

**Mill Point Solar I Project**  
**Appendix 2-1. Community Meeting Materials**  
**Table of Contents**

1. April 2021 Virtual Community Meeting PowerPoint
2. April 2021 Virtual Community Meeting Question and Answers
3. August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Poster Boards
4. August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Fact Sheet
5. August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Preliminary Location Map
6. August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Comment Cards
7. November 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Poster Boards
8. November 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Questionnaire/Comment Cards
9. May 2023 In-Person Community Meeting Poster Boards
10. May 2023 In-Person Community Meeting Facility Components Map
11. May 2023 In-Person Community Meeting Constraints Map
12. May 2023 In-Person Community Meeting Comment Cards

**April 2021 Virtual Community Meeting PowerPoint**



April 14, 2021

# Mill Point Solar Project Public Information Meeting



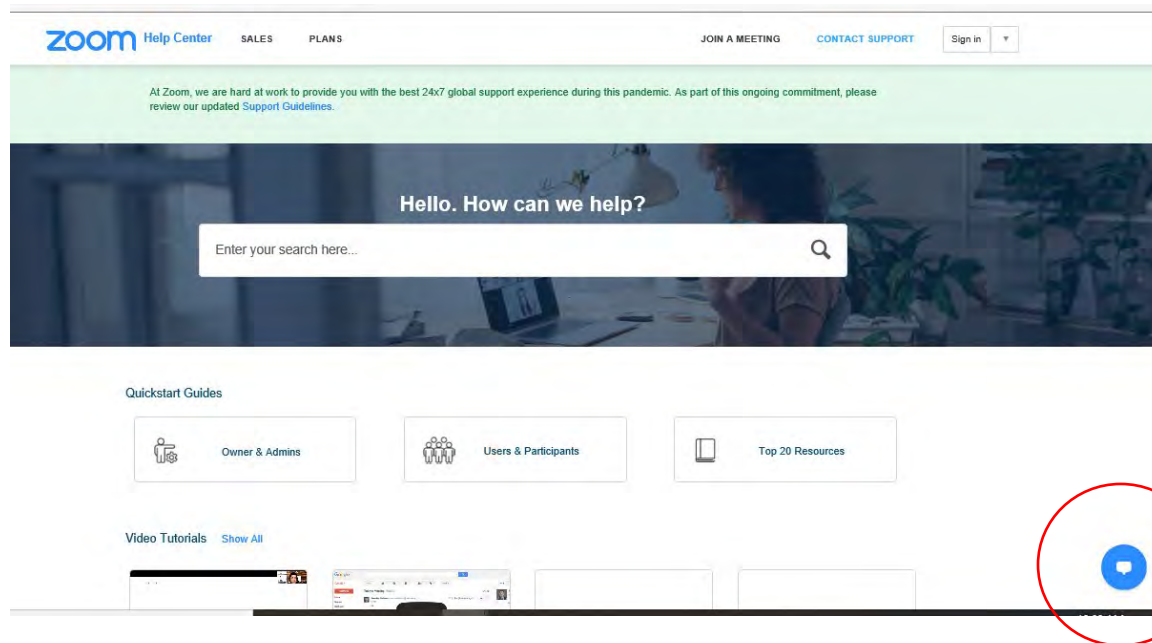
*Connecting Power, Projects, and People*

# Welcome!

## Technological Housekeeping

*Should you require technical assistance prior, during or after the information session, please contact Zoom Support using their chat feature or refer to the support articles provided:*

- Chat Feature: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>
- Support Articles: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362003>



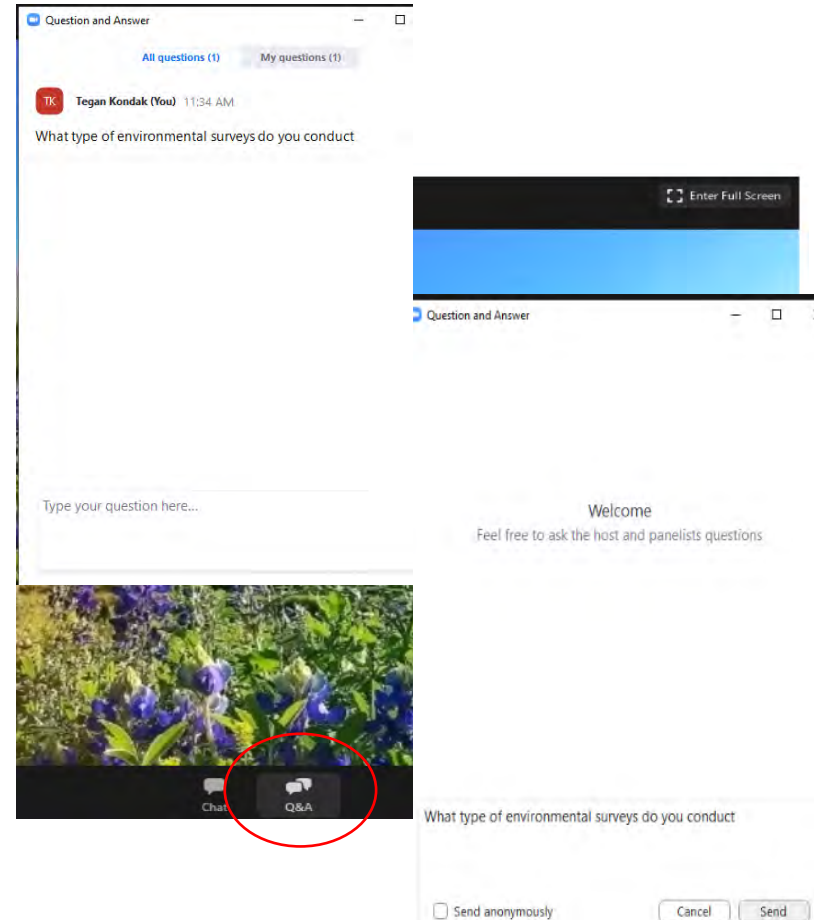
# Be Heard!

## Ask Questions! We are here to hear from you!

- To post a question for the Q&A session, utilize the “Q&A” section in the Zoom panel at any time. This can be found by “hovering” your mouse over the bottom of the webinar screen.
- If you’re unable to post a question using the Zoom panel, please send questions to [erin@innovatpr.com](mailto:erin@innovatpr.com).

## Know someone that is having trouble getting on the Zoom meeting?

- Share this number with them to listen to the meeting:
  - (929) 436-2866
  - Access code: 931-9903-6517



# Thank you for coming!

## Flow of the Meeting

- Presentation – 45 Minutes
  - Provided by ConnectGen Project Team and Subject Matter Experts.
- Question and Answer Session – 45 Minutes (plus or minus)
  - We are here to listen and will answer as many questions as possible.
- Closing Remarks
  - Go to Project website <https://www.millpointsolar.com/> for video recording and compilation of questions and answers.
  - You can always reach us at [info@millpointsolar.com](mailto:info@millpointsolar.com) or (866) 203-1118.

# Team Introductions

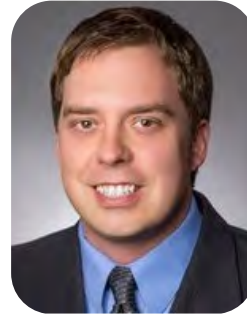
## Presenters



**Eddie Barry**  
*Development Manager*  
**ConnectGen**



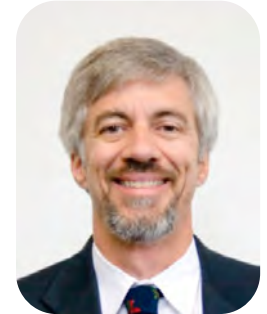
**James Muscato**  
*Attorney*  
**Young Sommer**



**Brian Schwabenbauer**  
*Environmental Operations*  
*Manager – New York*  
**TRC**



**Barry Masterson**  
*Visualization Specialist*  
**TRC**



**Robert O'Neal**  
*Noise Specialist*  
**Epsilon Associates**

## Other Team Members and Experts

Derek Rieman, VP, Development, **ConnectGen**

John Kuba, Environmental Director, **ConnectGen**

Rande Patterson, Environmental Associate, **ConnectGen**

Jeremy Akin, Analyst, Development, **ConnectGen**

Erin Szalkowski, Public Relations, **Innovant**

Tegan Kondak, Project Manager, **TRC**

Nancy Vlahos, Project Manger, Moderator, **TRC**

# Purpose

## The purpose of today's virtual public information meeting

- Provide an update on the work that has been completed on the Project.
- Distribute information and guidance on the New York State permitting process.
- Ensure that the community is informed about next steps in Project development and how you can get involved in the permitting process.
- Satisfy public engagement requirements of the 94-c permitting process.

*Given the current COVID crisis, ConnectGen is not able to hold an in-person public open house for the safety of our team and the local community. This presentation will be recorded and posted on the materials section of the Project website, [www.millpointsolar.com/materials](http://www.millpointsolar.com/materials), and a transcript of Questions and Answers will also be documented and posted.*



# Presentation Agenda

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- About ConnectGen
- Project Overview
- Project Benefits
- Public Engagement To-date
- New York State Regulatory Overview
  - 94-c
  - Local Agency Account Funding
- Technical Topics
- Question and Answer Session

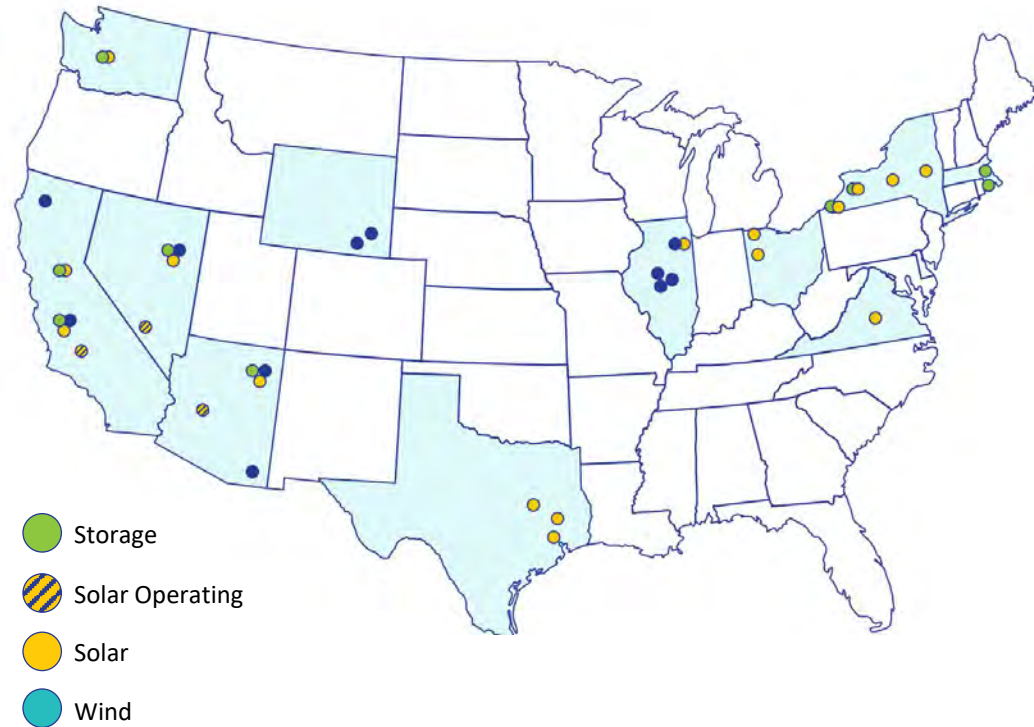
# About ConnectGen



ConnectGen is an independent renewable energy company developing large-scale wind, solar, and energy storage projects across North America.

ConnectGen has established a portfolio of over **8,500 MW** of wind, solar, and energy storage projects.

Our experienced team holds deep familiarity with transmission system analysis and market design/regulatory issues.



ConnectGen is backed by Quantum Energy Partners. Founded in 1998, Quantum Energy Partners is a leading provider of private equity capital to the global energy industry, having managed together with its affiliates more than \$17 billion in equity commitments since inception.

# Project Overview



**Mill Point**  
SOLAR PROJECT

Project Owner:  
**ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC**

Host Community:  
**Town of Glen**

Renewable Resource:  
**Solar energy**

Projected Capacity:  
**Up to 250 MWac**

Projected Project Footprint:  
**Up to approximately 1,500 acres**

Projected Completion Date:  
**End of 2023**

Point of Interconnection:  
**National Grid Marcy – New Scotland  
345kV Transmission Line**

New York Homes Powered:  
**Over 65,000**

# Project Benefits

## DIRECT BENEFITS



Over **\$60 million dollars in payments to local landowners** in the form of solar leases, easement agreements, and good neighbor agreements through the life of the Project.



Over **\$30 million in increased property tax revenue** over the life of the Project benefitting the Town of Glen, the Fonda-Fultonville Central School District, and Montgomery County.



**\$1.25 million in residential utility bill credits** over the first ten years of the life of the Project.



Up to **150 local jobs** anticipated during the peak of construction.

## INDIRECT BENEFITS



Revenue to local shops, hotels, restaurants, service and construction material suppliers during construction and operation.



Partnerships with local community groups, local sponsorships, and donations.

# Host Community Benefit Program



**NYS Public Service Commission established Host Community Benefit Program on February 11, 2021**



**The Program is funded by Large-Scale Renewable Facilities (25 MW+); Solar projects pay \$500/MW annually for 10 years**



**Mill Point Solar Project will pay \$125,000 into the fund annually or \$1.25 Million over the first ten years of the Project's operation**



**Funds are distributed equally to all residential utility customers in the Host Community (Town of Glen) as a utility bill credit at the start of each calendar year**

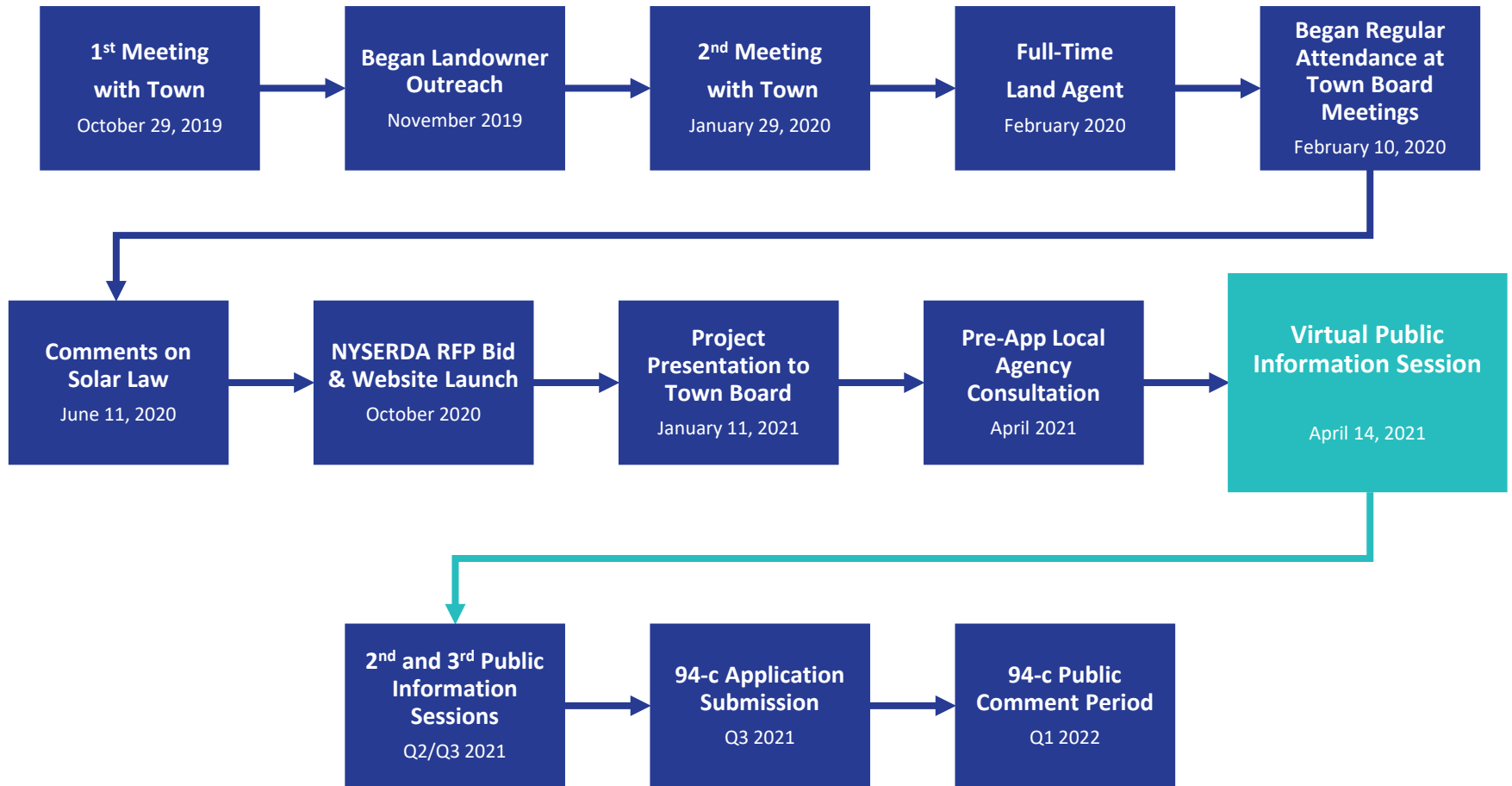


**Estimated 900 housing units in Town of Glen equates to \$138 bill credit per household (provided annually)**



**The utility administers the program in coordination with NYSERDA and ConnectGen**

# Public Engagement



# Regulatory Overview: “Section 94-c” Siting Process

- In 2020, New York State introduced a new permitting process for large scale renewable energy projects, the “Section 94-c” process.
- Review and approval will be made by the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) within the Department of State – draft Regulations and Uniform Standards and Conditions (USCs) were issued by ORES on September 16, 2020, with a public comment period through December 6, 2020.
- Final Regulations and USCs became effective March 3, 2021.
- Requires pre-application consultations with state agencies, host municipalities and County officials, and public meetings with community members to solicit feedback and comments about the Project.
- USCs outline design requirements for large scale projects to standardize design expectations regarding setbacks and potentially sensitive resources. Site specific requirements will also augment the USCs.
- Projects must be designed to avoid or minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, potentially significant adverse environmental impacts. Mitigation programs have been designed by the State of New York to offset potential adverse environmental impacts that cannot be avoided.

# New “Section 94-c” Siting Process (continued)

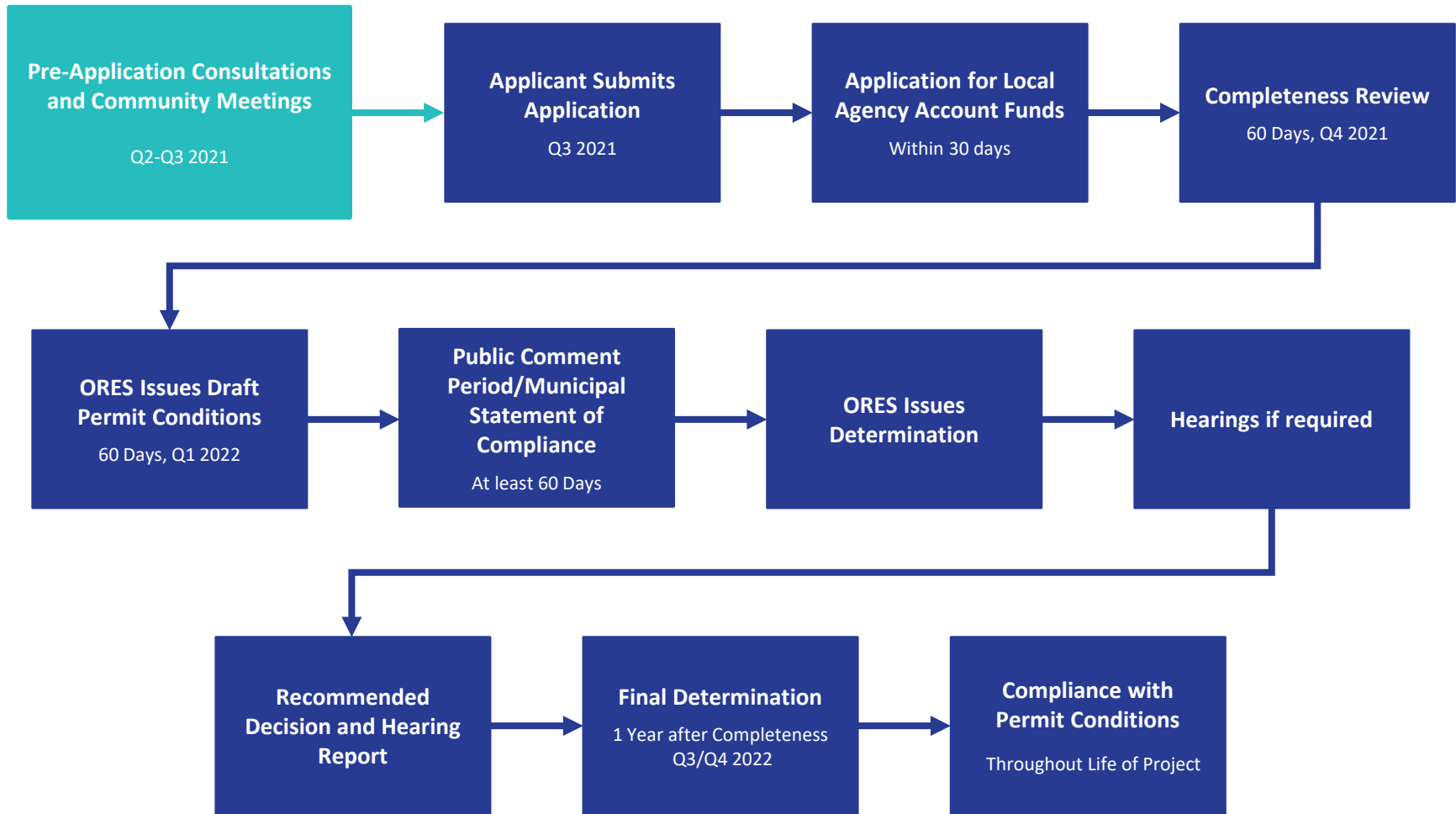
- ORES must make finding that the Project, along with uniform and site-specific conditions, would comply with applicable local laws and regulations.
- Only projects with “substantive and significant” issues require evidentiary hearings and briefing.
- ORES can elect not to apply a local law that is unreasonably burdensome in view of CLCPA targets and environmental benefits of the Project.
- Requires municipalities to submit a statement of compliance with local laws at least 60 days after issuance of the draft permit.
- Local community intervenors and host towns are able to seek local agency account funds (\$1,000/MW).
- 75% of funds reserved for municipalities.
- Must apply for funds within 30 days of application filing.
- Requires a host community benefit



**Office of  
Renewable  
Energy Siting**



# Section 94-c Schedule Overview



# Local Agency Account Funds

## What are Local Agency Account Funds?

Local Agency Account Funding is money that Applicants, such as ConnectGen, make available to qualified, locally affected parties and municipalities to offset certain expenses they incur in participating in the state permitting process. These funds were created to encourage early and effective public involvement in project development and permitting.

## 94-c Application Local Agency Account Fund

- Upon the filing of a 94-c Application, ConnectGen will post a local agency account fund (\$1,000/MW) which can be sought by local community members and host towns. 75% of funds are reserved for municipalities.
- Must apply for funds within 30 days of Application filing:

Applications for Local Agency Account Funds to:

19 NYCRR 900-5

**New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting**

Attention: Request for Local Agency Account Funding

Empire State Plaza

Swan Street Building – Core 1

Room #110-119

Albany, NY 12239

# Local Solar Law

## Compliance with Local Law

- Glen adopted a local solar law in November of 2020 that provides guidelines and standards for the development and construction of Utility-Scale Solar Collector System as a Special Permitted Use.
- The design, construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Project will fully comply with the applicable provisions of the local solar law for the Town of Glen.
- The Project does not expect to request a finding from ORES that compliance with any provision of the recently adopted local solar law would be unreasonably burdensome.

## Applicable Local Solar Law Standards for Utility-Scale Solar Collector Systems

- Section A – Bulk and Area Requirements, including:
  - Maximum Height of Collector System and Buildings
  - Setbacks from non-participating parcel lines
  - Lot Coverage requirements
- Section B – General Provisions related to design, construction, operation and decommissioning:
  - Signage, Lighting, Security Fencing, Access Roads and Utilities proposed in Project Area
  - Proof of Utility connection, Facility ownership
  - Glare and Heat, Noise, and Inspection
  - Visual Impacts – visual impact assessment, landscaping, screening, earth berming
  - Decommissioning – standards for removal & restoration, cost estimate and financial security

# Technical Topics: 94-c Siting Application

## All Section 94-c Application Exhibits

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. General Requirements                            | 10. Geology, Seismology and Soils               | 18. Socioeconomic Effects                       |
| 2. Overview and Public Involvement                 | 11. Terrestrial Ecology                         | 19. Environmental Justice                       |
| 3. Location of Facilities and Surrounding Land Use | 12. NYS Threatened or Endangered Species        | 20. Effect on Communications                    |
| 4. Real Property                                   | 13. Water Resources and Aquatic Ecology         | 21. Electric System Effects and Interconnection |
| 5. Design Drawings                                 | 14. Wetlands                                    | 22. Electric and Magnetic Fields                |
| 6. Public Health, Safety and Security              | 15. Agricultural Resources                      | 23. Site Restoration and Decommissioning        |
| 7. Noise and Vibration                             | 16. Effect on Transportation                    | 24. Local Laws and Ordinances                   |
| 8. Visual Impacts                                  | 17. Consistency with Energy Planning Objectives | 25. Other Permits and Approvals                 |
| 9. Cultural Resources                              |   |   |

## Overview of Technical Topics for Discussion

- Layout and Design
- Local Zoning Regulations
- Stormwater and Groundwater
- Wetland and Stream Resources
- Avian Resources
- Visual Impact
- Noise and Vibration
- Public Health, Safety, and Security
- Decommissioning

# Mill Point Project Area Map



# Solar Panel Locations and Project Layout

- The Project includes solar equipment, an electrical collection and interconnection system, and access road locations, which are designed to avoid and minimize potential impacts, incorporating a wide range of environmental, social, and technical considerations.
- The Project is being designed using New York State regulations, industry standards, and feedback from local community members to minimize potential impacts.
- Development of the Project layout and design is an iterative process that considers various sensitive resources and endeavors to avoid and minimize impacts to identified resources.

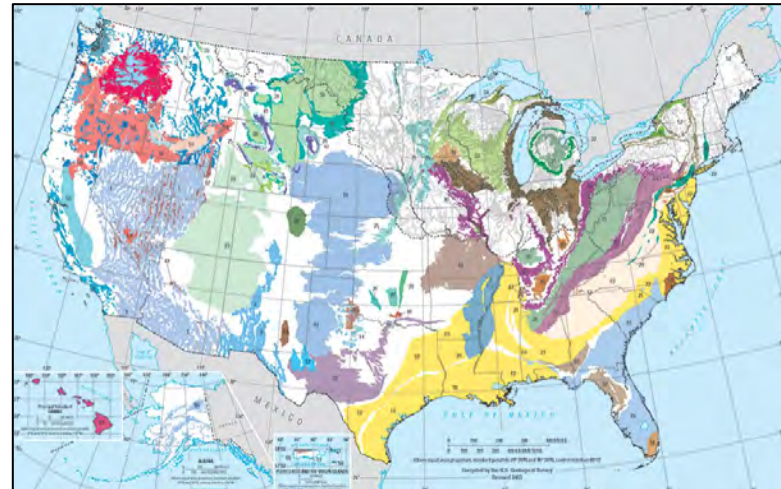
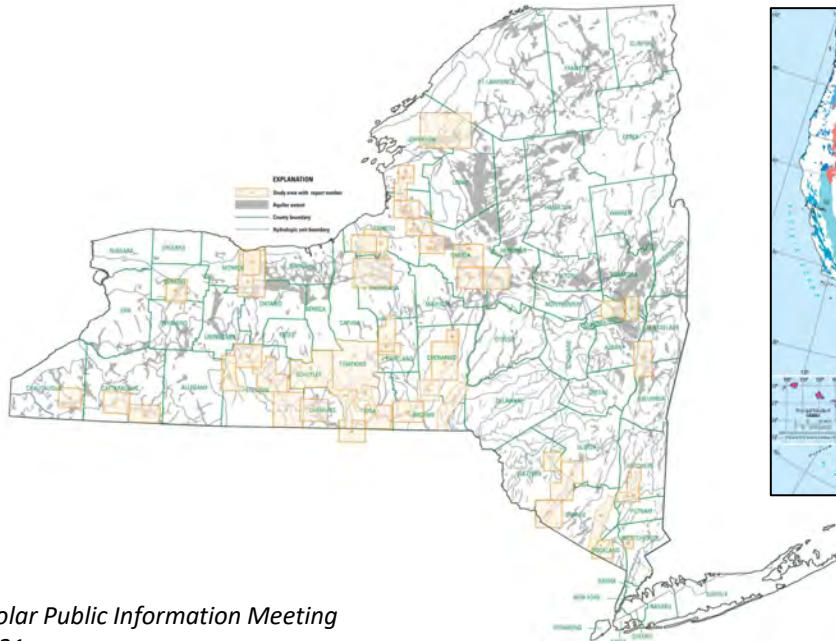


# Groundwater Resources and Stormwater

## ConnectGen will...

- Identify groundwater resources in the Project Area, such as aquifers.
- Conduct a local water well survey for properties within 1,000 feet of the Project.
- Study potential stormwater and groundwater impacts from Project development.
- Design the Project to address stormwater runoff characteristics on-site and off-site during construction and operation of the Project in accordance with state and federal regulations.

*PV panels are designed to ensure no release or leakage of panel material into the surrounding environment.*



# Groundwater Resources and Stormwater (continued)

## The Application will include:

- A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the collection and management of stormwater discharges from the facility site during construction.
- A preliminary plan for post-construction stormwater management practices that will be used to manage stormwater runoff from the developed facility site. This plan will be finalized before construction as part of Compliance.

*Plans will be prepared in accordance with the applicable NYS Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity, the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, and the NYS Stormwater Design Manual.*





# Wetland and Stream Resources

## Resource Identification and Field Survey

- The purpose is to identify boundaries of wetland and stream resources to aid in Project siting.
- Work is ongoing.
- Project design will first avoid and then minimize impacts to wetlands and streams to the maximum extent practicable.

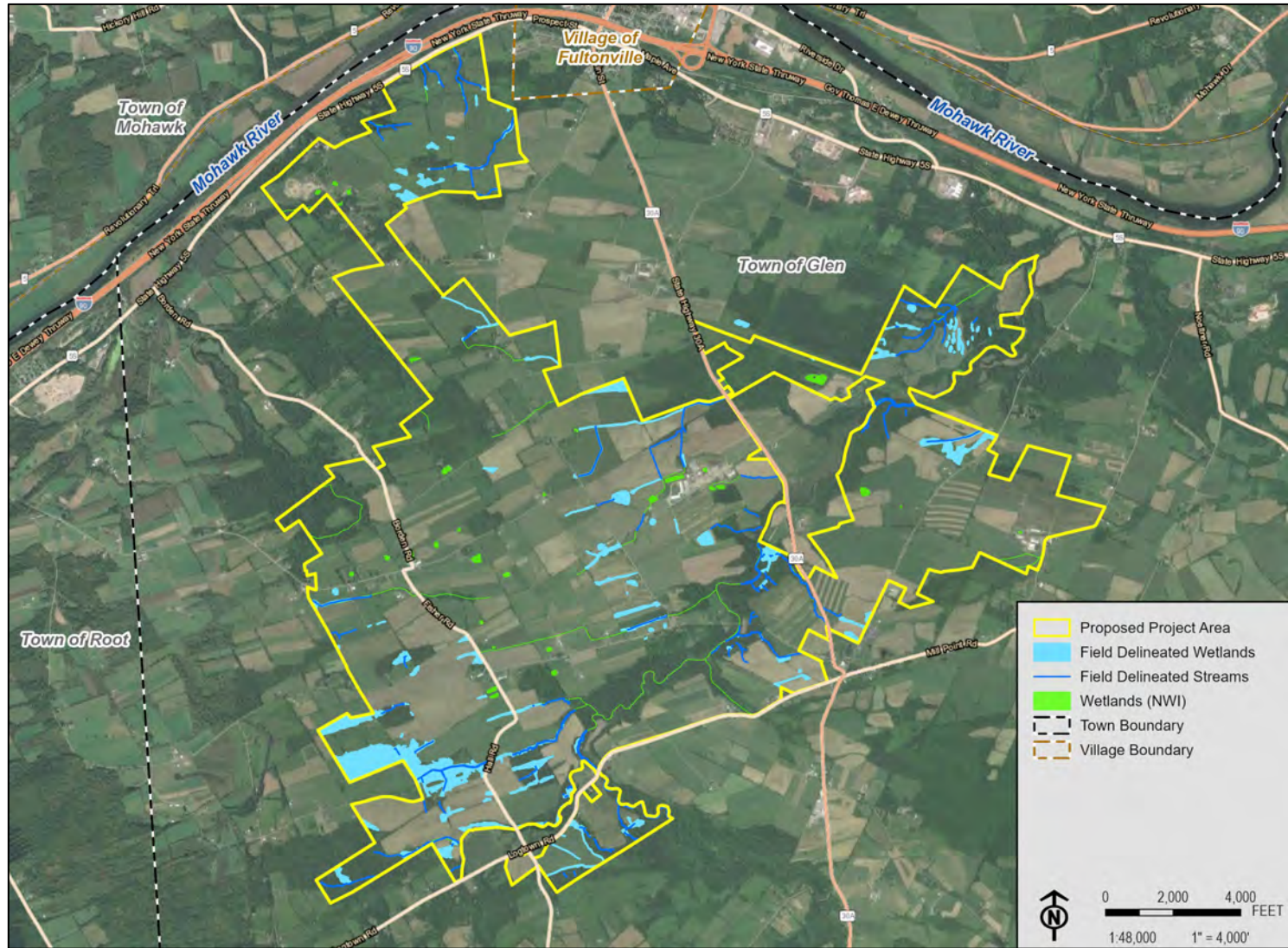
*A final wetland stream and delineation report will be included in the Application.*



## Agency Consultation and Jurisdictional Determination

- ORES and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be provided data and reports from field surveys.
- Site verification visits will be coordinated with each Agency.
- Coordination will outline potential impacts and if required, mitigation strategies for impacts to these resources.
- ORES will provide jurisdictional determination for NYS resources, and USACE will provide jurisdictional determination for “waters of the United States”.

# Wetland and Stream Resources



# Threatened and Endangered Species Consultations and Surveys

- New York State listed rare, threatened, or endangered avian grassland species may utilize the Project Area.
- The potential for these species exists based on the habitat types and existing land use.
- Winter Grassland Raptor Survey wrapping up this week.
- Breeding Bird Survey to be conducted in spring.
- Both surveys are conducted in coordination with the NYSDEC.



*If the Project impacts these species through disturbance or removal of habitat, a Net Conservation Benefit Plan will be developed in accordance with ORES to implement avoidance and or/minimization of impact, and if required, mitigation efforts.*

# How are Visual Impacts Analyzed?

## Step 1:

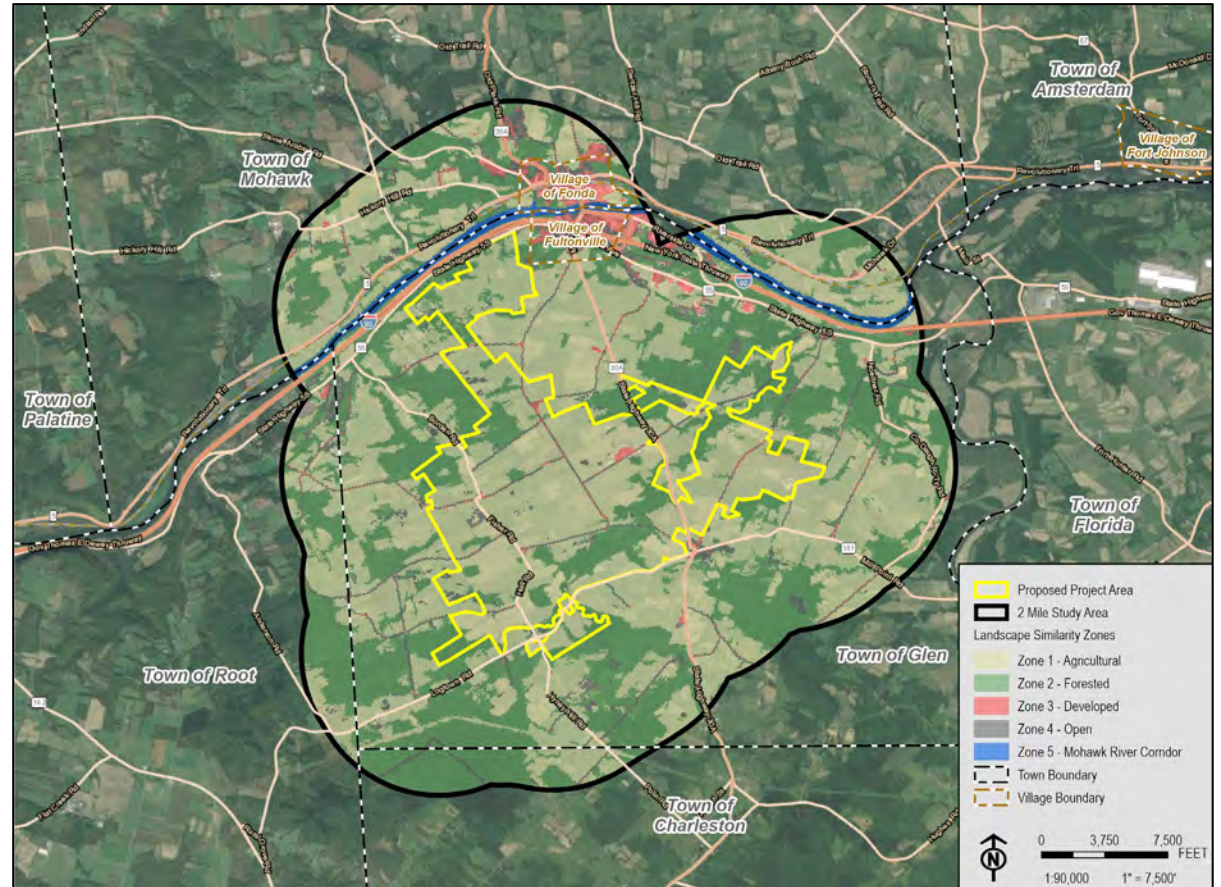
### Define Affected Environment

- Visual Study Area (2 miles)
- Identify Sensitive Resources
- Identify Viewer Groups
- Landscape Similarity Zones

## Step 2:

### Evaluate Potential Visibility

- Viewshed Analysis Mapping
- Site Visit and Confirmatory Assessment of Visibility



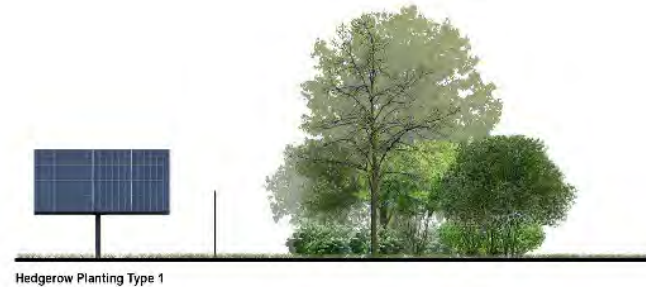
# How are Visual Impacts Analyzed (continued)

## Step 3: Replicate the Appearance of the Facility

- Develop a 3-D Model of the Proposed Facility
- Proposed Project Components

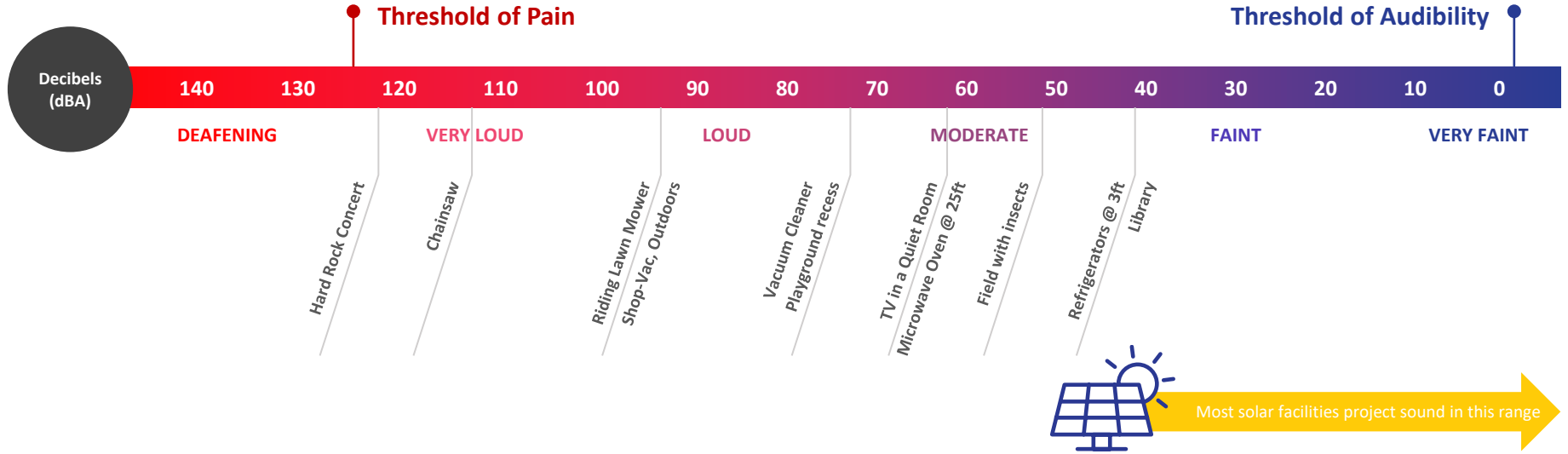
## Step 4: Visual Impact Analysis

- Photosimulations
- Rating Panel Evaluation
- Visual Mitigation, if required



*Examples of different landscape screening techniques at different stages of maturation*

# Sound and Noise Impact



## Equipment anticipated to be used in the Mill Point Solar Project

<b>Solar Panels</b>	Collect solar energy and transform into electricity	<i>Not expected to generate any sound</i>
<b>Inverters</b>	Convert DC to AC current	<i>Generate limited sound during the day</i>
<b>Transformers</b>	Increase the voltage for collection and distribution	<i>Generate limited sounds day and night</i>

# Sound Level Monitoring and Analysis



## Sound Level Monitoring

- Collect background/ambient sound data in the Project Area
- 24 hours/day for 1 week and up to 7 locations
- Measure sound and weather data
- To be collected in Spring 2021

## Sound Level Modelling

- International Standards Organization procedures (ISO 9613-2) are used as required by NYS.
- Equipment locations and their maximum sound power are entered in the model.
- Output modeled for all homes and properties in the defined Project Area.

# Noise Design Goals – Section 94-c

## 94-c Uniform Conditions and Standards for Sound

- Non-participating residence = 45 dBA (8-Hour  $L_{eq}$ )
- Participating residence = 55 dBA (8-Hour  $L_{eq}$ )
- Non-participating residence = 40 dBA due to substation
- Non-participating property line = 55 dBA (8-Hour  $L_{eq}$ )
- Penalty for audible prominent tones

## Other 94-c Requirements

- Sound propagation model parameter specifications
- Construction noise modeled
- Reporting requirements
- Complaint resolution plan



# Public Health, Safety, and Security

## Solar Panels and Electrical Equipment

- Solar panels must meet strict electrical safety standards.
- Solar panels are designed to ensure no release or leakage of panel material into the surrounding environment.
- Solar projects result in no water discharges.

## A 94-c Application will include:

- A Safety Response Plan that outlines emergency response measures, descriptions of on-site protection equipment and compliance with New York Fire Code, a requirement to conduct training drills with local EMS once a year.
- A Site Security Plan that includes site plans and descriptions of fencing, gates, electronic security, lighting, and cyber security for the facility.

# Decommissioning

## 94-c Requirements for Decommissioning

An Application will include a Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan which addresses:

- Commitments for equipment removal
- Safety
- Environmental impacts
- Aesthetics
- Recycling
- Potential future uses for the Site
- Financial aid commitments
- Schedule
- Estimated cost for decommission and allocation of funding to local municipalities

# Question and Answer Session

## Ask Questions!

### We are here to hear from you!

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## Project Contacts

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Email: [info@millpointsolar.com](mailto:info@millpointsolar.com)

Phone Number: (866) 203-1118

Project FAQs:

<https://www.millpointsolar.com/frequently-asked-questions/>

The image illustrates the Zoom Q&A interface. It shows a question being asked: "What type of environmental surveys do you conduct". The interface includes a "Welcome" message: "Welcome. Feel free to ask the host and panelists questions." and a "Send anonymously" checkbox. The "Q&A" button in the Zoom control bar is circled in red.

## **April 2021 Virtual Community Meeting Question and Answers**

# Public Information Meeting Questions and Answers

## Mill Point Solar Project

Town of Glen

Montgomery County, New York

Prepared for:



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Houston, TX 77002  
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April 2021

**Mill Point Solar Project Public Information Meeting Live Q&A Session**  
**April 14, 2021**  
**6:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Moderator:** Nancy Vlahos, TRC

**Panelists and Support:** Derek Rieman, ConnectGen; John Kuba, ConnectGen; Eddie Barry, ConnectGen; Rande Patterson, ConnectGen; Jeremey Akin, ConnectGen, Jim Muscato, Young Sommer; Brian Schwabenbauer, TRC; Barry Masterson, TRC; Tegan Kondak, TRC; Nancy Vlahos, TRC; and Rob O’Neal, Epsilon Associates

*This Q&A session was part of a series of public engagement events related to the Mill Point Solar Public Information Meeting. During this session, the Project team, including the panelists listed above, delivered a presentation containing information about the Mill Point Solar Project. Following the presentation, attendees were able to ask questions, which were answered by the panelists. The paraphrased questions and responses are listed below. The second half of this report includes questions that were asked but not answered due to time constraints during the public meeting, as well as questions that were sent via email during or after the public meeting. Answers to these questions are provided.*

**Live Q&A Session:**

**Question 1**

**ConnectGen’s website states that it has 50% ownership in only 278 megawatts of operating projects as opposed to the 8,500 megawatts or so that was stated on one of your earlier slides. Please explain the difference between these two numbers.**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) That's a good question. The difference here is the 278 megawatts in operation are just that- in operation. The 8,500 megawatts reference the Projects- like this Project, that are under development or construction, like our 140-megawatt Sandy Branch Project in Texas. So, there are two different categories of Projects detailed here. You know, a smaller subset that's in operation in which we own 50% and are partners with a company, EDPR, and Projects that are - you know- earlier stage in either the development or construction process.

**Question 2**

**Why did you choose the Town of Glen?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Okay, great question. The Town of Glen was chosen as location because there's a large amount of land that's suitable for solar development with limited residential and commercial development in the areas that are compatible with the Project. You know, much of the suitable land is located in close proximity to the right kind of transmission infrastructure for interconnecting a Project of this size. Again, as I mentioned in the presentation, the 345 kilovolt National Grid Marcy to New Scotland transmission line that traverses the northern part of land is really an ideal point of interconnection for the Project that - you know - based on our understanding of the network in the area, has capacity for the Project to interconnect. You know, Glen also made sense, given that our preliminary environmental screening showed that locating a Project in the Town was possible without posing any serious environmental risk to local resources. And then, lastly, you know, we met with landowners who are interested in leasing land for the Project, you

know, in early stages of the Project development and even to this day we're receiving inquiries from landowners who are interested in participating. So that receptiveness - you know - really drove our decision to advance this Project in the Town of Glen.

### **Question 3**

#### **Why are you siting this Project on farmland?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) We chose the Project site again, you know, based on suitability. Farmland provides the right type of slope. There's generally an absence of significant residential and commercial development in areas surrounding farmland and reduced risk of impacting environmental resources when we're using - you know - previously disturbed land. Much of the land that we anticipate using for the Project is pasture hayfield with some portion in cultivated crops. Utilizing these types of lands allows us to minimize tree clearing and related environmental impacts. The use of farmlands, you know, doesn't necessarily mean that the farms involved will stop operating entirely. In fact, a number of the landowners participating the Project, you know, only plan to lease a portion of their farmland for the Project, and they've indicated that they plan to keep the remaining land in agriculture and they're looking for the benefit of an additional consistent, you know, reliable revenue stream that will support their farms and families for a long time to come.

### **Question 4**

#### **Have you considered rooftop solar instead?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Good evening everyone. My name is Derek Rieman, Vice President of Development at ConnectGen. Thank you for attending the meeting this evening. As mentioned earlier in the presentation, ConnectGen is primarily focused on developing large scale wind, solar, and battery storage Projects across the country. So, to that end, rooftop solar is not an area of focus for our company. And given that fact, that is not a particular form of development that we've contemplated for this particular community.

### **Question 5**

#### **When you have a more detailed Project map available?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) I mentioned during the presentation that there's additional work to do on the securing land agreements and additional environmental and engineering studies that need to be completed before we can develop a - you know- a more final layout design for the Project. It's our goal to have that ready for the next community meeting that we host - you know- in the next couple of months here. Certainly, it'll be available to the public, well in advance of our permit Application submission. And you know, we'll continue to update the public on iterations of that layout, as you know, more information becomes available.

### **Question 6**

#### **What is a Good Neighbor Agreement?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, a Good Neighbor Agreement is simply an agreement under which folks can participate in the Project without actually hosting any above ground or underground facilities on their property. It's a way that we could compensate people who are uniquely impacted by the Project, given perhaps they live adjacent to the Project or own land adjacent to the Project.

So, we are in discussions with a number of folks about participating via Neighbor Agreements and invite you to reach out if you have an interest as well.

**Question 7**

**Since ConnectGen has only been around for three years, how do we know you have the capability to manage such a large project?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yes, ConnectGen was formed about three years ago. Currently, we have approximately 40 employees that are charged with developing our Projects. So not only do we have developers like Eddie on our team and other subject matter experts that will be participating in the presentation this evening and answering questions, we have subject matter experts that have worked on renewable energy Projects across the country and so some of those skill sets and professionals have expertise in environmental matters, engineering matters, Project financing matters as well as civil engineering and electrical engineering. So, we have a host of employees that provide valuable experience in developing Projects. But notwithstanding our own ConnectGen team, we also hire third party consultants and subject matter experts, like the folks you have on the call and presentation this evening to help advance the development of these types of Projects and so it's real team effort with our internal team members, but also with very experienced and seasoned environmental and permitting professionals as well. So, we feel very well equipped to continue developing a high-quality Project like Mill Point.

**Question 8**

**What steps will you take to show that you will be a good neighbor to the Town of Glen and its school district?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, well, first and foremost, we'll you know, continue to listen and consider feedback provided through this process and through the channels we've made available. You know, field questions regarding the Project throughout the development process and thereafter. We'll continue to provide updates about the Project to the Town directly and through the Project website. We're holding this public meeting earlier in the development process, and prior to this meeting, we let Town and county officials know that we plan to have at least one additional community meeting with an in-person component this summer. Based on feedback from the community to the Town Board, we are agreeing to hold at least two additional community meetings with in-person components. Of course, these will be held, subject to the New York State COVID-19 Guidelines, but that will allow for an in-person contact and discussion which we understand is highly desirable. And we'll continue to support local organizations, continue to welcome inquiries from groups and folks who have not yet made contact with us and could benefit from the support of the Project and ConnectGen. As I mentioned earlier, we serve and give support to a number of organizations in the area. I won't- you know- list all of it here again, but we remain open to suggestions and recommendations and encourage you to reach out.

**Question 9**

**What is your plan to mitigate the Project's visual impact?**

Answer: (Barry Masterson) Thanks Nancy. So, in order to address the visual mitigation or implement the visual mitigation strategies, one has to know the visual impact. So, prior to implementing these mitigation strategies, we're going to be conducting these visual analyses. Once we have the results, we can then strategically plan accordingly to mitigate views or impacts



to views that are very critical. You know, like I mentioned before, some options that are popular are landscaping which can then be strategically designed in areas of potential visibility. I also mentioned setback distances from the road and revising those to reduce the scale of the solar panels. You know, there's lots of other possibilities, like material adjustments. So, for example, you can assess a black vinyl fence versus a galvanized chain link fence and get an idea of the visual impacts of components. So, I think you know, once we complete these visual impact assessment studies, we can then start implementing visual mitigation and landscaping mitigation and will of course be accounted for in this permitting process.

#### **Question 10**

##### **What increased revenue will be provided to the Town of Glen and its school district?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) That's a great question. I mentioned earlier we're estimating \$30 million in increased revenue in the form of increased tax payments. The exact amount will be determined, you know, by the terms of any PILOT agreements put in place between the Project and the Town, the school district, and the county, based on terms of other pilot agreements in place or under consideration in the locality. Again, we've kind of determined that estimate of \$30 million over the life of the Project. How that revenue will be shared among the taxing jurisdictions will, frankly, depend on, the terms of those agreements put into place. But it will represent, a large increase as compared to the current tax revenue derived from same properties.

#### **Question 11**

##### **How does a pilot program work?**

Answer: (Jim Muscato) Okay thanks Nancy. So, a PILOT program is a payment of taxes agreement, and this is, I guess, picking up on the answers that Eddie just gave. What this means is that the Project will make an annual payment to the taxing jurisdictions for a stated period of time. It's usually 15 or 20 years. The amount of the PILOT is negotiated between the Project Developer and the taxing jurisdictions or, in some instances, as an agreement with the County IDA and the purpose of the PILOT is to settle the tax payments for the facility upfront providing certainty to the Developer and the taxing jurisdictions regarding the revenues to be generated from the Project.

#### **Question 12**

##### **We did not know about the 94-c comment period. Can we comment now?**

Answer: (Jim Muscato): Well, with respect to the comment period on the Regulations and the Uniform Standards and Conditions themselves, unfortunately, that comment period has run. The State notice those comment periods for the USCs and the hearings that were held. There were seven hearings held around the State. They were noticed in the State Register; there was news coverage around the State regarding those hearings. The hearings were originally scheduled to be in person. I think at least one of them ended up still being in person, and then there were - you know - a number of other in virtual public comment hearings in place of the in-person hearings. So, all of that effort resulted in something like 5,000 comments that ORES received. And that was what became subject in the final regulations. But just to be clear, that's distinct- the commenting on the 94-c process is distinct and separate from the opportunities that will come up to participate in and comment on the Mill Point Project itself specifically. And those comment periods have not run yet. They will not run until, you know, at the earliest, late this year after

ORES has deemed the Application, complete and issued potentially a draft permit, you know, so those public comment opportunities for this Project still remain.

### **Question 13**

**Was the Town Supervisor advised of the public comment period for the ORES regulations?**

Answer: (Jim Muscato): That may be a question better for ORES. Um, I don't know that each municipality in the State was reached out to specifically with respect to the 94-c regulations. I suspect not but, you know, whether or not there was some specific notification of the Town I don't know.

### **Question 14**

**How many permanent jobs will the Project create?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Okay, thanks Nancy. A Project of this size is expected to create you have between two and four full-time long-term operations and maintenance jobs. There's a variety of ways, these positions might be staffed, but you know we expect people hired for these positions will live relatively close to the Project given they'll be spending the majority of their time in the Project Area.

### **Question 15**

**What local contractors will be hired to work on the Project? Does local actually mean Montgomery County or all of New York State?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) We're in discussions with local Labor Unions about creating opportunities and commitments to source labor locally. But at the same time, we're looking to ensure that we have a labor force suitable for the Project with the requisite skills and experience to construct a Project of this type. So, there are certain roles that are highly technical or require a very specific expertise and experience and may be sourced from outside of New York. But for the majority of laborers we're planning, we will endeavor to source to work locally. You know, in Montgomery County, in the state more broadly, as necessary, and you know, plan to continue working with local Labor Unions that have members in Montgomery County and the surrounding areas that meet staffing needs for the Project.

### **Question 16**

**How will you support local tenant farmers who will not be able to farm land on which the Project is built?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Well, you know my understanding, based on discussions I've had with landowners who are participating with the Project is that all of the land, we planned to use for the installation of above ground facilities that will come out of farming is farmed by the owner of the property or it's farmed by a tenant farmer who's also participating with land in the Project. You know, in other words, that you know, all landowners currently participating and tenant farmers voluntarily participating here are supplementing their income with revenue from the Solar Project.

**Question 17****Where will the power generated by the Project go?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) So, the distribution of power that's generated by the Project and injected on the grid is really controlled by the NYISO or the New York Independent Service Operator, which manages the flow of electricity throughout the State of New York. Really, to ensure that it's transmitted where it needs to go and transmitted there when it's needed - we really have no control over where the power generated from the Project will flow once it is injected onto the grid. But you know it's logical to assume that it will flow to the closest place where there is a need and I do expect some of that as a result, to be used on a local grid.

**Question 18****Why we're not all community members invited to this meeting?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Yeah, I know this concern would come up and you know I think in terms of invitations, we follow ORES guidelines and mailed notices of the meeting to all residents located within a mile radius of the Project boundary as well, as, key town, county, and state officials. We're in agreement that a virtual meeting format is not ideal, but we felt it was the safest and most inclusive approach, given that you know COVID-19 Guidelines currently in place limit indoor social gatherings to 100 persons. And we understand that some members of the community are not equipped with, you know, great Internet access or aren't using technology required to view a presentation like this. For folks with access to a phone, you know, we've provided the option to dial-in and listen to the presentation. For those without access to the Internet or phone, our plan is to provide copies of the presentation, of the Q & A transcript, hard copies, make those available at the Town Building. We would hope that Town officials can also act as a conduit to relay comments and concerns for those individuals, and we can arrange for in person meeting with a member of our team when it is safe to do so. We've got plans to make our community engagement going forward even more inclusive. And also, we will continue to monitor and assess what the safest approaches are for both our staff and members of the community.

**Question 19****What are you doing to ensure proper conduct by your land agent?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Ok, so all of our land agents and developers, like me, sign a Code of Conduct that requires communications with property owners and occupants of property to be factually correct and made in good faith. The Code also requires that those communications, interactions be respectful of the owner, the owner's privacy and reflect fair dealing. The landowners I've spoken with who've worked with our land agent have provided positive feedback, regarding his professionalism and communication. He and I are in communication just about every day, and I think it's key that we do so, to remain in alignment at all times on messaging around the Project. You know, it's understandable and inevitable that statements made in the field can sometimes be misinterpreted. Especially when they relate to Projects as large and complicated as this one. But you know, our overarching message to landowners – and it kind of folds into another question that we received here about folks being told that participation was compulsory - our overarching message to landowners, local residents, and stakeholders with regard to participating and said it's always been voluntary, and furthermore, that feedback regarding the

Project is always welcome. I think those are the ways that we'll ensure and have ensured that our agent's conduct is proper and appropriate and in line with our messaging around the Project.

### **Question 20**

**Has a property valuation study been done? How will this large of a project effect our property taxes? Has a study been done with other areas relating to the increase or decrease of population?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) So, there's a number of questions there. A property evaluation, you know, has not been completed for this particular Project yet. We'll determine whether one is necessary going forward, Jim may be able to speak to whether that's a required part of 94-c permitting. A Project like this, in terms of how it impacts property taxes, will add to the to the tax base of the Town, and I can't speak to whether that will have an impact on reducing individual landowner's property taxes, but it will add a substantial amount of increased revenue to the tax base for the Town. There's no - to my knowledge there's nothing that would indicate that property taxes would increase as a result of this Project, except with regard to parcels that currently benefit from an ag exemption and would lose that benefit if the parcels are utilized for the development of the Project. I think the last part of that Nancy, was about whether a study was done regarding increase or decrease of population and the answer is no. You know that's not something that's typically studied in the development of solar Projects and, to my knowledge, I'm not familiar with any trends that correlating to increase or decrease of population as a result of a Project being located in a particular area.

### **Question 21**

**How do people submit complaints about the Project?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, well complaints, feedback, questions, positive remarks, you know, they are all welcomed, and you know, we provided a number of ways for those to be communicated, you know, through the Project email, the Project hotline, [info@millpointsolar.com](mailto:info@millpointsolar.com) or call the hotline at (866) 203-1118. You can mail comments, you know, via snail mail to our primary office in Houston here. That address is available on our website. We invite you to relay those to Town officials who can act as a conduit for information to flow to us. And then, of course, as we've mentioned will hold the two in-person community meetings at a later date, where we'll have in-person, face to face opportunity to provide that feedback and speak directly with representatives of the Project.

### **Question 22**

**What were the exact dates the Town Supervisor and Board Members were notified about this Project?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Okay, so I think we demonstrated this in the presentation, but to kind of, you know, read, summarize, I guess. Our first interaction with the Town Supervisor was in October of 2019, when we met to express an interest in developing a Project in the Town and just kind of asked and answered some general questions. Following that, we presented, sort of a Project concept at a second meeting in January of 2020 with the Town Supervisor and a member of the Town Board. The Town Board was notified in the NYSERDA RFP submission about the Project

in October of 2020, and they were notified again of the award - in the RFP award notification process, and then, finally, we presented an overview of the Project, including an update on development activities to the full Town Board as well as several other Town officials, like the Chairman of the Planning Board at the regular Town Board meeting on January 11 of this year.

### **Question 23**

**Where you notified that solar law was under review, and did you provide suggestions on the law?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure that- the answer is yes. We were informed that a draft solar law was in the works. We inquired about that, and we were informed of it. We were given a copy of the draft law that was made available to any interested member of the public, and we provided feedback to the Town about the law that really folded in considerations in the NYSERDA model solar law and some considerations in terms of industry standards and best practices that we thought the Town would benefit from knowing.

### **Question 24**

**Can you identify the relationship between TRC and ConnectGen LLC?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yes, certainly. So, ConnectGen is the developer of the Project. ConnectGen is the company posing to develop, construct, own and operate the Mill Point Solar Project. TRC is an environmental and engineering consulting firm that was selected by ConnectGen to help us in the development efforts. So TRC's role as part of the team supporting the Mill Point Project is to provide environmental support in terms of subject matter, expertise and you know providing the resources to help us do the technical studies, to help us develop an Application under the ORES process.

### **Question 25**

**Did you choose the Town of Glen as the Project location, because it has a favorable solar law?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah, great question. So, when we do our early siting efforts to identify where we might consider development of a solar project. You know, we look at a bunch of different features. You know, for everything from, you know, is the land use suitable, is their existing electric transmission to help, you know, get power to market, and you know, is the part of that effort is the local community kind of, maybe acceptable to solar project development. In this case, the zoning law, you know, does allow for development of solar so, you know, as we went through that siting process and looked at this site, that law helped give us some certainty that this is an area that is available for development.

### **Question 26**

**Does Mill Point have to follow the Local Solar Law, even though it will be permitted through the 94-c process?**

Answer: (Jim Muscato) That's a good question. So, under 94-c, like Article 10, the procedures under the local zoning law are preempted. So ConnectGen would not have to apply for a special use permit or a site plan approval or a variance or things like that. Those processes in front of the local boards are preempted. That being said, both in Article 10, but also now in section 94-c, the

substantive provisions of applicable laws do apply, and ORES will apply those. And it was said earlier, the Project is being designed in conformance with the local laws.

#### **Question 27**

**How far off of the roadways will the panels be? Is there a law/ rule of the distance from houses and road?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Thank you. Yeah, great question. There are a couple of different sources for setback requirements with which the Projects will comply. You know, generally we're required to setback 50 feet from public roadways. Although we also have to setback 100 feet from non-participating properties so oftentimes that that setback, it will be greater as a result of proximity to non-participating properties. Both the Local Solar Law for the Town of Glen and ORES regulations provide standard setbacks. With regards to residences, the standard that we're following is a 250-foot minimum setback, and it's also worth noting that internally we implemented a 300-foot setback for many sensitive cultural or historic resources.

#### **Question 28**

**What is the Project timeline?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry): I think we've touched on this, you know, in the presentation, but I'll kind of recount. We're expecting to submit our permit Application, you know, in the third quarter this year September- October is a target date at this point. That's going to depend on the responsiveness of state agencies with which consultations are required in advance of submitting the Application. But based on that timeline you know we're hoping to start construction in 2022 - the sort of later part of 2022 - and then the goal is to complete construction and reach commercial operation by the end of 2023. In the immediate term we'll be conducting a number of environmental and engineering field surveys leading up to our Application submission.

#### **Question 29**

**How do you access the intervenor funds? Have any funds been requested to date? You mentioned the Application filing. Has it been filed and what was the date of filing?**

Answer: (Jim Muscato) I'll go- I think I'll go backwards in order and Nancy correct me if I missed one. But Application has not been filed yet. The Application is anticipated to be filed in around September at this point. Intervenor funding applications have not been filed yet. The deadline to file applications for intervene or funds is not triggered until the Application has filed. So, if the Application is filed September 1, there's a 30-day Application deadline for intervenor funds and so that would be, September 1, it would be October 1.

#### **Question 30**

**What type of solar panels are you planning to use?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Again, we'll plan to use crystalline silicon solar panels for this Project. I think it's worth noting, we're also evaluating the use of what's referred to bifacial panels, which you know capture collect light from both sides. So, there's a benefit of capturing light reflected off the ground underlying the panels that results really in a more efficient panel. So, we're continuing

to evaluate the implementation of bifacial panels and are committed to using crystalline silicon solar panels, which are incredibly common type of solar panel.

**Question 31**

**Have you determined the amount of agricultural land that will be lost due to the Project?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) So, I think the short answer to this question really is that some amount of land that will be taken out of agriculture. I wouldn't call it lost necessarily. It will correspond to the Project footprint, the precise Project footprint. We're estimating 1400 to 1500 acres within the Project footprint, not all of which will be active agricultural land, but a portion of which will be. The land taken out of agricultural use and put into solar would be estimated to be under that 1,400-to-1,500-acre range. And then, obviously we'll have a more precise figure once our Project layout is finalized.

**Question 32**

**Are New York State grants helping to fund this Project?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) That's an easy one, no. No grants from New York State are helping to fund this Project.

**Question 33**

**Are you planning to sell this Project once it's permitted?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) The short answer is no. ConnectGen intends to fully develop the Project, construct it and be the long-term owner/ operator of the Projects. I recognize that there's other companies that have different types of business models, where they may sell a Project after completing the development activities or after a Project is constructed, but our intent is to be the long-term owner/operator of the solar Project.

**Question 34**

**Has ConnectGen ever decommissioned one of its projects?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) We have not decommissioned any of our solar projects, the anticipated life on the solar project is 30 years or beyond. So, the operating projects that we have a 50% ownership stake in the Western portion United States were constructed within the past couple of year. So no, really that's much of a longer-term consideration that we have not yet had to take on at this point in time.

**Question 35**

**The aquifer provides water to Schenectady and Saratoga. What prevents the pollution of this major aquifer?**

Answer: (Brian Schwabenbauer) That's been covered already. I mean, I mentioned the studies that will take place earlier in my presentation and the findings will be in the Application. But, you know, probably most importantly Eddie talked about the materials that the panels are made with so that really shouldn't be a concern at all.

**Question 36**

**Do you have to pay a certain amount for prime agricultural land and where did those payments go?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry): Okay um I believe that question is asking me about payments, you know, other than those made pursuant to land agreements. If that's incorrect, please you know, submit a request clarifying through the chat here or through the Project email. With regard to land payments that the answer is no there's really one rate paid across the board, regardless of the type of land. What comes to mind in that vein, are payments that, may be required as part of our NYSERDA REC Agreement. Under the agreement, we expect the sign for this Project we'll be required to perform agricultural mitigation, which may take the form of an agricultural mitigation payment. That will be determined based on impacts to land classified as within the New York State Agricultural Land Classified Minerals Soil Groups one through four. So as part of our NYSERDA preparation, we mapped the location of those MSGs - in short form we call them MSG 1-4 - within the Project study area and we estimated that about eleven and a half percent of the land expected to host project facilities is classified as within those groups. So, you know, assuming a Project footprint of 1400 to 1500 acres, we're looking at, you know, maybe 165 acres of land classified within the soil groups. That acreage figure obviously will change based on adjustments to Project design, and the exact amount of the potential ag mitigation payment will be determined by NYSERDA based on the final footprint of the facility. There's also the potential that NYSERDA will reduce that payment amount, if what they refer to as co-agricultural measures are implemented for the Project. So, there's a potential for that type of payment to be made, but the amount is yet to be determined and will be dependent on the final footprint of the Project.

**Question 37****How do you intend to comply with Glen's Comprehensive Plan?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Great question. So, my understanding of zoning law is that you know local government zoning law should be implemented in accordance with the comprehensive plan, and you know, that decision is one really left to the Town Board and the Planning Board. By designing and constructing and operating the Project in accordance with the Local Solar Law for the Town of Glen, we're complying with Glen's Comprehensive Plan. I've reviewed the Comprehensive Plan, and I think the Project aligns with a number of the goals outlined. As an example, you know, one goal is preserving and enhancing the Town's farming operations and agricultural lands and using farmland for the Project really helps to preserve farmland, by allowing the land to remain in farming families for decades to come. It also allows the land to lay fallow and undisturbed, for decades, so that it can ultimately be returned to agriculture by the owner, if they decide to do so then, obviously following the decommissioning and restoration. Another goal I think comes to mind with regards to the Comp Plan is the goal of preserving the natural environment. You could see by the sort of extensive list of surveys and studies and environmental considerations that are factored into the design, construction and operation of the Project. We'll design this Project and preserve and protect natural resources by avoiding or minimize the impact to wetlands, steep slopes, stream corridors, we'll avoid construction in hundred-year flood hazard areas, and design and construct the Project in compliance with current New York State Environmental Law that applies.

**Question 38****What is the approximate percentage of solar modules and associated equipment that will be procured from New York based manufacturers and US based manufacturers?**



Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, that's a good question. We're still really in the early days from the standpoint of equipment selection for the Project. The time is coming for us to do that, and when we reach that point in time, we're going to evaluate suppliers for the equipment really globally. But that will include New York-based and US-based suppliers and then, once we've you know evaluated options, we'll make the best decision for the Project.

### **Question 39**

**What measures will ConnectGen take to ensure the continued operation, viability and environmental safety of the proposed installation?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, the facility will be monitored, 24/7 remotely from an operating control center which will flag, identify, and bring attention to any operational issues. We expect to have a contract in place as well with an O&M or operations and maintenance service provider, who will perform regularly scheduled maintenance activities and essentially be on call should there be a specific issue with the operation of the Project. I mean really, from my perspective, if the Project isn't operating, we aren't we aren't generating any revenue, so it's in our best interest to monitor the operation as closely as possible and rectify operational issues that arise as quickly as possible.

### **Question 40**

**What type of insurance or other financial safeguard will ConnectGen pursue to ensure against an unexpected event that might cause significant financial, environmental, or other property damage to the Town and/or its residents?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Okay um yeah that's a good question. There's something to be mentioned early on, is the decommissioning and security right that's posted prior to construction pursuant to Local and State Law and that will really help to safeguard the Town, by ensuring that neither the Town or any landowners bear the cost of removing Project equipment and restoring the underlying land. In terms of insurance coverage, our land agreements as well as our pending agreement with NYSERDA require that we carry comprehensive commercial general liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage. So, between the decommissioning security and the insurance requirements with which we will comply, we will have sufficient financial safeguards in place.

### **Question 41**

**To what extent does the Project overlapping and adjoin the Glen Historic District?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah sure great question. So, as we relayed earlier in the presentation, the current Project area that we're studying for the potential development of the Project - so right now we don't have a final defined Project to say that we - to show exactly where there is overlap. We know the Historic District is in the vicinity of this the study area, and we have been considering that as part of the development of the Project. Our philosophy and approach development is to look for opportunities to avoid minimize and mitigate impacts, to the natural, cultural, and human environment, and in this case the Town of Glen historic district is being considered as part of avoidance and minimization. So, as we continue to develop the site plan and kind of layout of the facility, do we hope to kind of completely avoid overlap with this work district.

### **Question 42**

**To what extent will the Project be observable from within the Historic District?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah, this is related to the previous question, and we don't have a site plan for the Project at this time, and we haven't done the Visual Impact Analysis to determine whether or not the Project site will be visible from the Town. We are in the vicinity, and so it very well could be that our Project is visible, and if that is the case, we'll look for opportunities to reduce the impact of visibility of the Project from the Town.

**Question 43**

**What is the minimum distance between the Project site and the near Historic District boundary?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah again, don't know the exact number there because we don't have kind of a final design or site plan, yet, but we know we are in the vicinity and we're considering that in the design of the Project.

**Question 44**

**Does ConnectGen have the necessary capital, competence staffing, and depth of management experience to be successful in developing each of these Projects, including more than one Project at a time?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yes, yeah happy to take that question. ConnectGen is funded by a private equity firm called Quantum Energy Partners which is based in Houston Texas, and so they're providing the equity capital for the development activities for ConnectGen, which includes the Mill Point Solar Project, as well as the other solar projects that we're developing in New York and across the country. And so, to that end, we have a management team at ConnectGen, that has decades of experience in developing, constructing, and owning and operating renewable energy projects, not only in New York, but across the country as well. The members of the team have worked at very well-known respected renewable energy companies like NextEra, EDP Renewables, Exelon and Shell New Energy Ventures. So, given the experience prior to coming on board at ConnectGen, we feel very confident that we have the capabilities in house, as well as our external consulting firms that are assisting us in developing the Project to successfully complete the development activities of Mill Point and bring it through the construction process into operations.

**Question 45**

**If the Project is approved, will ConnectGen commit to creating a regional headquarters in Montgomery County to manage its projects in New York State and the Northeast?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yeah, at this time, ConnectGen hasn't given any consideration to expanding any kind of regional offices across the country. Right now, our corporate headquarters are located in Houston where our employees go to work on a daily basis, and so, to that end, we have not given any consideration for office expansion at this time.

**Question 46**

**If the Project is approved, will ConnetGen commit to creating and fully funding a world class "Center of Excellence" in Montgomery County to investigate better products and techniques associated with solar power production?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Again, another question that we have not given consideration to at this time. As Eddie mentioned earlier in the presentation, we are dedicated to being a good member of the community and supporting local organizations, of which we have provided donations to dates through a number of those that are supporting local community. We will continue to endeavor to build those relationships locally and certainly open to feedback from the community on ways that we can help become more integrated into the community and help supporting similar type of initiatives.

#### **Question 47**

**Will any resident have visual view of this solar Project? If there is a negative visual impact, what will be the changes in the Project to mitigate or eliminate these negative impacts?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah great question. So as part of the Visual Impact Analysis that Barry mentioned during the presentation, we will look at different viewpoint locations scattered throughout the Project area and the surrounding vicinity, to understand where would the site, the visible from, and through coordination with the Town and the community will better understand the areas where folk's view is being more sensitive to visual impacts and those areas will be the focus point for understanding and analyzing the potential impact. If an impact is determined from a certain location, you were required under ORES's Uniform Standard Conditions to identify treatment of the visual impact and one of the processes that the Uniform Standard Conditions require is the development of a screening plan. So that was also described in some of Barry's slides, but we'll look to implement that screening to help minimize and kind of soften the impacts to the view.

#### **Question 48**

**How often will "visualization greenery" be replaced if it dies? Or is it just a one and done?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah certainly so. The screen and planting plan that we developed, will identify the type of plants that will be planted, the type of trees and shrubs we planted, and we'll look to incorporate planning regimes that are consistent and blend with the surrounding scenery. When we implement that screen planning, we will be required to perform inspections for a minimum two years following construction to make sure that the plants that were planted are continuing to thrive in the environment. So, any plants within that two-year period that are found to be unhealthy or dead will have to be replaced. So that is a requirement by ORES under the 94-c regulations. Separately, through our Veg Management Program, we will include the continued veg management of the screen plantings to make sure that they are continuing to thrive. So that is kind of a separate component of our veg management practices to monitor all the vegetation that's on our site, not just the area within the panel zone, but the surrounding areas as well.

#### **Question 49**

**Will trees be replaced one for one that are removed?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yes, yeah. I think I kind of covered that previously but absolutely. Within that two-year period, if anything is found dead, we will replace it one for one.

#### **Question 50**

**What valuation per megawatt will ConnectGen be pursuing for its PILOT?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Okay, thanks Nancy. It's a good question. So, it's not determined at this point in time, exactly what we'll pursue. We'll pursue a rate that's in line with other PILOT agreements negotiated by the taxing jurisdictions involved, like the Eden Project planned in the Town of Glen, the Mohawk Solar Project in Montgomery County, and the High River Energy Center Project in Montgomery County. So, the exact rate will really be determined and that we pursue will be determined based on a combination of assessing those rates and then engaging in discussions with the taxing jurisdictions to participate and be a party to a PILOT. Those discussions are still in the very early stages and will continue and ramp up as we move forward with the development of the Project.

#### **Question 51**

**Is the intent of ConnectGen to continue to own the project throughout its useful life?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yeah, I believe some form of question has been asked previously. But yes, that is correct. ConnectGen does intend to be the long-term owner operator of the Project.

#### **Question 52**

**Amish farms and goods are a big attraction for country drives out to Glen, along with apple orchards. Will you protect the views along Logtown Road and Fisher/Argersinger Road?**

Answer: (Barry Masterson) Yes, well, these are very good questions. As I mentioned, we do look at the designated resources at the federal, state, and local level. However, we do a thorough investigation of unlisted resources such as the trails that were mentioned and that are very important for us to assess. There's an opportunity to publicly comment. But the goal is to get a very comprehensive inventory prior to the actual filing of the Application. We want to address all of these scenic resources within the Study Area and then there's also a caveat, that there's special circumstances that we do look outside of the two-mile study area and that's based on significant scenic value. If there's a significant overlook that could potentially see this Project, it's something we absolutely want one to investigate.

#### **Question 53**

**To what extent did ConnectGen offer comments or concerns regarding the Town of Glen's Solar Law in public hearings or during public comment at the Town Board or Town Planning Board meetings?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Sure, so in meetings specifically, unfortunately through the COVID-19 travel restrictions in place at the time, we weren't able to attend those specific public hearings and offer comments as part of that process. But we instead offered those comments in writing and provided those to the Town Supervisor.

#### **Question 54**

**Please identify the New York State-based wind projects that ConnectGen's management team members were involved in developing?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yeah, there's several that we have been involved with in previous times at different companies. I can list those here: the Marble River Wind Farm, the Jericho Rise Wind Farm, the Ark Right Summit Wind Farm, the Blue Stone Wind Farm and the Highbridge Wind Farm.

**Question 55****What complexities does ConnectGen expect in building, siting, and operating a 250-megawatt solar Project?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Well, that's quite the question. I think the presentation demonstrated a number of those complexities, certainly did not detail all of them, but undoubtedly the complexities of a Project of the scale are numerous. Through the 94-c permitting process and associated consultation with the local and state stakeholders and agencies, we're going to investigate and seek to better understand those complexities, especially with regard to siting and construction as early in the process as possible. As the presentation touches on a number of these sort of investigative undertakings. But really, the overall scope is broad and there are things that we haven't mentioned that folks might not even really have in mind like studying hydrology and the flow of water across the Project land or studying subsurface geotechnical conditions to determine the best approach to the installation of foundations for the racks and solar modules or LiDAR surveying that will allow us to gather and map topographic and planimetric data as we continue with designing the Project. These studies and surveys are critical because, because every Project is different. And we, in light of that, bring in experts that have regional expertise to guide these studies like the team from TRC with us here tonight. They have been consulting on complex renewable energy and other Projects in New York for quite some time, and we picked them as a partner for this process for that reason. I think also local concerns for every Project and the corresponding Project area are unique. So, it's critical that, we engage the community, engage with you in meetings like this to better understand those concerns, outline them and to do what we can to ensure that you know we're addressing them as we continue to design and develop the Project.

**Question 56****What state and federal agencies have been included in the planning process and will be included in the implementation?**

Answer: (Brian Schwabenbauer) Thanks Nancy. Good question. We've mentioned some of them, but I'll list them again. I think we've mentioned all of them already but, you know, one of them, the big one, is the Office of Renewable Energy Siting or ORES that we've been talking about. That's an office within the Department of State at the state level. Also at the state level, the Department of Environmental Conservation. Maybe even folks from Department of Public Service that have been working on Article 10. They might be involved with this ORES process - some familiar experts at the DPS as well - maybe even the New York State Department of Transportation if we have state roads in the Project Area. On one more at the state level would be the New York State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO. They'll definitely be involved in review consultation and in review of this Project and, at the federal level, again we mentioned them already but definitely the US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Question 57****Has an Environmental Impact Study (E.I.S.) been produced and reviewed by any of the above agencies?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah great question. So, I think that the commenter is referencing is an Environmental Impact Statement, which is part of a study process done when a federal agency

has a federal action on a Project, whether it be funding a Project or permitting a Project. EIAs are completed on pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. In this case, the Project is not seeking any federal funds, nor does it have any major federal permitting actions associated with it. So EIS level review pursuant to NEPA is not being conducted for Mill Point. However, under the state regulatory process, that's been discussed today through ORES's 94-c process, ORES does require a very intensive environmental review be completed as part of the Application process. So, I would say that the same process is very comprehensive- very much NEPA-like. The ultimate Application that we'll be presenting will consist of a study process pretty much consistent with the typical Environmental Impact Statement for federal projects.

#### **Question 58**

##### **Given that Route 30A as part of a scenic corridor, how will this aspect be remedied?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah, it kind of ties into some of the responses previously provided regarding historic resources. So, this Project is still studying the various resources associated with the surrounding area, including scenic viewshed, scenic routes on historic resources, etc. through the Visual Impact Analysis that Barry will be performing. He will be considering those types of resources and better understand what the potential impacts of the Project could be to them, and then from there, we will work to better understand the type of avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to be implemented.

#### **Question 59**

##### **What will happen when technology changes and the panels, are no longer current? Who is ultimately responsible for their removal?**

Answer: (Eddie Barry) Pursuant to our land agreements, local laws, state regulations, the removal of any equipment at the end of its useful life will be conducted pursuant to a decommissioning plan and will be the responsibility of ConnectGen as the owner of the Project. I figure I can answer another question here in tandem. When we talk about Project's life, we are really talking about the expected life of the modules themselves, which as technology continues to improve, modules become more efficient. And we're anticipating getting 30, 35 maybe more years out of these panels, which really is what kind of informs our view of the Project having a 30 to 35-year lifespan. So really, our expectation is that modules on the Project will not be replaced over the course of the Project. But we never say never, I guess it's important to remember that that in the event, there is a compelling reason to do so, and we can do so in line with, you know, all applicable regulations and laws, we would be responsible for removal and replacement of modules in that scenario.

#### **Question 60**

##### **You reference previous projects – can we get in touch with the communities to see how they fared?**

Answer: (Derek Rieman) Yes, we'd be happy to provide references to local community members of Projects where we have developed previously, so we can certainly make that information available.

#### **Question 61**

**What is the animal/ wildlife response in the areas of the panels? For example, will deer graze and turkeys and other birds and protected wildlife co-habitat with the immense number of panels?**

Answer: (Brian Schwabenbauer) Yeah, you know, one thing to point out, I just want everyone to know that that Project area map that you saw, there's going to be smaller areas of panels within that larger Project Area. It's not one large contiguous areas of panels. So now, this will be studied, it will be looked at our findings will be included in the Application, and it'll be reviewed by the applicable agencies. But it's not going to be one large area of panels and therefore wildlife is still able to move through the area and use it similar to how they have in the past.

### **Question 62**

**How will the grass beneath the panels and alongside the panels be groomed? How will tree seedlings which will appear within two years, be removed? Will there be any use of herbicides or pesticides for these purposes?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah great question. So as part of the operational development of the Project, we will implement a vegetation management plan that identifies, how we'll manage the vegetation throughout the Project site during the long-term operation period. So that includes managing the grass that grows underneath the panels, managing the grassy areas that grow on the outskirts of the panels between the panel and fence, as well as managing the vegetation that's planted outside the fence, but within the Project footprint. So that vegetation management program will include the key mechanisms that will be used to manage the grass, and that includes mechanical treatments, such as typically mowing or shredding as well, as you know, potentially herbicide treatments, when we might need to spot treat certain plants to help avoid their spread, as well as even, physically hand-plucking and pruning. So that process has been integrated into veg management basically focuses on what the best method is to treat and maintain vegetation. One thing I do want to mention is although herbicide treatment is a component of integrated vegetative management, we would only use it sparingly for targeted situations. We're not planning to use kind-of broadcast herbicide applications across the Project.

### **Question 63**

**As per your report, you mentioned suitability with existing land use, can you explain how it is suitable?**

Answer: (John Kuba) This is John. Rande and I work closely together on this Project and others so maybe I can only speak for her on this. When we look to site a project, we do look for what the existing land uses are and whether or not it could be suitable for development. In this instance, there's a couple of reasons we thought this site is suitable and given the amount of open land in the area that it's not encumbered by existing infrastructure or growth from local communities. The existing ag land that's currently cultivated are very much suitable for solar generation. When it comes to kind-of the long-term use of the land, we work with the landowners to understand which land of the parcels that they may be interested in leasing for solar development, which area where they like to continue to maintain in agricultural practices versus which areas may be best or most suitable for them for solar development. So that that all goes into the process of understanding the siting and design of the Project and kind of the co-location with the existing agricultural environment. Then, more long term we will manage the property within the solar panel footprint under that veg management regime, which does very much allow the soils to regenerate, they

hold moisture. They replenish nutrients. So that long term, upon the decommissioning, that land could go back into active agriculture, if the landowner so chooses to continue with that land use.

**Question 64**

**What are the minimal anticipated environmental impacts?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah, so you know, we have not defined the Project footprint to date or run the various impact analysis, mainly because we're still studying the resources. So right now, you know, some of the TRC folks talked earlier about the various studies that are currently ongoing: understanding what type of wildlife around the area, defining delineating the wetlands and waterbodies, better understanding of visual sensitivity or historic resource sensitivity. So those studies need to continue to be performed to help us, give us a baseline understanding of the resources and then go from there, those resources help define the Project in terms of, our processes to avoid and minimize impact. So, we want to use the data that's available to us to define the Project and then from there, we can determine what the impact would be, and that is all that information will ultimately be wrapped up and summarize in that 94-c Application.

**Question 65**

**Will forests be cut for this Project? If so, how much land will be affected in acres?**

Answer: (John Kuba) Yeah well, to touch on the second part of that question I don't have a calculation of acres at this time, and we won't have that and until we've defined the footprint of the Project and run the impact calculations. But I will say that as part of that review of land use suitability, this area does have a lot of open land which allows the kind of primary siting of the solar panel areas. There will need to be some forested land cleared mainly associated with connecting the panel areas together with electric collection line, so we do think that the amount of forested that will be cleared will be relatively small for this site, but I don't have a calculation or estimate at this time.



## **August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Poster Boards**



**WELCOME TO THE**

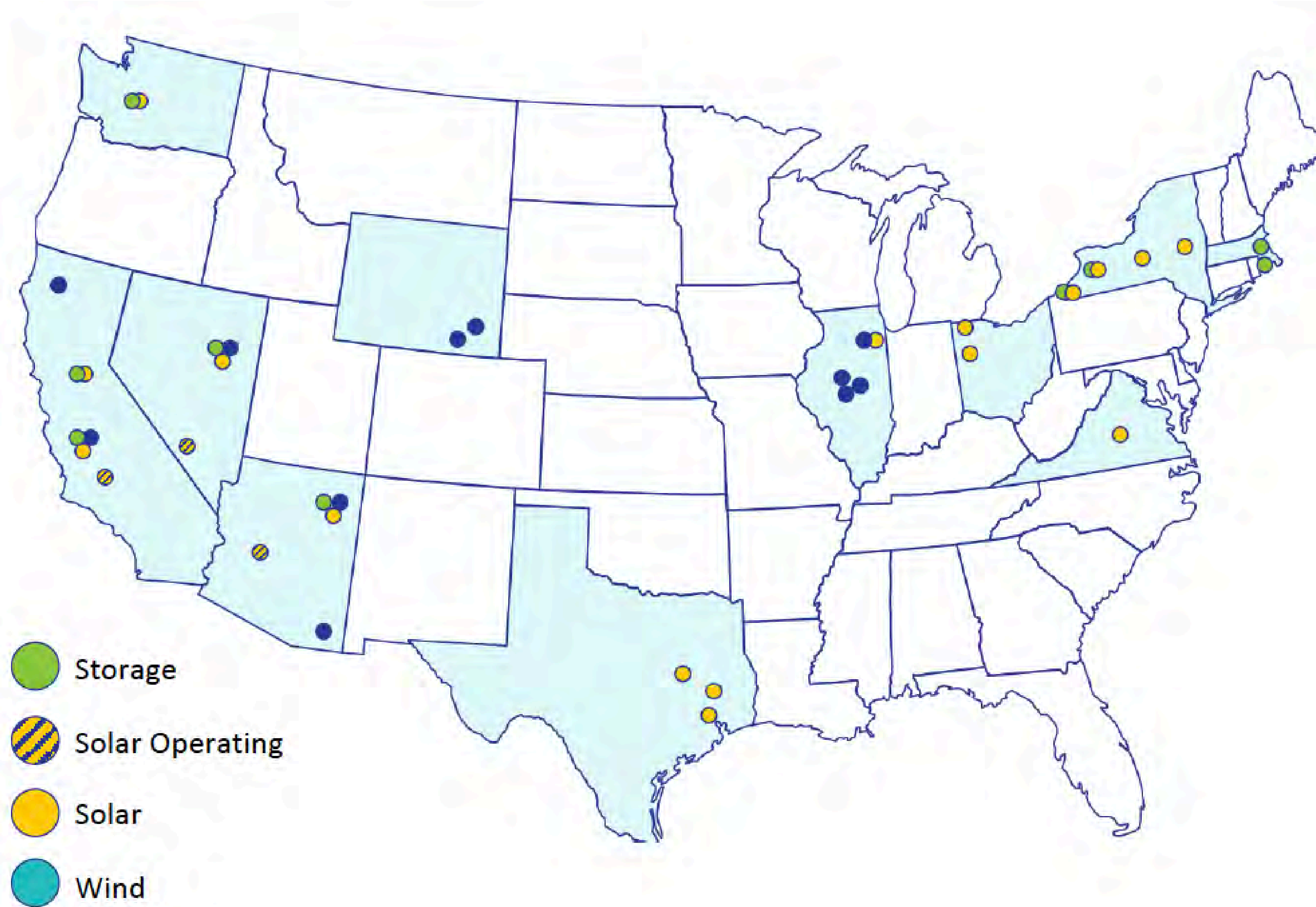
# **Mill Point Solar Project**

**COMMUNITY MEETING**

**—**

**PLEASE SIGN IN**

# About ConnectGen



ConnectGen is an independent renewable energy company developing large large-scale wind, solar, and energy storage projects across North America.

ConnectGen has established a portfolio of over **8,500 MW** of wind, solar, and energy storage projects.

Our experienced team holds deep familiarity with transmission system analysis and market design/regulatory issues.

ConnectGen is backed by Quantum Energy Partners. Founded in 1998, Quantum Energy Partners is a leading provider of private equity capital to the global energy industry, having managed together with its affiliates more than \$17 billion in equity commitments since inception.



# ConnectGen - New York Experience



## HISTORY IN NEW YORK

The ConnectGen team has previously managed the development of six utility-scale wind farms across New York, four of which are currently in operations.

## CURRENT PROJECT PORTFOLIO

ConnectGen is currently developing several utility scale solar facilities across the State of New York. The South Ripley Solar Project (paired with energy storage) received a 2019 NYSERDA REC contract. Harvest Hills Solar and Mill Point Solar were awarded REC contracts in NYSERDA's 2020 solicitation.

## CONNECTING POWER, PROJECTS, AND PEOPLE

ConnectGen's experienced development team has a track record of successfully identifying, developing and constructing renewable energy projects. Our previous project successes have been built on a foundation of strong relationships with the landowners and communities hosting the projects.

**We are committed to working with landowners, neighbors, and all project stakeholders to safely and responsibly design and build projects that bring long-term benefits to the communities.**



# Project Overview



**Mill Point**  
SOLAR PROJECT

Project Owner:  
**ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC**

Host Community:  
**Town of Glen**

Renewable Resource:  
**Solar Energy**

Project Capacity:  
**Up to 250 MWac**

Projected Project Footprint:  
**Up to approximately 2,000 acres**

Projected Completion Date:  
**End of 2024**

Point of Interconnection:  
**National Grid Marcy – New Scotland  
345kV Transmission Line**

New York Homes Powered:  
**Over 65,000**

# Why did ConnectGen Choose the Town of Glen, New York?



## State Renewable Goals

- New York State has set a goal for the state's utilities to source 70% of their electricity from renewable energy by 2030 and for them to reach 100% zero carbon electricity by 2040.



## Compatible Land Use and Zoning

- The Town of Glen has developed a solar zoning law that is considerate of the requirements of utility-scale solar development and generally consistent with the objectives and requirements of NYS Section 94-c permitting regulations.



## Supportive Locality

- A number of large-scale solar projects are under development in Montgomery County, including the Mohawk Solar Project in the Towns of Canajoharie and Minden and the High River Energy Center in the Town of Florida.
- The Town of Glen has previously approved permits for two utility-scale solar projects with a third under review.



## Existing Transmission

- The Mill Point Solar Project will be located adjacent to the existing Marcy – New Scotland 345kV Transmission Line, which has the available capacity to accommodate all electricity generated by the Project.



## Available Suitable Land

- Preliminary environmental review suggests high site suitability and limited development constraints.
- Minimal impacts to prime farmland containing soils classified by NY Ag and Markets as Mineral Soil Groups 1-4.
- Existing vegetation and topography in the area creates the opportunity for natural visual screening.

# Timeline for Mill Point Solar Project



## DEVELOPMENT

24 – 36 MONTHS  
2020-2023

## CONSTRUCTION

9 – 18 MONTHS  
2023-2024

## OPERATION

30 – 43 YEARS  
2024 and beyond

### LAND ACQUISITION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Execute lease agreements and other land agreements
- Engage elected town officials and local stakeholders in an effort to inform the broader community
- Hold Community Meetings over the course of development

### ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PRELIMINARY DESIGN

- Complete desktop and field studies to identify environmental constraints in the Project Area
- Conceptual design will avoid and minimize impacts to environmental resources and the community

### ELECTRIC GRID INTERCONNECTION STUDIES

- Undergo technical studies completed by the local utility and NY grid operator to secure the right to connect to the electrical grid

### REGULATORY REVIEW & PERMITTING

- Pre-application consultations with local stakeholders as well as local, state, and federal agencies as part of the Seciton 94-c permitting process
- Secure any and all federal and state permits necessary for construction and operation of the Project
- Negotiate PILOT and Host Community Agreement with local taxing authorities including Town of Glen, Fonda-Fultonville Central School District and Montgomery County

### FINAL ENGINEERING & DESIGN

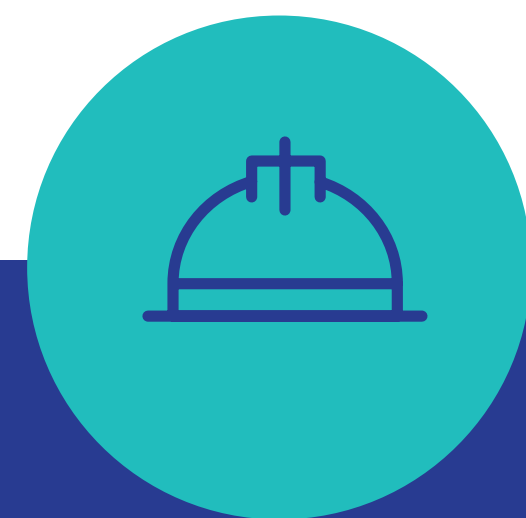
- Complete final engineering and design in preparation for construction

# Local Benefits

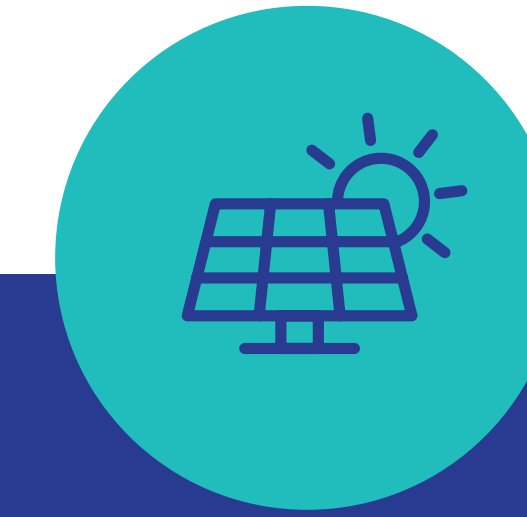
## Direct Benefits:



Over \$30 million in estimated increased property tax revenue and Host Community Agreement payments benefitting the Town of Glen, the Fonda-Fultonville Central School District, and Montgomery County through the life of the Project



Up to 150 full-time equivalent local jobs anticipated during the peak of construction with all laborers, workmen and mechanics compensated at the Prevailing Wage rate for the local jurisdiction



Over \$60 million dollars in estimated payments to local landowners in the form of solar leases, easement agreements, and neighbor agreements through the life of the Project

## Host Community Benefit Program - Utility Bill Credits:

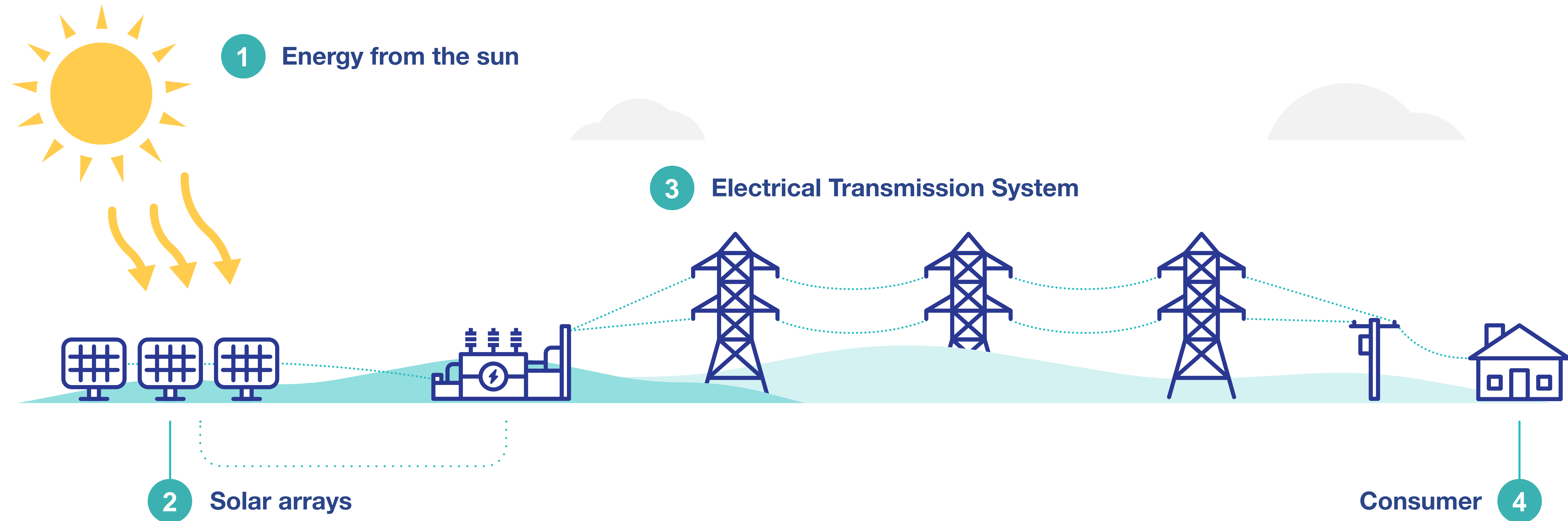
- \$500/MW or \$125,000 paid into fund annually by Project over the first 10 years of the Project's operations
- Funds distributed equally by local distribution utility to all residential utility customers in the Host Community (Town of Glen) in the form of an annual utility bill credit

## Indirect Benefits:

- Revenue to local shops, hotels, restaurants, service and construction material suppliers during construction and operation
- Partnerships with local community groups, local sponsorships, and donations
- To date, the Project has made donations in support of the Glen Volunteer Fire Department, the Fulmont Community Action Agency Food Pantry, the Haven of Hope Farm and Residence, the Montgomery County Office for Aging, and the Fonda-Fultonville Parent Teacher Student Association



# How Does Solar Energy Work?



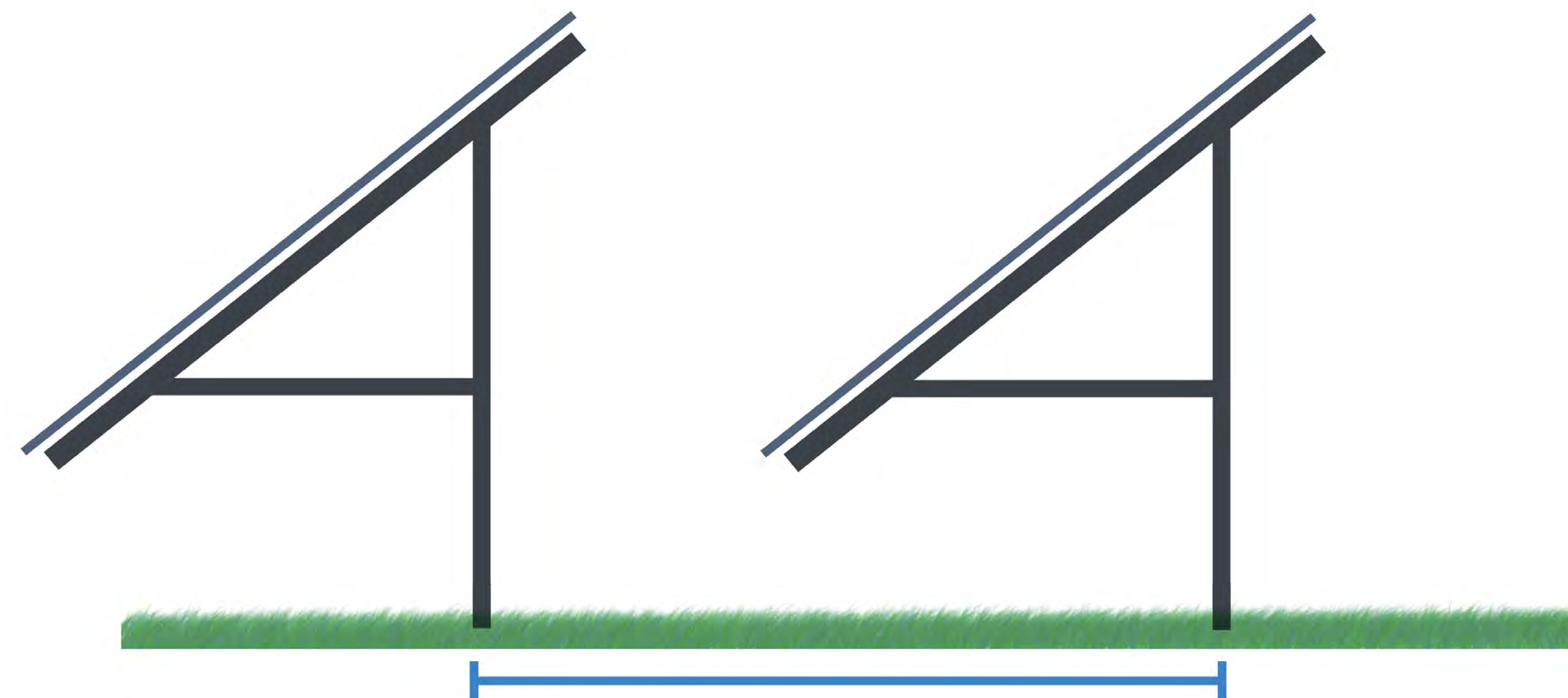
**1** Energy from the sun falls onto the earth’s surface each day in the form of sunlight. The sunlight is absorbed by the solar panels, converting it into electricity.

**2** Solar cells are small, square-shaped silicon semiconductors. Each solar cell is connected into a network of many other solar cells to create a PV (Photovoltaic) module or panel. A solar facility is comprised of thousands of panels.

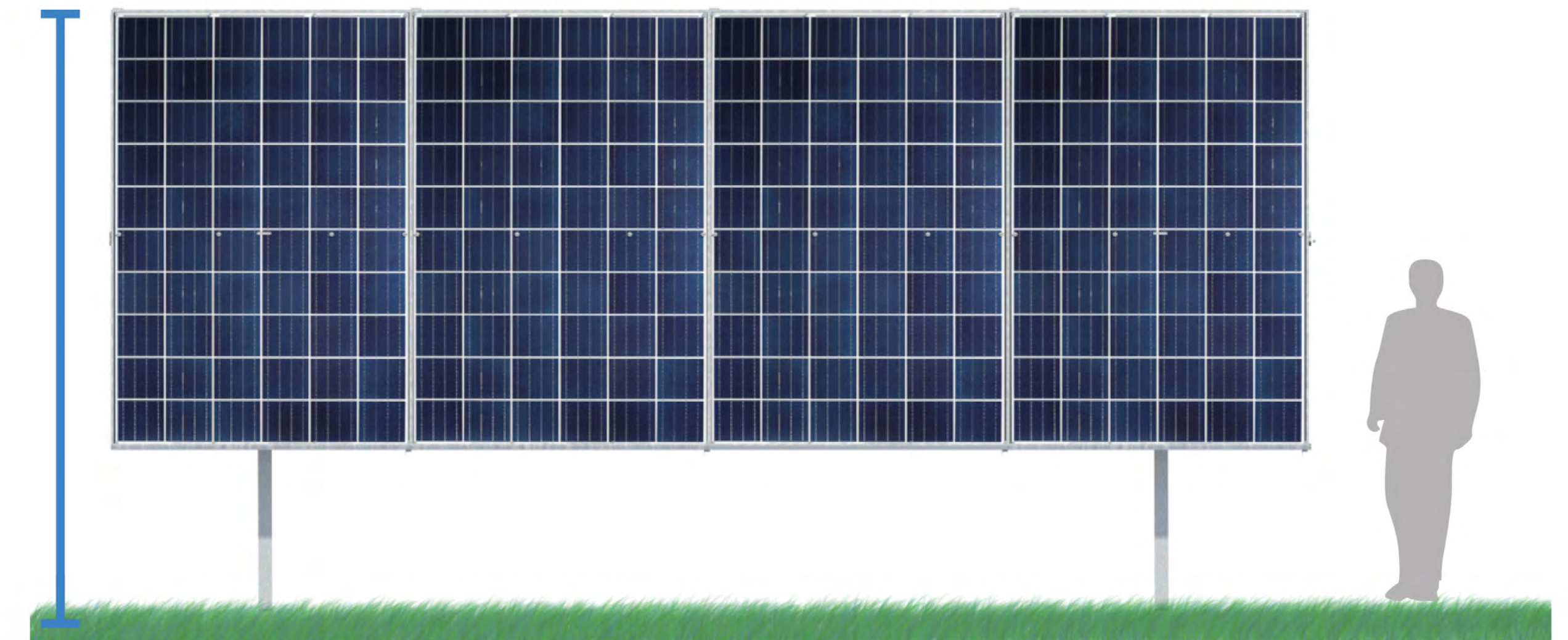
**3** The absorbed sunlight is transformed into usable energy by way of an inverter that turns direct current (DC) energy into alternating current (AC) electricity. AC is the form of power used in homes and businesses.

**4** Electricity generated travels through transmission/distribution lines to homes and businesses.

# The Basics of Solar



Typical Solar Module Spacing: at least 12 feet



Typical Solar Module Height: 12 feet

## Solar panels are safe

- PV panels meet strict electrical safety standards
- PV panels are designed to ensure no release or leakage of panel material into the surrounding environment
- PV panel arrays are typically fenced to ensure safety and security

## Solar panels produce minimal glare

- PV panels are designed to absorb light, not reflect light, and therefore produce minimal glare

## Solar panels are quiet

- Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels make little or no sound
- Associated electrical equipment creates minimal sound
- Limited required equipment maintenance such as mowing or access road upkeep would be conducted during the day

## Solar panels do not pollute

- No combustion, emissions, or odors
- No water discharges or use of neighboring water bodies for heating or cooling

# Preliminary Solar Facility Locations



# Environmental Considerations



ConnectGen will consult with many agencies and stakeholders including: the NYS Department of Public Service, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, State Historic Preservation Office, and other stakeholders to ensure that potential environmental impacts are fully considered. Some of studies conducted to help avoid and minimize potential impacts include:

WETLANDS	RARE/THREATENED/ ENDANGERED SPECIES	ARCHAEOLOGY	HISTORIC PROPERTIES	VISUAL IMPACTS
				
<p>Review of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Wetland mapping</p> <p>Field investigations to identify and delineate wetlands and streams</p>	<p>Coordination with NYSDEC, USFWS, and natural resource management entities</p> <p>Field investigations to identify potential habitat or species presence</p>	<p>Coordination with the New York State Historic Preservation Office and regional advocacy groups</p> <p>Research and field investigations to identify previously known or unidentified archaeological sites</p>	<p>Research and consultation with State Historic Preservation Office and regional historical groups</p> <p>Historic properties are evaluated to determine their eligibility for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places</p> <p>Evaluate potential visual effect on historic properties</p>	<p>Identification of Visually Sensitive Resources</p> <p>Viewshed mapping of areas with potential Project visibility</p> <p>Coordination with stakeholders and preparation of visual simulations to illustrate what the facility will look like when completed</p>

# Wetland and Stream Resources

## Resource Identification and Field Survey Efforts

- Identification aids in Project siting and design
- Field investigations commenced in Fall 2020 and are ongoing
- ConnectGen seeks to avoid and minimize impacts to the maximum extent practicable

## Agency Consultation

- ORES reviews NYS jurisdictional waters
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will review “waters of the United States”
- Agency field visits may be performed to confirm delineations
- Identification of potential mitigation strategies, if required

## 94-c Application will include:

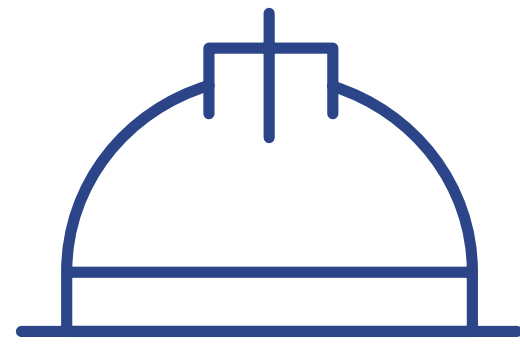
- Mapping and reports from field efforts
- Wetland functional assessment
- Impacts to off site wetlands within 100 feet of disturbance
- Demonstration of avoidance and minimization
- Identification of wetland mitigation, if required



# Threatened and Endangered Species Review

The purposes of this consultation are to identify the habitats found within the Project Area, identify if any habitats supporting threatened and endangered species exist, and coordinate with ORES on Studies and Plans required for the Project.

## Surveys Conducted



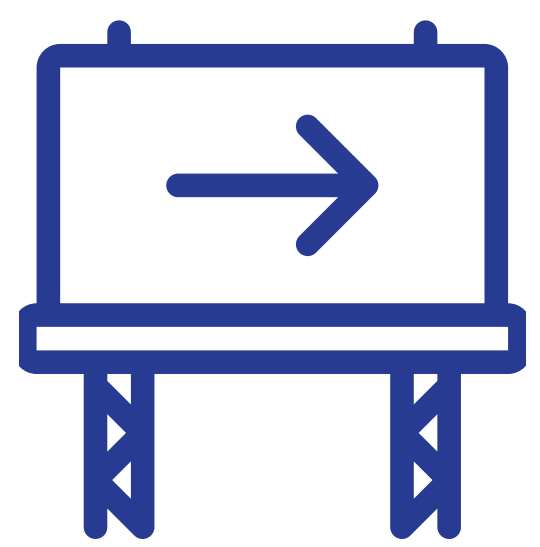
- ConnectGen conducted two field surveys as recommended by ORES
- Winter Raptor Surveys (Nov 2020 - April 2021)
- Breeding Bird Surveys (May 2021 - July 2021)
- ORES reviewed Study Plans of each Survey and results of Surveys have been or will be shared with ORES

## Consultation with ORES



- ConnectGen shared Wildlife Site Characterization (April 2021)
- ConnectGen/ORES held Pre-Application meeting to review (May 2021)

## What's Next?



- ORES reviews the results of field studies shared by ConnectGen
- ConnectGen/ORES discuss presence of occupied habitat and mitigation
- ORES makes a determination of whether occupied habitat is within the Project Area
- If occupied habitat is determined to be impacted, a Net Conservation Benefit Plan will be required

# Analysis of Visual Impacts

## Step One: Define Affected Environment

- Visual Study Area (2 miles)
- Identify Sensitive Resources
- Local Agency Consultation
- Identify Viewer Groups
- Landscape Similarity Zones

## Step Two: Evaluate Potential Visibility

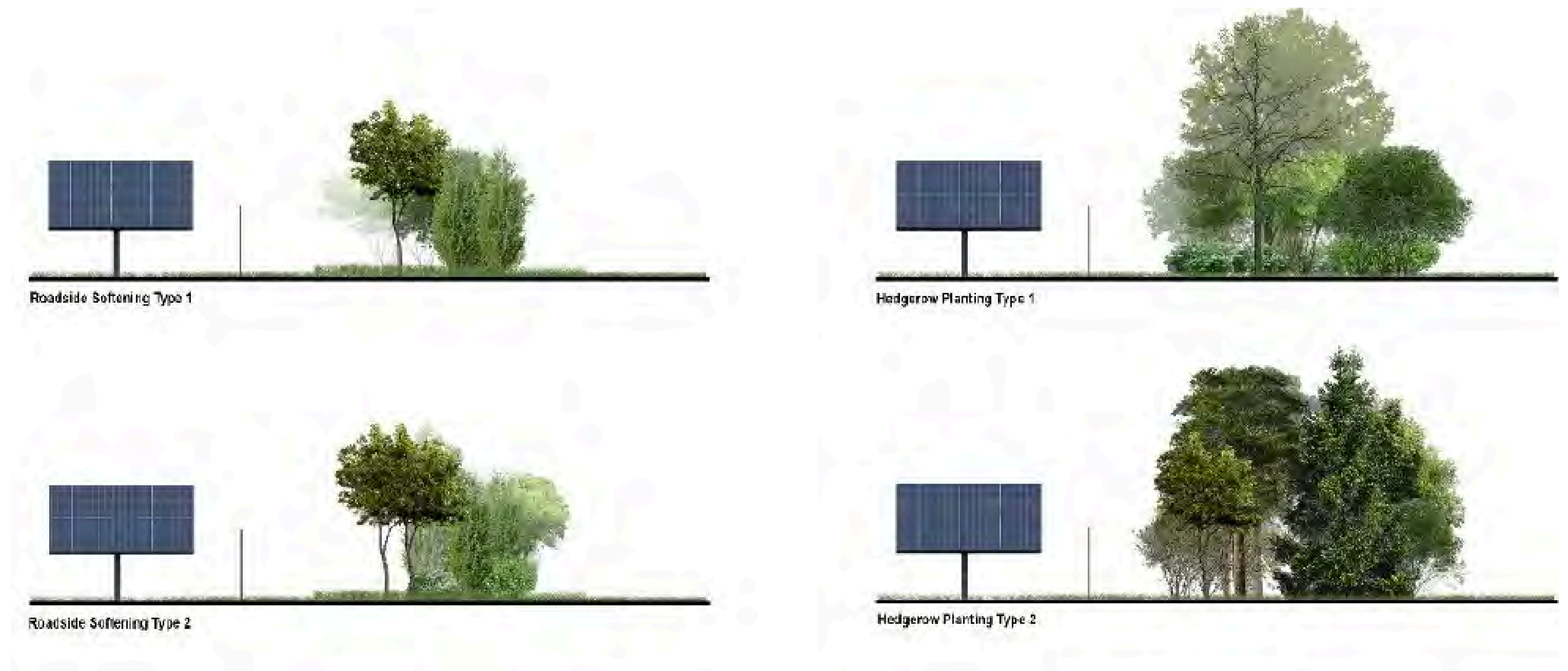
- Viewshed Analysis Mapping
- Site Visit and Confirmatory Assessment of Visibility

## Step Three: Replicate the Appearance of the Facility

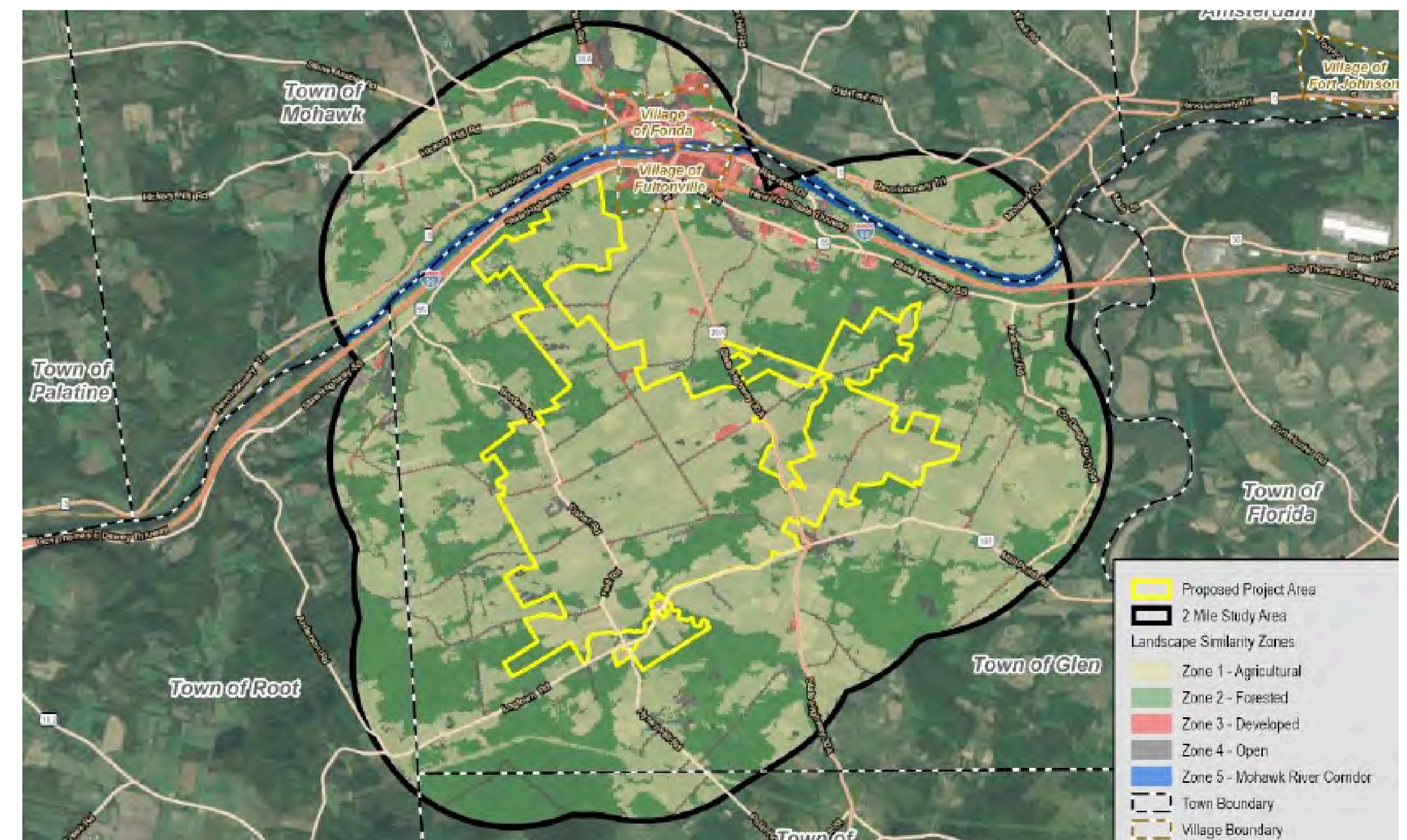
- Develop a 3-D Model of the Proposed Facility
- Proposed Project Components Landscape Similarity Zones

## Step Four: Visual Impact Analysis

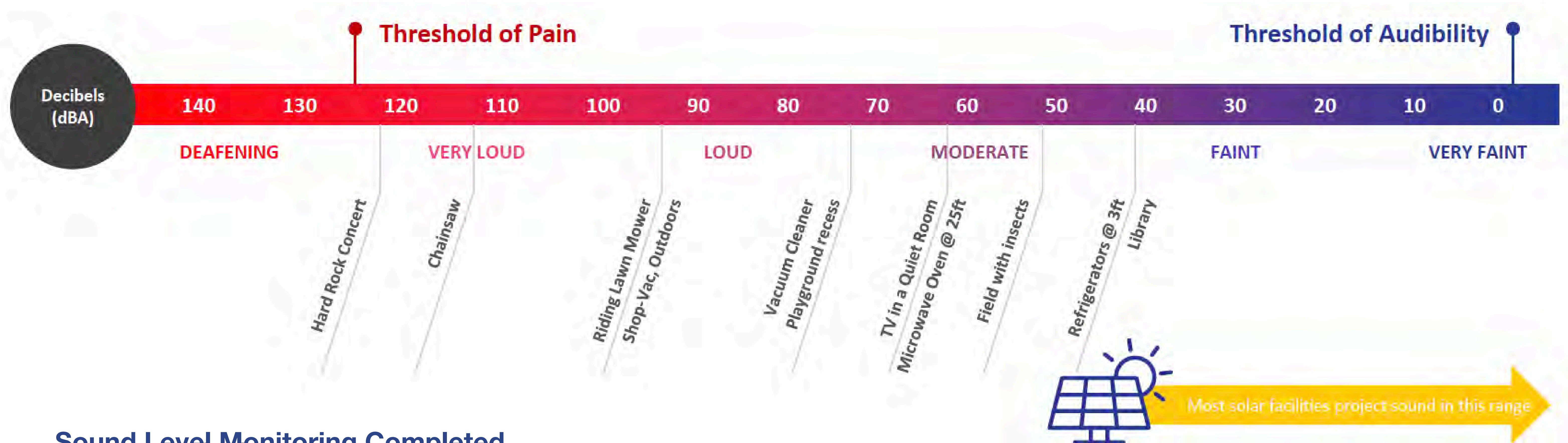
- Photosimulations
- Rating Panel Evaluation
- Visual Mitigation, if required



Examples of different landscape screening techniques at different stages of maturation



# Sound and Noise Impact



## Sound Level Monitoring Completed

- In June 2021, collected background/ambient sound data in the Project Area for 24 hours/day for 1 week at 7 different locations and measured sound and weather data

## Next Step: Sound Level Modelling

- International Standards Organization procedures (ISO 9613-2) are used as required by ORES
- Equipment locations and their maximum sound power are entered in the model
- Output modeled for all homes and properties in the defined Project Area

## Other 94-c Requirements

- Sound propagation model parameter specifications
- Construction noise modeled
- Reporting requirements
- Complaint resolution plan

## Equipment anticipated to be used at Mill Point Solar Project

Solar Panels	<i>Not expected to generate any sound</i>
Inverters	<i>Generate limited sound during the day</i>
Transformers	<i>Generate limited sound day and night</i>

## 94-c Uniform Conditions and Standards for Sound

- Non-participating residence = 45 dBA (8-Hour Leq)
- Participating residence = 55 dBA (8-Hour Leq)
- Non-participating residence = 40 dBA due to substation
- Non-participating property line = 55 dBA (8-Hour Leq)
- Penalty for audible prominent tones





# Section 94-c Process and ORES

## 94-c Background, Application and Issuance

- Introduced in 2020 for large-scale renewable energy projects
- Establishes Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES)
- Draft Regulations and Uniform Standards and Conditions (USCs) issued September 6, 2020
- Final Regulations and USCs became effective March 3, 2021
- ORES must issue determination of application completeness within 60 days following filing
- ORES must issue a final state permitting decision no later than one year after a completeness determination

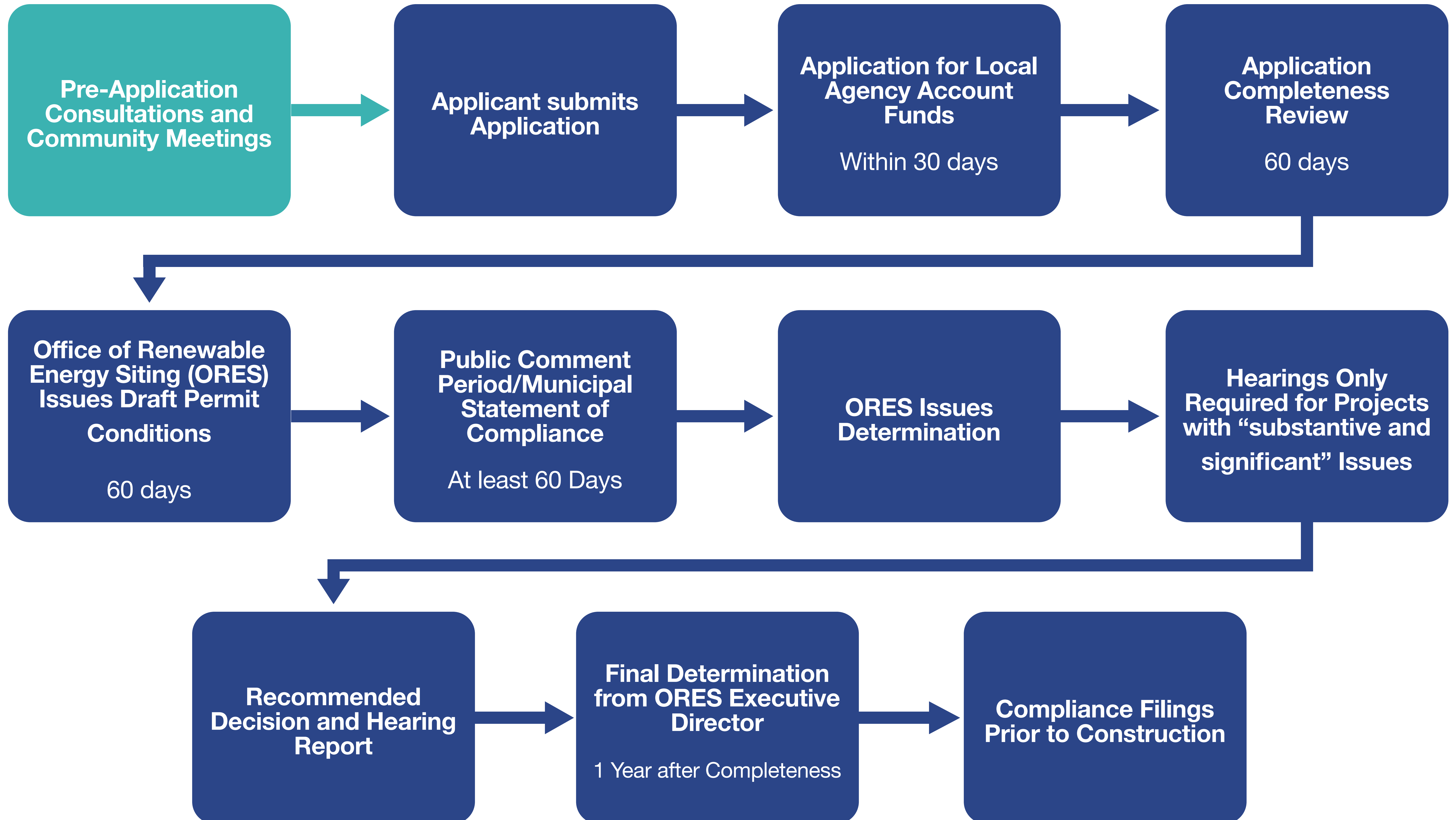
## USCs and Site-Specific Requirements

- USCs outline design requirements for large scale projects to standardize design expectations
- Site-specific requirements crafted by ORES can augment the USCs
- Projects must be designed to avoid or minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, adverse environmental impacts
- Mitigation programs designed by the State to offset potential adverse environmental impacts that cannot be avoided
- Draft Permit Conditions are issued by ORES 60 days following determination by ORES that application is complete

## Local Compliance and Permit Issuance

- ORES must make finding that the Project, along with conditions, would comply with applicable local laws and regulations
- ORES can elect not to apply a local law that is unreasonably burdensome in view of CLPCA targets and the environmental benefits of the project
- The Town of Glen adopted a local solar law in late 2020 with which the Project anticipates full compliance in its design, construction, operation, and decommissioning
- Municipalities submit statements of compliance with local laws at least 60 days after issuance of draft permit conditions

# 94-c Process Timeline



# Pre-Application Local Consultation

**Local Agency Consultation:** At least 60 days prior to 94-c Application, applicant meets with the chief executive officer of the host municipality and provides:

- Facility description with map
- Summary of applicable local laws
- Explanation of efforts to comply with local laws
- Overview of local laws for which compliance would be unreasonably burdensome
- Potential impacts for which consultation with the municipalities is required to inform the Application
- Applicant contact information and the project website address
- Anticipated application date and local agency account funding information



**Local Agency Consultation informs the 94-c Application regarding:**

- Land Use
- Cultural
- Public Health, Safety and Security
- Transportation and Road Use
- Visual Impact Assessment
- Socioeconomic Effects

***ConnectGen held Pre-Application Consultations with the Town of Glen officials on April 12th prior to the Public Information Session on April 14th and on August 10, 2021 prior to this Community Meeting. Local Agency Consultation will continue as ConnectGen prepares to submit a 94-c Application.***



# Local Agency Account Funds

## What are Local Agency Account Funds?

Local Agency Account Funding is money that Section 94-c applicants, such as ConnectGen, make available to qualified, locally affected parties and municipalities to offset certain expenses they incur in participating in the state permitting process. These funds were created to encourage effective public involvement in project permitting.

## Applying for Local Agency Account Funds:

- Upon the filing of a 94-c Application, ConnectGen will post a local agency account fund (\$1,000/MW) which can be sought by local community members and host towns. 75% of funds are reserved for municipalities.
- Prior to the filing of a 94-c Application, ConnectGen will publish and mail both 60-day and 3-day notices.
- Must apply for funds within 30 days of the 94-c Application filing; funds awarded within 30 days following the deadline for request.
- Each request must be completed on an ORES-approved form and contain specific information detailed in 19NYCRR 900-5.1(h).

Send Requests for Local Agency Account Funding under 19 NYCRR 900-5

to: **By email: [general@ores.ny.gov](mailto:general@ores.ny.gov)**

**By Mail: New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting**

Attention: Request for Local Agency Account Funding

c/o OGS

Empire State Plaza

P-1 South, J Dock

Albany, NY 12242

# Construction

## SITE PREPARATION

- Clear and grade land as required
- Construct site entrances and access roads
- Create temporary laydown yards

## PILE/FOUNDATION INSTALLATION

- Install piles to hold panel racking system
- Final pile length dependent on slope and soil type
- Common steel pile types: Driven piles, ground screws, helical anchors (no concrete expected)
- Pour concrete pads for inverters and high voltage equipment

## RACK ASSEMBLY AND PV INSTALLATION

- Install panel racks on piles, then install solar modules on panel racks
- Panel racks and modules typically up to 13 feet tall
- Install inverters on pads located near or in between racks of panel modules, and connect to high voltage substation

## CONCLUSION OF CONSTRUCTION

- Remove all construction equipment
- Clear laydown yards
- Restore disturbed land



# Operation & Removal

## SITE MANAGEMENT

- Limited upkeep is required during the life of the facility.
- Most common maintenance activities are associated with vegetation management such as mowing.
- It is also common to seed the field with low growing native grasses or plants to minimize the need to mow frequently.

## EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

- The Project facilities will be designed for a minimum 30-year lifespan. Should a panel or other piece of Project infrastructure be damaged or malfunction, the system's modular design allows for simple repair or replacement.

## DECOMMISSIONING

- ConnectGen is responsible for the decommissioning and removal of project infrastructure at the end of the Project's useful life.
- NY State will require a decommissioning fund as part of the state permitting process.
- Ensures funds will be available to dismantle and remove facility components and complete restoration of the site at the end of the Project's useful life.
- After decommissioning, ConnectGen will return the property to as close to the condition it was in prior to the Project.





# Decommissioning and Restoration

## The 94-c application must contain a Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan that addresses:

- Equipment removal
- Safety
- Environmental restoration
- Aesthetics
- Recycling
- Potential future uses for the site
- Financial aid commitments
- Schedule
- Re-seeding and Re-grading

## The 94-c application includes a cost estimate addressing:

- Removing all facility components 4 feet below grade in agricultural land or 3 feet below grade in non-agricultural land
- Removing and restoring access road locations, where appropriate, based on the facility layout

## The Town of Glen Solar Law provides the following with regard to the removal of solar facilities:

- Inactive solar facilities shall be removed at the owner's or operator's expense and site shall be restored within 12 months of removal
- A decommissioning cost estimate shall be provided prior to the issuance of building permits, updated every 5 years and adjusted accordingly
- Prior to construction, financial security shall be posted with the Town of Glen to cover the net cost of the removal of the facility and restoration





## **August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Fact Sheet**



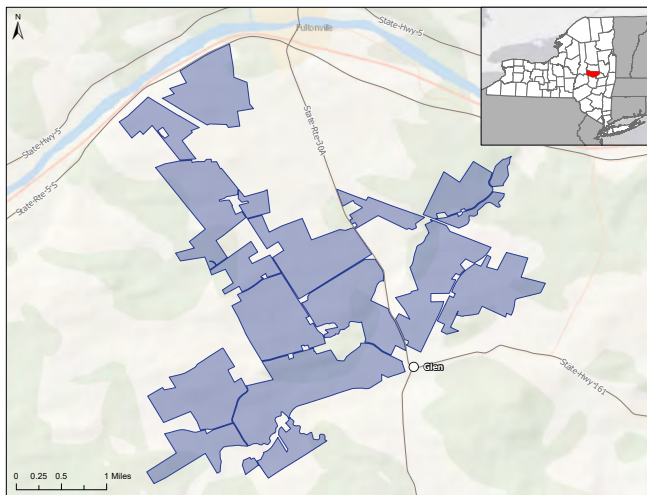
# Mill Point SOLAR PROJECT

ConnectGen is developing a large-scale solar project in central Montgomery County south of the Mohawk River. ConnectGen expects to install up to 250 megawatts (MW) of solar in the area, which has the potential to power over 65,000 homes in New York State.

## Why Montgomery County

ConnectGen identified the area within the Town of Glen as suitable for solar development because of its proximity to the existing transmission system with available capacity, site suitability with existing land use, minimal anticipated environmental impacts, and Montgomery County’s history of renewable energy and economic development.

## Mill Point Project Area



ConnectGen expects to use approximately 2,000 acres, wholly located within the Town of Glen, in Montgomery County for the Mill Point Solar Project, with a smaller subset of acreage hosting Project Facilities. The location of Project Facilities, including the solar arrays, access roads, electric collection lines and interconnection facilities, will be determined in accordance with engineering and environmental considerations.

## Local Benefits from the Mill Point Solar Project



Millions of dollars in increased revenue to the Town of Glen, Montgomery County, and the Fonda-Fultonville Central School District



Hundreds of local construction jobs and revenue to local businesses



Support of local community organizations through donations and sponsorships

## In Support of the Mill Point Solar Project? Let Us Know!

If you are in support of the Mill Point Solar Project and the long-term benefits it will bring to the Town of Glen and Montgomery County, we would love to hear from you. Please call (866) 203-1118 to learn about the different ways that you can show your support.

## About ConnectGen

Founded in 2018, ConnectGen is a renewable energy company focused on developing best in class wind, solar, and energy storage projects that will increase America's supply of low-cost, domestically produced clean energy.

## ConnectGen in New York

The ConnectGen team has previously managed and led the development of four utility-scale wind farms across New York. Currently, ConnectGen is in the process of developing several large-scale hybrid solar and storage projects in the state. Three of its projects under development, including the Mill Point Solar Project, have received 20-year contract awards from the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority.

## Landowner Relationships

ConnectGen's experienced development team has a track record of successfully identifying, developing, and constructing renewable energy projects. Our previous project successes have been built on a foundation of strong relationships with the landowners and communities hosting the projects. We are committed to working with landowners, neighbors, and all project stakeholders to safely and responsibly design and build projects that bring long-term benefits to your community.

**Please Contact Us with Your Questions, Ideas, and Thoughts**

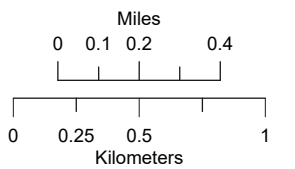
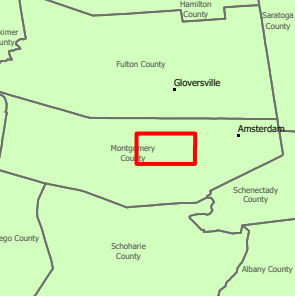
**Email:** [info@millpointsolar.com](mailto:info@millpointsolar.com)  
**Phone:** (866) 203-1118

**CONNECTING POWER, PROJECTS & PEOPLE.**



**August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Preliminary Location Map**

# Mill Point Preliminary Solar Facility Locations Town of Glen Montgomery County, New York



Scale: 1:30,000  
Date: 8/8/2021  
PCS: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane New York East FIPS 3101 Ft US

- Town/Municipality
- Interconnection Facilities
- Preliminary PV Locations
- 345kV Transmission Line
- Interstate Highway
- State Highway
- County or Local Road

*Locations shown are preliminary locations of above-ground facilities only and are subject to change as development continues and engineering advances.*



NOTE: This is not a legal survey instrument. All measurements and boundaries depicted are approximations and pend final surveys and title research.



**August 2021 In-Person Community Meeting Comment Cards**



## Questionnaire and Comment Form

Thank you for attending our open house. The purpose of this event is to present and discuss the Mill Point Solar Project. We would appreciate if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the content and quality of this open house and/or the engagement process thus far. Your opinion is important to us, and we want to make sure that we continue to provide useful information that matters to you.

Name: 

Address: 

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would You Like to Receive Project Updates?      Yes      No

What was your reason for attending this open house?

Am Strongly opposed to solar farms in Glen. Wanted to see if there was any information which might change my mind. Am more strongly opposed than even

After attending this open house, do you have any remaining questions or feedback for the team?

If there is anything that the residents of Glen can do to stop this I will gladly do what I can!

Thank you for your feedback!