies and to determine the need for and scope of work for any required Phase II cultural resources study</li> <li>Consult to establish representative viewpoints for the photographic simulations of the facility and interconnections</li> <li>Gather information on resources and landmarks of local concern for cultural impact assessment</li> <li>Develop information on potential socioeconomic effects of Facility, including job creation, tax revenues, and incidental effects on local business and industry</li> <li>Schedule information sessions</li> <li>Gather local feedback</li> <li>Consult with agencies and authorities to determine whether the Applicant has correctly identified applicable requirements, permits, etc., mandated by these agencies.</li> <li>Discuss potential avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to address identified impacts</li> <li>Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Energy Agencies and Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)</li> <li>• NY Independent System Operator</li> <li>• NYS Department of Public Service (NYSDPS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ascertain potential impacts of the Facility on energy transmission and interconnection, and the electric grid</li> <li>- Discuss the Facility's compliance with state energy planning objectives</li> <li>- Solicit stakeholder feedback</li> <li>- Disseminate information on proposed Facility</li> <li>- Develop avoidance, minimization and mitigation plans to address potential Facility impacts</li> <li>- Achieve compliance with Article 10 regulatory requirements, develop an adequate PIP and PSS, a complete Application, etc.</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder input and concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consult to develop an acceptable input data set, including modeling for the Applicant's proposed facility and inputs for required emissions and electric system effects analysis</li> <li>- Work with NYISO to coordinate System Reliability Impact Study (SRIS)</li> <li>- Confer with stakeholders to ascertain the ways in which the Facility will advance state energy planning objectives and be consistent with the State Energy Plan and state policy</li> <li>- Consult with the state agencies and authorities whose requirements are the subject of the State Laws and Regulations exhibit to determine whether the Applicant has correctly identified such requirements</li> <li>- Consult to identify applicable requirements to be used to demonstrate the degree of compliance with relevant applicable reliability criteria of the Northeast Power Coordinating Council Inc., New York State Reliability Council, and the local Interconnecting transmission utility, including any criteria regarding black start and fuel switching capabilities</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Consultation Goals	Implementation Plan and Schedule
<p>Other Affected Federal and State Agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NYS Attorney General</li> <li>• NYS Department of Health</li> <li>• NYS Department of State</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact Stakeholders</li> <li>- Disseminate Information regarding the Facility, Article 10, and Intervenor Funding</li> <li>- Provide contact information</li> <li>- Identify any specific issues or concerns</li> <li>- Schedule follow up meeting(s) and consultation(s), as appropriate</li> <li>- Adjust study scope/methodology based on stakeholder concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consult with agencies and authorities to determine whether the Applicant has correctly identified applicable requirements, permits, etc., mandated by these agencies.</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Ensure scope and methodology of public health and safety studies are adequate to address</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
<p>Elected Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles E. Schumer, US Senator</li> <li>• Kirsten E. Gillibrand, US Senator</li> <li>• Chris Collins, US Representative, 27<sup>th</sup> District</li> <li>• Patrick M. Gallivan, 59<sup>th</sup> District NYS Senate</li> <li>• David J. DiPietro, 147<sup>th</sup> District NYS Assembly</li> <li>• NYS Governor's Office</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact representatives</li> <li>- Disseminate Information regarding the Facility and provide contact info</li> <li>- Identify any specific issues or concerns</li> <li>- Schedule follow up meeting(s) and consultation(s), as appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide notifications in per 1000.5 Pre-Application Procedures.</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>
<p>Other Stakeholders/Agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seneca Indian Nation</li> <li>• International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 41</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact Stakeholders</li> <li>- Disseminate Information regarding the Facility, Article 10, and Intervenor Funding</li> <li>- Provide contact information</li> <li>- Identify any specific issues or concerns</li> <li>- Schedule follow up meeting(s) and consultation(s), as appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiate early discussions with Native American tribes, and the SHPO, regarding cultural resources under Part 106 in advance of filing the PSS.</li> <li>- Provide timely stakeholder notices and information</li> <li>- Initiate direct contact through telephone calls, mailings, information sessions, and discussions, as appropriate</li> </ul>

**Exhibit C**

Record of Activity

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
4/9/2019	Landowner Open House	<p>Approx 20 area landowners.</p> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caton Fenz (CDO)</li> <li>• Colleen Nash (Director)</li> <li>• John Kuba (Director)</li> <li>• Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>• Isaac Phillips (Analyst)</li> </ul> <p><b>EDR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill Whipps (Project Manager)</li> <li>• Lindsay Donahoe (Project Manager)</li> </ul>	Meeting held at Harris Corners Fire Department within project boundary. Invites were mailed to individuals in the project area, Town of Sheldon posting meeting online.	None	
4/17/2019	Sheldon Town Board Presentation	<p>Sheldon Supervisor &amp; Town Board Members (Public Meeting)</p> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>• Isaac Phillips (Analyst)</li> </ul> <p><b>EDR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacob Runner (Project Manager)</li> </ul>	Presented high level project details, explained Article 10 process, answered questions	None	
5/1/2019	Bennington Zoning Officer Discussion	<p><b>Bennington Zoning Officer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katie-Nicole Marble</li> </ul> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Visited with zoning official to discuss project and inquire about May 15th planning board agenda.	None	
5/1/2019	Wyoming County Zoning Officer Discussion	<p><b>Wyoming County Zoning Officer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alyssa Cutcliffe</li> </ul> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Visited with zoning official (who acts as Sheldon Township zoning official) to introduce project	None	
5/15/2019	Bennington Planning Board Presentation	<p>Bennington Planning Board (Public Meeting)</p> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>• Isaac Phillips (Analyst)</li> </ul> <p><b>EDR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill Whipps (Project Manager)</li> </ul>	Presented high level project details, explained Article 10 process, answered questions	None	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
5/15/2019	Sheldon Town Board Meeting	Sheldon Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting)  <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li></ul>	Was present at Town Board meeting, answered questions on project details	None	
6/12/2019	Sheldon Planning Board Meeting	Sheldon Planning Board (Public meeting)  <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li></ul>	Presented high level project details, explained Article 10 process, answered questions	Provided info on number of solar modules that could be used for the project.	
7/17/2019	Sheldon Town Board Meeting	Sheldon Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting)  <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li><li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li></ul>	Was present at Town Board meeting, answered questions on project details	None	
7/31/2019	Bennington Zoning Office Discussion	<b>Bennington Zoning Officer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Katie-Nicole Marble</li></ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li></ul>	Visited with zoning official to discuss project progress	None	
7/31/2019	Bennington Supervisor Discussion	Bennington Town Supervisor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ellen Grant</li></ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li></ul>	Visited with supervisor to discuss project progress	None	
8/7/2019	Wyoming County IDA Introduction	<b>Wyoming County IDA:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jim Pierce</li></ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li><li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li></ul>	Visited with IDA and presented high level project details	None	
8/10/2019 - 8/17/2019	Booth at Wyoming County Fair	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li><li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li></ul>	Had informational booth at Wyoming County Fair.	None	
8/21/2019	Sheldon Town Board meeting	Sheldon Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting)  <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li></ul>	Provided update on project during public comment portion of the agenda	None	



# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
8/22/2019	Landowner Open House	<p>Approx 15 area landowners</p> <p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>Isaac Phillips (Associate)</li> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul>	Meeting held at Harris Corners Fire Department within project boundary. Invites were mailed to individuals in the project area	None	
8/23/2019	<p>Department of Public Service Meeting</p> <p>Location: Department of Public Service Office</p>	<p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>Isaac Phillips (Associate)</li> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul> <p><b>Young/Sommer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jim Muscato</li> </ul> <p><b>EDR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Brazell</li> </ul> <p><b>DPS Staff:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erin Odell Keller</li> <li>Elizabeth Grisaru</li> <li>Heather Behnke</li> <li>Andy Davis</li> </ul>	ConnectGen team to formally introduce the Project, provide updates regarding development activities in Wyoming County, and discuss Article 10 process and expectations	None	
8/23/2019	<p>Department of Environmental Conservation Meeting</p> <p>Location: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Office</p>	<p><b>ConnectGen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>Isaac Phillips (Associate)</li> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul> <p><b>Young/Sommer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jim Muscato</li> </ul> <p><b>EDR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Brazell</li> </ul> <p><b>DEC Staff:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris Hogan</li> <li>Roy Jacobson</li> <li>Colleen Kimble</li> <li>Lisa Covert</li> </ul>	ConnectGen team to formally introduce the Project, provide updates regarding development activities in Wyoming County, and discuss Article 10 process and expectations	Follow up with NYSDEC central office and regional staff regarding resource identification	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christopher Grady</li> <li>Ted Loukides</li> <li>Mike Higgins</li> </ul>			
8/23/2019	Department of Agriculture and Markets Meeting  Location: Department of Agriculture & Markets Office	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> <li>Isaac Phillips (Associate)</li> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul> <b>Young/Sommer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jim Muscato</li> </ul> <b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Brazell</li> </ul> <b>DAM Staff:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jason Mulford</li> <li>Mike Saviola</li> <li>Tara Wells</li> <li>Danielle Cordier</li> </ul>	ConnectGen team to formally introduce the Project, provide updates regarding development activities in Wyoming County, and discuss Article 10 process and expectations	None	
8/28/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>Young/Sommer</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jim Muscato</li> </ul>	Email to Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office) to make general introduction to project and connect Brianna with the ConnectGen team	As needed	
8/29/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Brazell</li> </ul>	Email to Mike Higgins (DEC Central Office) to obtain contact information for regional staff to facilitate consultation regarding resource identification	As needed	
9/3/2019	Presentation to Sheldon Volunteer Fire Co.	Approx 15 members of the Volunteer Fire Co. <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Meeting held at the Fire Department within the town of Sheldon. Presented high level project details, answered questions on project details	None	
9/3/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email to Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office) to make general introduction and request a	Response requested.	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
			conference call to discuss the Project.		
9/4/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR</b> • Ben Brazell	Response from Michael Higgins (DEC Central Office) that Ken Baginski is the Regional Natural Resource Supervisor; and Mike Clancy, Regional Fisheries Manager are the appropriate DEC Region 9 contacts.		
9/10/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> • John Kuba (Director) <b>Young/Sommer:</b> • Jim Muscato	Email from Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office) providing availability in response to conference call request.	ConnectGen to select time and set up conference call.	
9/17/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> • Bill Whipps	Email to Ken Baginski and Mike Clancy requesting a conference call to discuss any documented rare, threatened or endangered species, or significant natural communities in the Facility Area.	Response from Region 9 requested.	
9/18/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Conference call	<b>EDR:</b> • Ben Brazell • Bill Whipps • Sam Beguin <b>ConnectGen:</b> • John Kuba (Director) <b>DEC Staff:</b> Brianna Denoncour	Conference call between EDR, John Kuba (ConnectGen) and Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office) to discuss available ecological data and potential sensitive ecological resources at the Facility Area.	Brianna and John to coordinate DEC providing ConnectGen with Natural Heritage and other sensitive resource data.	
9/18/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> • Bill Whipps	Follow up to conference call with Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office), forwarding original 9/17 email to Region, as well as Facility maps and NYNHP response letter.	As needed	
9/18/2019	Sheldon Town Board Meeting	Sheldon Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting) <b>ConnectGen:</b>	Provided update on project during public comment portion of the agenda	None	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul>			
9/19/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email to Brianna Denoncour (DEC Central Office) to formally request GIS data for species and natural community occurrences associated with the Big Tree Solar Project Area.	DEC to provide GIS data.	
9/25/2019	Sheldon Supervisor Discussion	<b>Bennington Town Supervisor:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brian Becker</li> </ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Visited with supervisor to discuss project progress	None	
9/25/2019	Bennington Zoning Office Discussion	<b>Bennington Zoning Officer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Katie-Nicole Marble</li> </ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Visited with zoning official to discuss project progress	None	
9/27/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Whipps</li> </ul>	Email to Ken Baginski and Mike Clancy following up on 9/17 request for a conference call.	Response from Region 9 requested.	
9/30/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Whipps</li> </ul>	In response to Ken Baginski replying to the email of 9/27 that Mike Clancy was on vacation until 10/15, follow up email to Region requesting any information on documented rare, threatened or endangered species, or significant natural communities that the Region might have.	Response from Region 9 requested.	
9/30/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email from Brianna Denoncour sending draft non-disclosure agreement required for sharing Natural Heritage data.	ConnectGen to execute NDA	
10/1/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email to Brianna Denoncour sending signed non-disclosure	DEC to countersign NDA	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
	Email Correspondence		agreement required for sharing Natural Heritage data.		
10/7/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email from Brianna Denoncour providing fully executed non-disclosure agreement required for sharing Natural Heritage data. Email requesting additional Project Area GIS files	DEC to provide Natural Heritage GIS data; ConnectGen to provide Project Area GIS files.	
10/9/2019	Bennington Town Board Meeting	Bennington Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting) <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Provided a brief update on project.		
10/10/2019	Bennington Supervisor Discussion	<b>Bennington Town Supervisor:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ellen Grant</li> </ul> <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Woltag (Manager)</li> </ul>	Visited with supervisor to discuss project progress	None	
10/16/2019	Sheldon Town Board Meeting	Sheldon Supervisor & Town Board (Public Meeting) <b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jimmy Moreland (Associate)</li> </ul>	Provided update on project during public comment portion of the agenda	None	
10/17/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Whipps</li> </ul>	Follow up email with the Region again requesting a conference call to discuss any documented rare, threatened or endangered species, or significant natural communities in the Facility Area.	Response from Region 9 requested.	
10/21/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9  Email Correspondence	<b>EDR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Whipps</li> </ul>	Response from DEC Region 9 that DEC is unaware of any additional records that are not included in the NHP database.	None	
11/4/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Follow up email to Brianna Denoncour requesting status of Natural Heritage GIS data.	DEC to provide Natural Heritage GIS Data.	

# Big Tree Solar

## PIP Tracking Log – Record of Activities Updated Through November 15, 2019

Date of Activity	Activity Type	Activity Attendees	Purpose of Activity	Follow-up Action Items	Comments
11/6/2019	Department of Environmental Conservation  Email Correspondence	<b>ConnectGen:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Kuba (Director)</li> </ul>	Email from Brianna Denoncour providing maps and descriptions of the species and communities tracked by the NY Natural Heritage Program located near the Project.	None	

## **Exhibit D**

General Guidance for Public Participation in the Article 10 Process



## **How Can I Participate in the Article 10 Process?**

Under Article 10 of the New York Public Service Law (“Article 10”), all major electric generating facilities of 25 megawatts in size or more (“Facility”) must be reviewed and approved by a multi-agency State body called the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (“the Siting Board”). The Article 10 process is broken into several phases – each phase has multiple opportunities for stakeholder and public involvement.

Throughout the process, you can participate by:

- Joining the Party or Service List on the Siting Board’s project docket site, and/or monitoring the filings and announcements posted to that site. You will need the project case number to access these materials.
- Contacting the Applicant to request additional information, or to receive notices.
- Filing comments on the “Public Comments” tab on the project docket site.
- Visiting the Project Website
- Attending local Open House events, conferences, public statement hearings, or municipal meetings where Project representatives provide additional information.

### **Pre-Application Phase**

Early in project development, a prospective Article 10 Applicant must identify and engage with stakeholders with potential interests in the proposed Facility, as well as propose environmental and community studies that will look at the potential impacts of construction and operation of the Facility. This process begins with the Public Involvement Program (“PIP”) Plan and ends when an Article 10 Application is filed.

#### ***1. Public Involvement Program (“PIP”) Plan Stage***

In the PIP, an Applicant will identify stakeholders and outline its proposed strategies for stakeholder involvement. You can find additional information on the Applicant’s plans in the PIP, such as the “local document repositories” where important project documents will be made available, the online resources where project detail will be provided, the newspapers where the Applicant will publish notices, and the kinds of outreach you can expect to see in your community.

#### ***2. Preliminary Scoping Statement (“PSS”) Stage***

At least 5 months after the PIP is filed, the Applicant will file a PSS outlining the studies and information it proposes to provide in its Application. This starts a 21-day public comment period on the proposed studies and PSS. The Applicant then must respond to public comments within another 21 days.

- At least 3 days before the PSS is filed, notices will be published in local newspapers and on the project website, and will be served on individuals or groups identified in the regulations.
- You can request to be served with these notices by joining the Party or Service Lists on the Siting Board’s project docket site, or by contacting the Applicant.

- The PSS is distributed to the Party and Service Lists, placed in repositories, posted to project website and Siting Board docket site.
- Instructions for submitting comments on the PSS will be included in the notices.
- After the PSS is filed, and before an Application is submitted, the Applicant may hold another public meeting or open house.

### ***3. Preliminary Conference and Pre-Application Intervenor Funding***

Within 2 months of the PSS filing, a Preliminary Conference will be scheduled in the area where the Facility is proposed. This public session is used to review requests for intervenor funding and to start a settlement negotiations process called “stipulations.”

- Municipalities and qualified local groups can seek intervenor funding to assist them in reviewing and commenting on the PSS, and in participate in stipulations.
- Instructions for requesting intervenor funding, and qualification information, can be found on the Siting Board’s website.

### ***4. Stipulations***

Parties may decide to negotiate stipulations, or agreements, about what the Applicant will study and how it will study issues of concern—the scope and methodology of studies—before the Application is filed. This process can help limit issues in dispute amongst the parties, and avoid costly litigation on topics not of concern. The stipulations process is confidential, but stipulations cannot be signed by the parties until they are released for public review and comment.

- If parties agree to stipulations, the Applicant will publish and circulate a notice at least three days before the stipulations are released, to alert interested persons.
- When the stipulations are filed, the public generally has 21-30 days to review and comment on the proposed stipulations.

### **Application and Hearings Phase**

Once the Application is filed, another phase of review, intervenor funding, stakeholder participation and engagement begins. This stage of review may involve adjudicatory hearings, legal briefs and other formal proceedings. This Phase concludes with a Recommended Decision from the Examiners assigned to hear the case, and with legal briefs from parties about that recommendation.

### ***5. Application Submission and Completeness***

The Applicant will file its Application, which will span many volumes, and which will be available online on the project website, Siting Board docket, and by electronic notification to the Party and Service Lists, as well as in paper form at local document repositories and certain agencies. State regulators review the Application and determine whether all necessary information is included, and if it can be considered “complete” and ready for

review. A completeness determination starts a 12-month clock on review and decision on the Application by the Siting Board.

- At least 3 days before the Application is filed, legal notices will be published in the newspaper and on websites, and circulated to parties and interested persons.
- You will have the opportunity to review the Application, continue to submit Public Comments, and monitor the proceeding.

#### ***6. Pre-Hearing Conference(s) and Intervenor Funding***

The Application Phase includes a second round of Intervenor Funding, and another conference to address intervenor funding requests, as well as consideration of formal “Party Status” for hearings. That conference, or other conferences, may include an identification of party disagreements or “issues” which must be addressed in litigation.

- Additional Intervenor Funding is available to qualified entities and groups to facilitate participation in the Application Phase.
- Notices of hearings and important deadlines will be posted to the Siting Board docket site, and circulated to the Party and Service Lists.

#### ***7. Public Statement Hearings***

Soon after a complete Application is received, the Siting Board will schedule a Public Statement Hearing in a host community where the Facility is proposed. The purpose of that hearing is to take public comments on the Facility. Notice of that hearing will be published and posted online.

#### ***8. Adjudicatory Hearings and Legal Briefing***

If there are issues that require litigation, adjudicatory hearings and legal briefing periods will be held. A Facility’s host municipalities are automatically considered a Party to this phase, and at least 50% of the intervenor funding made available for the Application and Hearings Phases is reserved for municipal parties, to defray the costs of that participation. This phase ends with a Recommended Decision, made by the Hearing Examiners based on the record of the proceedings, and submitted to the Siting Board for review.

- Members of the public can monitor the progress of the case through this period, and can request updates from their local municipal officials.

### **Certification Phase**

After the Recommended Decision is issued, the decision is in the hands of the Siting Board. Members of the Siting Board, including two local ad hoc members of the Board nominated by the host municipalities in the Pre-Application Phase and appointed by the Senate and Assembly. When the Siting Board is ready to decide, it will schedule a public session to announce its decision.

## **Compliance Phase**

If a Facility is issued an Article 10 certificate, there will generally be items and tasks which must be addressed prior to Facility construction, before the Facility begins operating, or at certain milestones after operations begin. You will be able to find information on these requirements in the Siting Board's decision, and proof of the Applicant's compliance with those requirements will be submitted to the Siting Board's docket page, the Party and Service Lists, and other repositories for important Facility information, such as the project website.

## **Construction and Operation Phase**

Most Facility Applications will need to include a Compliant Resolution Plan, construction-related plans, and other information for the public, communities and stakeholders should any issues arise while the Applicant is building or operating the Facility. In those plans, you will be able to find Applicant contact numbers, see proposed plans for dealing with construction-related traffic and machinery, review emergency response and impact mitigation plans, and understand how the Applicant plans to interact with the community over the life of the project.

## Instructions for Joining the Party or Service List in a Siting Board Proceeding

Go to the DPS Home Page ([www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov)), then click “Search” to search by project Case Number, or find the project name under the “Generation Siting” list on the DPS home page.

**Department of Public Service**

Electric Natural Gas Steam Telecommunications Water **Search** Login

GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW YORK'S FIRST CLEAN ENERGY STANDARD

**Reforming the Energy Vision REV**

**What's Trending...**

**Electric**

- March 2018 Winter Storms Investigation
- Distributed Energy Resource Regulation and Oversight (DER)
- Federal Income Tax Reduction Proceeding
- Offshore Wind Energy
- O&R Electric Rate Case
- National Grid Electric Rate Case
- Central Hudson Electric Rate Case
- Indian Point Closure Task Force
- Subway Power Outage and Con Edison Restoration Investigation
- Reforming the Energy Vision (REV)
- Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER)
- PSC Examines ESCOs
- CES/Large Scale Renewables
- Distributed Generation/Interconnections
- Power to Choose - Energy Competition
- RO&E and NYSEG March 2017 Windstorm Outage & Restoration Investigation
- More Electric...

**Natural Gas**

- Federal Income Tax Reduction Proceeding
- O&R Gas Rate Case
- National Grid Gas Rate Case
- Central Hudson Gas Rate Case
- NYSEG Gas Compressor Pilot Project
- Power to Choose - Energy Competition
- Retail Energy Market
- RFP for Management Audits of NYSEG and RG&E
- NYS Pipeline Safety Program
- More Natural Gas...

**Generation Siting**

- Alle-Catt Wind
- Baron Winds
- Bluestone Wind
- Bull Run Wind
- Canisteo Wind
- Cassadaga Wind
- Deer River Wind
- Eight Point Wind
- Galloo Island Wind
- Hecate Solar
- Heritage Wind
- Lighthouse Wind
- Mad River Wind
- Mohawk Solar
- North Ridge Wind
- Northern Tier Wind
- More Generation Siting

**Telecommunications**

- Federal Income Tax Reduction Proceeding
- Verizon Service Quality Improvement Plan Investigation
- TWC/Charter Merger
- Charter Buildout
- Charter NYC Franchise
- Study of the State of Telecommunications in NYS
- 518 Area Code Proceeding
- Dismantling Non-Basic Retail Telecommunications Services
- New Company Certification Process and Report Filing Requirements
- Universal Service Fund
- Verizon's Wireless Service Proposal
- More Telecommunications...

**Water**

- Federal Income Tax Reduction Proceeding
- Qualified NY Manufacturer Rating Impact
- Bristol Water Rate Complaint
- Suez Water New York, Inc. Rates for Water Service
- Regulated Water Utility Listing
- United Water's Development of a New Long-Term Water Supply Source
- United Water New York Inc.
- NY American Water Company, Inc.
- More Water...

**Steam**

- Federal Income Tax Reduction Proceeding
- Consolidated Edison Steam Planting Proceeding
- More Steam...

**Index**

- A-Z Index
- Search
- Site Map
- Register to Vote

**Most Popular Pages**

- About the PSC
- Agendas and Calendars
- Commission Documents
- File a Complaint & Dispute Resolution
- Filing Guidelines
- Press Releases
- Public Notices
- Session Webcast Schedule

**Featured Pages**

- DPS - Long Island Home Page
- AskPSC.com (consumer information)
- File a Complaint
- Freedom of Information Law (FOIL)
- Power to Choose - Energy Competition
- Clean Energy Initiative
- Energy Star
- Siting Board Home Page

**Website / Help**

- Accessibility
- Career Opportunities
- Contact Us
- Help
- Privacy Policy
- Text Only Page
- Web Contact
- Website Disclaimer

Links to Article 10 project dockets are also available through the Siting Board’s website (<http://www.dps.ny.gov/SitingBoard/>), by clicking “Projects under Review,” and identifying the project from the list provided.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment. The left sidebar contains a menu with the following items: Article 10 Law, Article 10 Regulations, Board Members, Information Coordinator, Press Releases, Public Notices, Procedures and Hearing Rules, **Projects Under Review** (circled in green), Requests for Declaratory Rulings, Webcast Schedule, Guides, Forms, FAQ, Calendar, DPS Home, and Contact. The main content area is titled 'Projects Under Review' and lists the following steps: Step 1: Public Involvement Program Submittals, Step 2: Preliminary Scoping Statement Submittals, Step 3: Applications Submitted, Step 4: Deemed Compliant, Step 5: Applications Approved, Certified Projects, and Projects Withdrawn from Article 10 Review. The top navigation bar includes links for Services, News, Government, Local, Location, and Translate.

Either method will bring up the project’s docket or “DMM” page. In the top right hand corner of the DMM page, there are buttons titled “Subscribe to Service List” or “Request for Party Status.” Click one.

The screenshot shows the 'Matter 15-00390/15-F-0087' docket page on the New York State Department of Public Service website. The page displays the following information: Matter Number: 15-00390, Industry Affected: Facility Gen., Matter Type: Petition, Case Number: 15-F-0087, Company/Organization: First Mine Solar LLC, Matter Subtype: Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, and Title of Matter/Case: Application of First Mine Solar LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article 10 for Construction of a Solar Electric Generating Facility Located in the Towns of Coxsack and Athens, Greene County. In the top right corner, there are three buttons: 'Post Comments', 'Subscribe to Service List' (circled in red), and 'Request for Party Status'. Below the main information, there is a table of documents with columns for Item No., Date Filed, Document Type, Document Title, Filing On Behalf Of, Item No., File Name, and File Size. The table lists 11 documents, including letters, cover letters, and responses to comments. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text 'Page Size: 50' and '1 of 1'.



Clicking the “Subscribe to Service List” or “Request for Party Status” buttons opens a page outlining the differences between joining the Party List, subscribing to the Service List, or participation via Web Monitoring. Select the preferred method of participation by clicking one of the buttons, or by downloading a form for submission to the Secretary.

PARTIES	SERVICE LIST	WEB MONITORING
<p>Generally, parties commit to contribute to the development of a complete record in a proceeding by conducting discovery, submitting testimony, briefs, or other formal written comments, and/or participating in evidentiary hearings, procedural conferences and other formal events conducted in the case. (Non-parties participate in PSC proceedings by filing informal comments, such as letters, in contrast to the formal comments filed by parties in response to Commission notices.)</p> <p>For some PSC proceedings, including rate cases, a person need not be a party to petition for rehearing of the Commission's final decision; however, in some other proceedings, only those who were parties in the case may petition for rehearing. The right to challenge a PSC decision in New York State Court may also be limited to those who were parties to the PSC proceeding.</p> <p>Under Commission rules, 16 NYCRR 4.3, you must seek permission to intervene as a party from the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), if one is assigned to the case, or from the Secretary if there is no ALJ assigned. The standard for allowing intervention is whether your participation is likely to contribute to the development of a complete record or is otherwise fair and in the public interest; whether other parties are unfairly prejudiced is also considered.</p> <p>If you are a registered user of the NYS Public Service Commission's Document and Matter Management (DMM) System, you may submit your request for party status by clicking on the button below. Registration saves time and allows you to see and manage all of your service and party list subscriptions.</p> <p>When you submit the request for party status here, you will be provisionally added to the party list, subject to the right of other parties to object and subject to the final determination of the ALJ or Secretary. You will be required to mail your request to anyone on the party list who cannot receive e-mail service.</p> <p>If you do not wish to register on the NYS Public Service Commission's DMM System, you can download the Request for Party Status form using the hyperlink below. Please follow the instructions on the form.</p>	<p>Interested persons who wish to monitor the proceedings of a particular case can do so without the formal commitment to become party in the proceeding. The persons who subscribe to the service list of a case will receive an e-mail with a direct link to the documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulings. Persons unable or unwilling to receive such electronic notification will receive hard copies of Commission-issued documents by regular mail.</p> <p>If you are a registered user of the NYS Public Service Commission's Document and Matter Management (DMM) System, you may submit your service list subscription by clicking on the button below. Registration saves time and allows you to see and manage all of your service and party list subscriptions.</p> <p>Currently, another significant advantage of on-line registration is that registered users who subscribe to a service list for a case have the option to receive an e-mail with a direct link to all documents filed by the parties to the case, such as testimony, briefs, correspondence and formal comments, as well as the Commission-issued orders, notices and rulings. Those who submit their service list request by other means, such as submission of the form provided here, can only receive links to Commission-issued documents.</p> <p>If you do not wish to register on the NYS Public Service Commission's DMM System, you can download the Request for Service List form using the hyperlink below. Please follow the instructions on the form.</p>	<p>Interested persons who choose not to sign up to receive e-mail notifications, can view our web site at their convenience to check on the status of a case. All documents filed by parties, correspondence, hearing transcripts, and documents issued by the Commission in a given case are posted on the website for that case. In addition, all comments submitted by the general public are posted under the 'public comments' tab for the same case.</p> <p>No registration is required.</p> <p>For more information on Web Monitoring <a href="#">click here</a>.</p>
<p><a href="#">Download Party Status Request Form</a></p> <p><a href="#">Request For Party Status</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Download Service List Request Form</a></p> <p><a href="#">Subscribe To Service List</a></p>	

The DMM system will provide automated notifications when filings are made in a proceeding to members of both the Party List and Service List. Individuals can select the option to receive only filings made by the Siting Board, or all filings made by any party in the proceeding.

There are two methods to become a Party: (1) Download the form available at the link provided, fill it out in hard copy, and submit to the PSC to be added manually by their staff, or (2) click the button to “Request Party Status” and create a ny.gov ID. This takes you to another page, to sign up for a NY.gov ID if you do not have one, or to log in if you do.

If you experience problems, you can contact the DPS helpline for the DMM system by calling (518) 474-7080. Additional assistance and troubleshooting information is available on the DPS website at:  
<http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/B3AC0E39E2A9368B852578D20056F353?OpenDocument>



# Monitoring Siting Board Proceedings

## INFORMATION FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN OR MONITORING SITING BOARD PROCEEDINGS

There are several options available for those who wish to participate in or monitor the proceedings of a particular case. Please read the details of each and decide which is the best option for you.

PARTIES	SERVICE LIST	WEB ACCESS
<p>Generally, parties commit to contribute to the development of a complete record in a proceeding by conducting discovery, submitting testimony, briefs, or other formal written comments, and/or participating in evidentiary hearings, procedural conferences and other formal events conducted in the case. (Non-parties participate in Siting Board Proceedings by filing informal comments, such as letters, in contrast to the formal comments filed by parties in response to Commission notices.) Once a party, a person or organization may be compelled to respond to discovery requests and to perform other actions.</p> <p>For Siting Board Proceedings, only those who were parties in the case may petition for rehearing. The right to challenge a Siting Board decision in New York State Court is limited to those who were parties to</p>	<p>Interested persons who wish to monitor the proceedings of a particular case can do so by subscribing to the service list for the case. Subscribers will receive an e-mail with a direct link to the documents issued by the Siting Board, such as orders, notices, and rulings. Persons unable or unwilling to receive such electronic notification will receive hard copies of Siting Board-issued documents by regular mail.</p> <p>If you are a registered user of the NYS Public Service Commission's Document and Matter Management (DMM) System, you may submit your service list subscription by clicking on the button below. Registration saves time and allows you to see and manage all of your service and party list subscriptions.</p> <p>A significant advantage of on-line registration is that registered users who subscribe to a service list for</p>	<p>Interested persons can view the Siting Board web site at their convenience to check on the status of a case. All documents filed by parties, correspondence, hearing transcripts, and documents issued by the Siting Board in a given case are posted on the website for that case. In addition, all comments submitted by the members of the public are posted under the 'Public Comments' tab.</p>

the Siting Board proceeding and petitioned for rehearing of the Siting Board decision.

A Siting Board case does not have formal “parties” until an application is filed. However, it would be convenient and useful if persons, groups and other entities interested in participating in the stipulations process or applying for intervenor funding during pre-application phases place themselves on the party list for tracking purposes. A request for party status during the pre-application phase does not preclude a reevaluation of party status at the time of the filing of the application. Those who are interested in being added to the party list during pre-application phases or participating as a party after an application is filed must submit the following form: The form is available [here](#). Once an application has been submitted, under Commission rules, 16 NYCRR 4.3, you may also be required to seek permission to intervene as a party from the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), if one is assigned to the case, or from the Secretary if there is no ALJ assigned.

If you are a registered user of the NYS Public Service Commission’s Document

a case have the option to receive an e-mail with a direct link to all documents filed by the parties to the case, such as testimony, briefs, correspondence and formal comments, as well as the Siting Board-issued orders, notices and rulings. Those who submit their service list request by other means, such as submission of the form provided here, can only receive links to Siting Board-issued documents.

<p>and Matter Management (DMM) System, you may submit your request for party status by clicking on the button below. Registration saves time and allows you to see and manage all of your service and party list subscriptions.</p> <p>When you submit the request for party status here, you will be provisionally added to the party list, subject to the right of other parties to object and subject to the final determination of the ALJ or Secretary. You will be required to mail your request to anyone on the party list who cannot receive e-mail service.</p>		
<p><a href="#">Registering with the PSC's Document Management System</a> (DMM) and using a web form to request party status is the <b>preferred method</b> of becoming a party in a case.</p>	<p><a href="#">Registering with the PSC's Document Management System</a> (DMM) and using a web page to manage your Service List subscriptions is the <b>preferred method</b> of subscribing to the Service List in a case.</p>	<p>No registration is required.</p> <p>Search for a case and find out more about <a href="#">Web Monitoring</a>.</p>
<p>If you do not wish to use the preferred method of registering on the NYS Public Service Commission's DMM System, you can <a href="#">download the Request for Party Status</a> form. Please follow the instructions on the form.</p>	<p>If you do not wish to use the preferred method of registering on the NYS Public Service Commission's DMM System, you may download the "Service List and Mail Service List Request Form" provided <a href="#">here</a> and send the completed form by e-mail to the Secretary at <a href="mailto:secretary@dps.ny.gov">secretary@dps.ny.gov</a>. If you are unable to e-mail the Secretary, you may mail</p>	

	<p>your request to Secretary Department of Public Service Three Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350.</p>	
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**Exhibit E**

Anticipated Project and Public Participation Schedule

# Big Tree Solar Anticipated Project and Public Participation Schedule

	2019				2020				2021				2022			
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Initial PIP Filed																
Final PIP Filed and Posted to Applicant Website																
Anticipated Public Engagement																
Conduct Project Studies and Reports																
Anticipated Public Engagement																
Submit Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS); agency public review of PSS; Applicant response																
Submit Stipulations Document to Parties																
Anticipated Public Engagement																
Prepare and Submit Article 10 Application																
Anticipated Public Engagement																
Article 10 Application Initial Review for Compliance																
Article 10 Supplement, and Compliance Determination																
Article 10 Public Statement Hearing and Procedural Conference																
Discovery, Identification of Issues and Resolution, Testimony, Hearings, Recommended Decision,																
Article 10 Order Granting Certificate																
Project Construction																
Start of Operation																
Applicant will Update Project Website with Relevant Project Materials																
Applicant Available to Respond to Individual Comments and Inquiries																

## Notes:

All dates are preliminary and subject to change.

Red denotes steps where public participation is a critical component of the task identified; per the PIP Plan, public engagement generally will be encouraged throughout the process.

The Applicant will hold additional meetings with individual stakeholders as required throughout the Project lifecycle.