ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC

Mill Point Solar I Project

Matter No. 23-00034

§ 900-2.3 Exhibit 2

Overview and Public Involvement

REDACTED

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Glossary Terms

Applicant:	ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC (ConnectGen), a direct subsidiary of ConnectGen LLC, is the entity seeking a siting permit for the Facility from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) under Section 94-c of the New York State (NYS) Executive Law.
Facility:	The proposed components to be constructed for the generation, collection and distribution of energy for the Project will include: photovoltaic (PV) solar modules and their rack/support systems; direct current (DC) and communications cables connecting the panels to inverters; the inverters, with their support platforms, control electronics, and step-up transformers; buried alternate current (AC) medium voltage collector circuits; fencing and gates around each array of modules; access roads; temporary laydown/construction support areas; a medium voltage-to-transmission voltage substation with associated equipment and fenced areas; a new 3-breaker ring bus point of interconnection switchyard (POI switchyard); two adjacent approximately 305 foot-long 345 kV transmission line segments to interconnect the new POI switchyard to the existing National Grid Marcy – New Scotland 345-kilovolt transmission line; and an operations and maintenance (O&M) building with parking/storage areas as well as any other improvements subject to ORES jurisdiction.
Facility Site:	The tax parcels proposed to host the Facility, which collectively totals 2,665.59 acres.
Point of Interconnection (POI) or POI Switchyard:	A new 3-breaker ring bus point of interconnection switchyard will be constructed adjacent to the existing National Grid Marcy – New Scotland 345-kilovolt transmission line; the substation will tie into the new POI switchyard via an overhead span and deliver power produced from the Facility onto the electric grid through two overhead spans tapping the National Grid-owned Marcy – New Scotland 345-kV transmission line. The POI switchyard is located off Ingersoll Road in the northeastern portion of the Facility Site.

Limits of Disturbance (LOD):	The proposed limits of clearing and disturbance for construction of all Facility components and ancillary features are mapped as the LOD. The LOD encompasses the outer bounds of where construction may occur for the Facility, including all areas of clearing, grading, and temporary or permanent ground disturbance. This boundary includes the footprint of all major Facility components, defined work corridors, security fencing, and proposed planting modules, and incorporates areas utilized by construction vehicles and/or personnel to construct the Facility.
Project or Mill Point Solar I	Collectively refers to permitting, construction, and operation of the Facility, as well as proposed environmental protection measures and other efforts proposed by the Applicant.
Study Area:	In accordance with the Section 94-c Regulations, the Study Area for the Facility includes a radius of five miles around the Facility Site boundary, unless otherwise noted for a specific resource study or Exhibit. The 5-mile Study Area encompasses 96,784.84 acres, inclusive of the 2,665.59-acre Facility Site.

Acronym List

AC	Alternating current
APE	Area of potential effect
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BBS	Breeding bird surveys
CES	Clean Energy Standard
CLCPA	Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act
CRIS	Cultural Resource Information System
CWA	Clean Water Act
DC	Direct current
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
HCA	Host community agreement
HDD	Horizontal directional drilling
kV	Kilovolt
LOD	Limits of disturbance
MVA	Megavolt amperes
MW	Megawatt
NCBP	Net conservation benefit plan
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NOI	Notice of Intent to File an Application
NPCC	Northeast Power Coordinating Council
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NYCRR	New York Codes, Rules and Regulations
NYNHP	New York Natural Heritage Program
NYISO	New York Independent System Operator
NYS	New York State
NYSAGM	New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSDPS	New York State Department of Public Service
NYSM	New York State Museum
NYSRC	New York State Reliability Council
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OPRHP	Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
ORES	Office of Renewable Energy Siting
PILOT	Payment in lieu of taxes
POI	Point of Interconnection
PV	Photovoltaic
Q&A	Questions and answers
RTE	Rare, threatened, and endangered
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SEP	New York State Energy Plan
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan
SPDES	State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
SRHP	State Register of Historic Places
SSC	Species of special concern
STPs	Shovel test pits
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
T&E	Threatened and endangered
USCs	Uniform Standards and Conditions

USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VIA	Visual Impact Assessment
VIMMP	Visual Impacts Minimization and Mitigation Plan
VSA	Visual study area
WRS	Winter raptor surveys

EXHIBIT 2 OVERVIEW AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

2(a) Brief Description of the Proposed Project

ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC is proposing to develop and construct the Mill Point Solar I Project, a utility-scale solar facility (the Facility or Project) located in the Town of Glen, Montgomery County, New York (Figure 2-1). The Facility will be located on private land, to be leased or purchased by the Applicant, that is primarily rural in nature and will encompass approximately 2,665.59 acres (Facility Site), 1,074.51 acres of the Facility Site will occur within an agricultural style security fencing, and the Facility will be capable of generating up to 250 megawatts (MW) alternating current (AC) of photovoltaic (PV) clean, renewable energy (see Facility layout included in Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-1 (Design Drawings)). Proposed Facility components include utility-scale solar arrays, access roads, inverters, buried collection lines, a substation, a generation tie line and Point of Interconnection (POI) switchyard, fencing, an operations and maintenance building, temporary laydown areas, and visual screening plantings. The Applicant intends to construct, own, operate, and maintain all components of the Facility, aside from the POI switchyard, which will be owned and operated by National Grid.

The Facility is estimated to generate enough renewable energy to power approximately 65,000 New York State (NYS) households according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator (EPA 2023).[1] The Project is compatible with NYS policies mandating the generation of electricity from renewable energy, including the 2015 New York State Energy Plan (SEP), the Clean Energy Standard (CES), and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) of 2019. The Project aligns with the energy policies of NYS and will contribute to lowering greenhouse gas emissions, which directly aids in efforts to end climate change and improve overall environmental well-being. Exhibit 17 of this Application (Consistency with Energy Planning Objectives) includes further discussion of the Project's compatibility with state regulations and energy goals.

The solar module specification is included as Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-4 (Design Specification Sheets), and the solar array locations and related infrastructure are presented within Exhibit 5,

[1] According to a regional calculator, AVERT tool, the Facility will reduce CO2 emissions annually by 217,280 tons and generate enough energy to power 33,724 average homes annually in the United States. For more information, see Exhibit 17, Section 17(g).

Appendix 5-1 (Design Drawings). The substation and POI switchyard will accumulate the power generated from the solar modules via collection lines located throughout the Facility and deliver power to the transmission grid.

The Applicant designed the Facility Site through an iterative process, including careful consideration of avoidance and minimization of impacts across resource areas. Each Exhibit outlines specifics on the avoidance and minimization efforts for that specific resource area. Throughout Project development, the Applicant hosted seven (7) community meetings to share Project information with the local community. The Applicant or a representative on behalf of the Applicant, has attended monthly Town of Glen Town Board meetings since 2021. Based on local feedback, the Applicant reduced the Facility Site boundaries (see Appendix 2-1 for presentation materials at community meetings, which show Facility Site boundaries over time). Based on local community feedback, Facility components were completely removed from Facility Site parcels partially located in the Hamlet of Glen. Based on additional local community feedback, the Applicant removed a parcel adjacent to the historic Glen Village Cemetery and the Hamlet Zoning District from the Facility Site. Additionally, over the course of project development, the Applicant made several outreach efforts specifically to the local Amish community. Since the first Project community meeting in 2021, the Applicant has invited members of the local Amish community to these community meetings via mail. The Applicant published notice of the 2023 community meetings and the 60 day and 3 day public Notice[s] of Intent to File an Application (NOIs) in the local Amish newspaper, the Busy Beaver (see Appendix 2-2). Several members of the local Amish community have attended Project community meetings since 2021, and the Applicant hosted these meetings in areas where transportation was possible for the local Amish community, as detailed further below. With help from the Town of Glen Supervisor and a local consultant, the Applicant was able to meet in person with a leader in the Amish community in June 2023 to share a Project area map and proposed Project development timeline. The Applicant worked with and was available to stakeholders, including the local community, Town of Glen (Town) officials, and other local officials and agencies, early and often, throughout Project development. Appendix 2-3 (Project Coordination Log) lists this extensive outreach. In addition to the local community, the Applicant worked diligently with participating landowners on land use planning, which considered the future use of the Facility Site after decommissioning, as well as ensuring the continuance of active agriculture within the Facility Site, by applying panel exclusions areas.

The Applicant has been providing regular Project updates to the Town of Glen since 2020. The Applicant participated in the public comment period of two proposed local laws applicable to the

development of solar energy projects in the Town of Glen, first in 2020, and then again in 2022, when the Town adopted its most recent solar law (Exhibit 24, Appendix 24-3). The Applicant designed the Project to the Town of Glen's local law requirements to the maximum extent practicable, and the Project will comply with uniform standards and conditions (USCs) and setback requirements for Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) regulations.

The Applicant sited the Project with the intent of minimizing impacts across environmental resource areas while balancing the need to develop a renewable energy project that is efficient and that can produce renewable energy for NYS. Careful and iterative siting decisions were made by the Applicant with consideration for agricultural resources, forested areas, steep slopes, setbacks, stormwater, soils, cultural, wetlands, streams, and threatened and endangered species, among other resources and considerations described herein. Each impact in these areas of careful consideration was weighed and evaluated in concert with considerations for the direct impacts to, and the minimization of, other resource area impacts.

(1) Facility Components

Solar Arrays and Racking System: The Applicant intends to utilize a module similar to the LONGi LR5-72HBD 540W module with Anti-Reflection Coating. The Applicant proposes to install solar modules on a tracker racking system similar to the Nextracker Horizon NXT system, which will be installed with minimal ground disturbance via driven posts. Specification sheets for these module and racking systems are included as Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-4 (Design Specification Sheets). The maximum height of the solar array panels is anticipated to be approximately 10 feet (3.05 meters) from finished grade, inclusive of the racking system. This height is in accordance with Section 5(2)(a) of the Solar Energy Facilities Law of the Town of Glen (Town of Glen 2022) (herein referred to as 'Glen Solar Law').

Collection Lines: The 34.5 kilovolt (kV) collection lines will connect the solar arrays with the Project substation for delivery to the electric grid. Collection lines will be installed underground. All Facility collection lines will be underground. The generation tie line, from the substation to the POI switchyard, and two adjacent transmission line segments that interconnect the POI switchyard to the existing National Grid Marcy – New Scotland 345 kV transmission line will be aboveground and are detailed further below. Underground collection has been utilized to avoid and minimize environmental impacts. Specific installation methods, as well as collection line arrangement, are shown on the Design Drawings (Appendix 5-1).

Inverters: Inverters mounted on metal skids attached to driven post foundations will be located within the limits of disturbance (LOD), interspersed throughout the solar arrays. Their purpose is to convert direct current (DC) electricity generated by the solar modules into AC electricity. Cables from the solar modules are run to the inverters using underground collection lines. From the inverters, underground collection lines convey electricity to the Facility substation and ultimately to the existing electric transmission system. The inverters proposed for the Facility are Sungrow SG4400UD-MV and SG3300UD-MV inverters with 4.4 megavolt amperes (MVA) and 3.15MVA rating respectively.

Substation: The 34.5 kV collection lines within the Facility will gather power from the solar arrays and transport it to a new substation that will step up the voltage to 345 kV. The substation is approximately three acres in size and will be located adjacent to solar panels in the northeast corner of the Facility Site. Access to the substation will be via a new access road entering from Ingersoll Road. The substation will be owned by the Applicant.

Point of Interconnection Switchyard: The POI switchyard will be a new National Grid owned interconnection switchyard tied into the existing Marcy – New Scotland 345 kV Transmission Line, which is currently owned by National Grid and located just north of Ingersoll Road near the Town of Glen, New York. An aboveground generation tie line of approximately 1,300 feet will connect the substation and POI switchyard. Two adjacent approximately 305 foot-long 345 kV aboveground transmission line segments will interconnect the new POI switchyard to the existing National Grid Marcy – New Scotland 345 kV transmission line. Upon operation, the POI switchyard will be owned by National Grid. Additional details regarding the proposed Facility components to be installed are included in Exhibit 5.

Access Roads: Permanent 20 feet wide gravel access roads distributed throughout the Facility Site will be used to access solar arrays, transmission interconnection facilities, and ancillary equipment.

Fencing: Security perimeter fencing for the substation and POI switchyard will be installed around the immediate vicinity as required per regulatory standards. This fencing will consist of an eight-foot-tall chain-link fence with a one-foot-long extension arm for attachment of barbed wire, resulting in a total fence height of nine feet. A 15-foot-tall sound wall will partially surround the substation perimeter, replacing the security fencing on the South and East sides. The sound wall will also include a one-foot-long extension arm for attachment of barbed wire.

Fencing surrounding all other Facility components will consist of agricultural fencing with fixed-knot woven wire and evenly spaced galvanized (gray) metal posts. This agricultural fence shall measure a total height of 8 feet above ground level. In accordance with the Section 5(14) of the Glen Solar Law, the site will have a minimum of a seven-foot security fence around the Facility as a safety measure and to prevent unauthorized access and vandalism.

Sound Walls: Sound walls are proposed to partially surround select inverters and the substation. A sound wall equivalent to the Durisol Precast Noise Barrier will be used and surfaced with a comparable texture and color to the 1004B Natural Swatch, which resembles an earthy, natural tone. The heights of the sound walls vary between one to 12 feet depending on specific site conditions and performance criteria necessary to reduce noise. A specification sheet for the sounds walls is included as Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-4 (Design Specification Sheets).

Laydown Yard: Onsite temporary construction laydown yards will provide space for construction office trailers, parking, and equipment staging areas during the construction of the Facility. They will be removed once construction is complete.

Operations and Maintenance Building: The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) building is a standard metal building on concrete slab foundation co-located near the substation. This O&M building will house spare parts, onsite vehicles, and a space for onsite technicians to work. The location of this building is identified in Exhibit 5.

Landscaping/Visual Screening: The Facility Site will include over 17.02 miles of new visual screening plantings made up of 3 different “modules”. These modules contain mixes of native trees, shrubs, and pollinator grasses to provide different levels of vegetative screening to minimize or mitigate Facility visibility.

The definitions and descriptions noted above will be used throughout the Exhibits, Appendices, and Figures which make up the Section 94-c Application for the Mill Point Solar I Project. The following subsections include a material facts analysis which summarizes relevant sections of the Application and specific findings. This summary is intended to provide a clear, concise analysis of the potential impacts of the Facility to be considered by ORES when evaluating the suitability of issuing a siting permit for the Facility.

(2) Material Facts Analysis

As required under 19 New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 900-2.3, the Applicant has prepared the relevant and appropriate studies and analyses to inform the completion of the 25 Exhibits and associated figures and appendices which comprise this Application. These analyses were performed within the Facility Site as well as specified Study Area distances in accordance with Section 900-2.3 (five-mile radius of Facility Site unless otherwise noted). The results of the appropriate studies are summarized below and support approval of a siting permit for the Facility by ORES under Section 900-2.3.

As explained in the following sections, the Applicant has minimized, avoided, and mitigated impacts through careful Facility design and by adhering to the USCs (Subpart Section 900-6 of the Section 94-c Regulations). Per USC Section 900-6.5, the Facility will be inspected annually, and any equipment replacement or updates to interconnection/Facility agreements will be subject to review and approval of ORES. In addition, the Applicant will comply with all applicable regulations, rules, guidelines, and standards set forth by the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO), the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC), the New York State Reliability Council (NYSRC), and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). In the unlikely event of any incident related to Facility malfunction or interconnection issues, the Applicant will communicate with the New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS) Emergency Line, ORES, NYISO, and National Grid, as appropriate.

(3) Environmental Analysis

Ecology and Land Use: The Applicant performed multiple ecological analyses, onsite evaluations, and conducted desktop research to document and evaluate the ecology at the Facility Site, including review of vegetative communities, ecological cover types, potential wildlife habitat, wetlands and water resources, as well as land uses and zoning districts.

The Facility Site consists primarily of agricultural land, forestland, and developed land. Additionally, the Applicant identified and delineated onsite wetlands and streams, which included 111.14 acres of onsite wetlands and 82,121 linear feet of streams. Early field evaluations were used to inform preliminary siting efforts for the Facility, with an emphasis on avoiding unnecessary impacts to forested wetlands and uplands, scrub-shrub and emergent wetland communities, streams and ponds, as well as interior forest tracts and young successional forest areas. Facility components are primarily sited on land already disturbed

by agricultural activities and in areas preferred by landowners, where appropriate. The Applicant sited the Facility to avoid and minimize arrays located on soils classified as prime farmland by the United States Department of Agriculture to the maximum extent practicable. Within the Facility Site, there are 329.07 acres of prime farmland soils, or 12.35 percent of the Facility Site. The Applicant sited arrays on only 51.81 acres (or 15.74 percent) of prime farmland soils within the Facility Site – thereby, avoiding array panels on 277.26 acres or 84.26 percent of prime farmland soils within the Facility Site. In addition, the Applicant focused on siting panels on contiguous parcels to minimize fragmentation of habitats and land use types, avoid unnecessary interference with continuing agricultural operations, and reduce the total Facility footprint. As a result, the overall ecological impacts are limited to minor impacts to wetlands (potential impact to 0.78 acre of Federally jurisdictional wetlands, 0.63 acre of which are State-jurisdictional, with an additional impact to 1.59 acres of State jurisdictional adjacent areas) and clearing of 100.31 acres of forest. The Applicant identified areas where selective tree clearing could occur in wetlands and where stumps could remain in forest cleared areas to minimize the impacts to these communities. See Exhibit 11, Terrestrial Ecology and Exhibit 14, Wetlands for more details.

While 100.31 acres of tree clearing will be required to site Facility components, 425.11 acres of forestland will remain within the Facility Site following construction of the Facility. Tree clearing is focused on the edge of forest blocks to facilitate the siting of solar arrays. By focusing clearing efforts in these areas, fragmentation of forested habitat will be limited and impacts to forestland will not be widespread. In addition, the Applicant will leave existing hedgerows and vegetative barriers where possible, as well as stumps when applicable. Additional information regarding tree clearing can be found on Sheets MPS-C-101-01 through MPS-C-101-46 of the Design Drawings (Appendix 5-1).

Avoidance and minimization of impacts to vegetative communities and ecological communities onsite and offsite will also occur through implementation of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (included in Exhibit 13 [Water Resources and Aquatic Ecology], Appendix 13-3), Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction of solar facilities, the USCs associated with siting permits under Section 94-c, and implementation of an onsite Environmental Monitor during construction and restoration activities. The Facility will also employ an Agricultural Monitor to oversee construction activities in agricultural land and ensure compliance with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSAGM) *Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects - Construction Mitigation for Agricultural*

Lands (Revised October 18, 2019). Per USC Section 900-6.4(s)(1)(ii), the qualified Agricultural Monitor will be hired from a third party and will oversee compliance with agricultural conditions and requirements.

Per USC Section 900-6.4 (m), construction disturbances will not occur beyond the LOD; soil stabilization measures will be biodegradable; all vehicles and equipment will have a spill kit; construction debris will be disposed of appropriately; tree and vegetative clearing will be kept to a minimum and conducted consistent with relevant state and federal regulations; and trainings will be conducted to educate crews about invasive species, and how to report them to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Wetland and Water Resources: As noted above, the Facility has been designed to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and water resources, including streams, to the maximum extent practicable. As shown on the Design Drawings in Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-1, and discussed further in Exhibits 13 (Water Resources and Aquatic Ecology) and Exhibit 14 (Wetlands), impacts to State resources are limited to 0.63-acre impact to State wetlands and 1.59 acres of impact to State wetland adjacent areas, with no impacts to State streams. The need for aboveground crossings at State streams has been avoided through careful siting of Facility components and through implementation of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) in one location along Auries Creek, which includes the crossing of collection lines only, no roadways. Impacts to State wetlands are unavoidable in areas surrounding the substation and POI switchyard, as well as for an access road crossing a linear wetland feature in the Facility Site. Additional information on these impacts and avoidance measures taken are described in Exhibit 14, Wetlands. Due to these unavoidable impacts to wetlands onsite, the Facility will require compensatory mitigation. A Draft Wetland Mitigation Plan has been provided as Appendix 14-4.

To ensure the protection of water resources at the Facility Site and in the vicinity of the Facility, the Applicant will obtain a Water Quality Certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) prior to commencement of construction activities. As stated above, the Facility will also implement a SWPPP under the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit for Discharges from Construction Activity (General Permit; GP-0-20-001) to minimize the potential for offsite turbidity or discharges related to construction of the Facility (Exhibit 13, Appendix 13-3). In areas where construction has been completed, restoration will promptly commence in accordance with the General Permit requirements. In addition, the

Applicant will implement a Facility-specific Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) Plan to minimize the potential for the release of hazardous chemicals during construction and operation of the Facility.

Construction of the Facility will not require blasting, and no significant impacts to groundwater quality or quantity are anticipated. As part of the evaluation in Exhibit 13, the Applicant sent a water well survey to landowners within the Facility Site and those within 1,000 feet of the Facility to obtain information regarding the location, yield, use, and other information concerning well resources within their property. If applicable, the Applicant will conduct pre- and post-construction water well testing where required.

Per USC Section 900-6.4 (p), wetlands, waterbodies, and streams will be more than 100 feet from all concrete washouts and equipment storage, refueling, washing, maintenance, and repair; and more than 300 feet from all fuel or other chemical storage. In addition, all fill will be clean; turbid water will not be allowed to enter wetlands, waterbodies, or streams; and HDD will be employed to the extent practicable.

Per USC Section 900-6.4 (n)(2), no pier and post driving activities are proposed within 100 feet of any existing, active drinking water well, and the Applicant will engage a third party to conduct pre- and post-construction water quality testing per USC Section 900-6.4 (n)(iii), if applicable. All construction activities completed within wetlands or adjacent areas will adhere to the requirements set forth per USC Section 900-6.4 (q).

Wildlife and Habitat: Based on Facility-specific information received from the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP), NYSDEC, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and direct onsite observations, a list of state and federally listed species was compiled for those species that are believed to occur or have the potential to occur within the Facility Site and immediate vicinity. Site-specific information was requested from agencies to determine the presence of rare, threatened, and endangered (RTE) species, as well as species of special concern (SSC).

The Applicant performed the relevant field studies requested by the agencies to evaluate the potential for listed species and/or their habitat to exist onsite. As described in Exhibit 12 (NYS Threatened and Endangered Species), the Applicant conducted grassland breeding bird surveys (BBS) between May and July of 2021 and winter raptor surveys (WRS) from November 2020 to April 2021 and December 2021 to April 2022. Reports documenting the

findings and conclusions of field surveys are included as Appendices 12-2, 12-3, and 12-4, respectively.

During the BBS, **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** The BBS report was submitted to the NYSDEC and ORES on September 9, 2021.

During the WRS, **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** The 2020-2021 WRS report was submitted to the NYSDEC and ORES on May 20, 2021, and the 2021-2022 WRS report was submitted to the NYSDEC and ORES on June 1, 2022.

ORES determined on August 3, 2023, that a net conservation benefit plan (NCBP) was required for **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** as they could be adversely modified ("taken") by the Mill Point Solar I Project. The NCBP can be found in Exhibit 12, Appendix 12-6.

As described further in Exhibit 11 (Terrestrial Ecology), the Facility Site has the potential to support additional wildlife species beyond state and federally listed species. Impacts to these species and their habitats have been avoided and minimized to the extent practicable by focusing development efforts on previously disturbed agricultural areas; however, the Facility will result in some impacts to common wildlife species and their habitats through placement of Facility components, vegetative clearing, and fencing. Impacts are restricted to incidental injury and mortality due to various construction activities, temporary displacement due to

increased human activity during construction, and habitat disturbance and/or loss (including the loss of travel corridors) as a result of clearing, earth-moving, and siting of Facility components. The Facility is not expected to cause naturally occurring populations of common wildlife species to be reduced to numbers below levels for maintaining viability at local or regional levels.

The avoidance and/or minimization of Facility related impacts to NYS listed species will be accomplished through continued careful site design, implementation of BMPs, adherence to the USCs under Section 94-c, and construction monitoring. Site design practices avoid sensitive habitats by siting solar arrays primarily in agricultural fields, minimizing construction disturbances to the extent practicable, adhering to designated construction limits and species-specific time of year restrictions (as applicable), and avoiding off-limit sensitive areas. During construction and restoration, all observations of NYS threatened and endangered (T&E) species will be recorded in accordance with USC Section 900-6.4 (o)(7) and (8). Exhibit 12 includes further discussion of these studies and results.

(4) Public Health and Safety

The Facility is not expected to result in any public health or safety concerns since solar facilities do not pose significant risks to public health and safety. The Applicant proposes to install silicon-based PV panels. In silicon-based PV panels, the majority of the weight consists of tempered glass and an aluminum frame, both of which are common building materials. The tempered glass provides additional strength to the panel and in the event that a module is damaged, the panel is able to remain intact as one piece. The remainder of the panel is made up of commonly used polymer plastics designed to protect the panels and to connect the various components together, active silicon PV cells, glass frit, and an extremely thin antireflective coating made with aluminum and silver alloy. PV cells are nearly 100% silicon, an inert and stable element, with small amounts of boron and phosphorus added to generate a flow of electricity.

PV systems do not pose a viable fire safety hazard. The components of PV cells are largely inflammable and unable to self-support a fire. The only flammable components of the systems are the plastic polymers and the wire insulation. Heat from a small fire is not adequate to ignite a PV panel. Electrical failures, while rare, may be enough to start a fire but the Applicant intends to select, install, monitor, and maintain the PV system to ensure that it complies with fire-related codes and standards. Regular inspections for fire safety by onsite maintenance

personnel will occur throughout the Facility's operational life. While production of fossil fuels results in air emissions that can be detrimental to human health and the environment, solar facilities use the sun's rays to produce clean, renewable power without producing air emissions.

Public health issues associated with the construction of the Facility are limited to typical risks associated with commercial construction projects. While some emissions are expected during construction of the Facility (such as the generation of dust on dry days as well as the use of diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment and vehicles), BMPs will be employed to reduce impacts associated with these emissions to the extent practicable.

The Applicant has developed various health and safety plans to respond to any potential impacts to public health and safety that may occur during construction and operation. See Exhibit 6 (Public Health, Safety, and Security) for further discussion of public health, safety, and security. Visual and noise impacts are discussed in separate sections below.

Per USC Section 900-6.4 (a), construction and routine maintenance during operation of the Facility will be primarily limited to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays and national holidays. Per USC Section 900-6.4 (i), all mechanical equipment will be enclosed by fencing with a minimum height of seven feet, and a self-locking gate, in order to prevent unauthorized access. See Exhibit 6 (Public Health, Safety, and Security) for further discussion of public health, safety, and security. Visual and noise impacts are discussed in separate sections below.

(5) Cultural, Historic, and Recreational Resources

The Applicant consulted with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to develop the scope and methodology for cultural resource studies for the Mill Point Solar I Project. Based on the consultations with SHPO and the results of the architectural and archaeological surveys, the Facility will not result in an adverse effect to significant cultural or archeological resources, including potential visual impacts to aboveground historic properties. See Exhibit 9, Appendix 9-2 for the consultation letters with SHPO. See Exhibit 9 (Cultural Resources) for further discussion of cultural and historic resources.

A Phase IA Archaeological Study and Sensitivity Assessment was completed in March 2021. At the time of the Phase IA, **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted]

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Phase IB surveys were conducted in a series of site visits and mobilizations throughout 2021, 2022, and 2023, concurrent with evolving Facility design. In total, 11,840 shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated, resulting in the recovery of 1,009 artifacts from **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** The OPRHP responded regarding their findings on the Phase IB Report on July 24, 2023, indicating that "No further work is recommended for the **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** identified during the Phase IB survey. For Sites **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** we recommend that either documentation of avoidance or Phase II site evaluations are submitted to our office for review." The Phase IB survey was conducted prior to the definition of the final Facility Site for Mill Point Solar I. The Phase IB survey area encompassed additional lands outside of the final Facility Site. Of the sites identified for avoidance, the following are within the Mill Point Solar I Facility Site: **BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION <** [redacted] **> END CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** site. The Applicant designed the Facility with avoidance of the recommended sites and a 50-foot buffer. Engineering plans illustrating the avoidance of the recommended sites and the 50-foot buffer were submitted to OPRHP on November 16, 2023. An additional Phase IB survey was conducted in July 2023 and results indicated that no archaeological resources were recorded as part of the addendum Phase IB survey. The Phase IB archaeological survey report addendum was submitted to OPRHP on November 21,

2023; OPRHP issued a letter on December 22, 2023, stating that no properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, listed in or eligible for the New York State Register of Historic Places (SRHP) or NRHP will be Adversely Impacted by this Project with the condition that the Archaeological Site Avoidance Plan (TRC, December 12, 2023) is adhered to.

Both the Phase IA and IB assessments are included in Exhibit 9 (Cultural Resources), Appendix 9-1. Further discussion of these findings is included within Exhibit 9.

A Historic Architectural Survey and Effects Report field work was conducted in October 2021 and the report was finalized in October 2022. Results from the Historic Architectural Survey and Effects Report indicated that of the 130 architectural properties aged 50 years or older in the area of potential effect (APE), 87 are recommended not eligible for NRHP listing due to loss of integrity and/or lack of architectural or historical significance and 43 properties are NRHP listed, previously determined NRHP-eligible, and consultant-recommended NRHP-eligible historic properties within the APE. Of the 43 sites, 9 are SRHP/NRHP listed, 13 have been determined eligible for NRHP listing by the OPRHP before the survey, 21 are recommended eligible by the consultant contracted by the Applicant. The OPRHP responded regarding their findings on the Historic Architectural Survey and Effects Report on July 14, 2023, indicated that “OPRHP has no above ground concerns, as the solar array visibility from the Glen Historic District will be limited.” The Historic Architectural Survey and Effects Report is included in Exhibit 9 (Cultural Resources), Appendix 9-3. Further discussion of these findings is included within Exhibit 9.

The Glen Village Cemetery is located south of the Facility Site on Logtown Road. The Applicant was planning to site solar panels on Parcel ID 84.-1-8.11, which is adjacent to the Glen Village Cemetery. After receiving feedback from the local community on the proximity of this parcel to the Glen Village Cemetery and Hamlet Zoning District, the Applicant removed this parcel from the Facility Site, and also removed Facility components from portions of other Facility Site parcels partially inside the Hamlet Zoning District, in order to minimize Facility impacts to the Glen Historic District and Hamlet Zoning District.

If unanticipated archaeological resources are encountered during construction, the Facility’s Unanticipated Discovery Plan (Exhibit 9, Appendix 9-6) will include provisions to stop all work in the vicinity of the archaeological finds until those resources can be evaluated and

documented by an archaeologist. With the adoption of these measures and based on continued consultation with the SHPO, the proposed Facility is not anticipated to impact any significant archaeological resources.

The Applicant has developed a Landscape Plan for the Facility, included as Appendix 5-2, to minimize and mitigate the Facility's visual effects to cultural, historic, and recreational resources. While the planting modules were not designed to completely screen views of the proposed Facility, the introduction of native tree and shrub mixes interspersed with a pollinator seed mix planted along the Facility's perimeter fence, some of which is co-located alongside public roadsides adjacent to the Facility, will present natural forms and colors to divert attention from the modern materials and inorganic forms of the PV panel arrays. In addition to aesthetic benefits, these plantings are anticipated to provide habitat for pollinators and wildlife.

Per USC Section 900-6.4 (u), the Applicant will develop a Cultural Resources Avoidance, Minimization and Mitigation Plan as part of a pre-construction filing. This plan will demonstrate the minimization or mitigation of Facility construction and operation impacts to cultural resources, however based on the findings statement dated December 22, 2023, mitigation is not expected to be required.

(6) Transportation

Virtually all the traffic-related impacts associated with the Facility will occur during the site preparation and construction phase when there will be a temporary increase in vehicle traffic on area roadways. Impacts to local traffic during construction will be minimized by queuing delivery trucks at an offsite location and chauffeuring delivery trucks into the site by site management in a controlled manner. Once the Facility is commissioned and construction activities are concluded, traffic associated with Facility operation will be negligible and limited to occasional trips associated with routine maintenance activities (see Exhibit 16, Effect on Transportation, for additional information).

(7) Communication

An analysis of the Facility's potential to interfere with broadcast patterns, lines-of-sight, underground utilities, or co-located lines was conducted.

The Facility is not expected to have any adverse impact on major communication systems such as aboveground or underground utility lines or fiber optic lines. The Applicant's onsite communications system will be inspected and maintained throughout the life of the Facility and provide information to the ConnectGen Control Center. See Exhibit 20 (Effect on Communications) for further discussion of communications.

(8) Noise

A study was conducted to confirm that noise and vibrational impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the Facility will not exceed the design goals listed within Section 900-2.8(b)(2) of the 94-c regulations.

In order to meet these requirements, the Applicant proposed mitigation in the form of sound walls around select inverters and at the substation. Adverse noise impacts were minimized through careful siting of Facility components. The sound emitted by a solar project is limited to daytime periods only for the majority of the components. In accordance with USC Section 900-6.4(k), functioning mufflers will be maintained on all transportation and construction machinery, noise and vibration complaints will be addressed in accordance with the complaint resolution protocol, and the Facility will comply with local laws, as applicable. See Exhibit 7 (Noise and Vibration) for further discussion of noise impacts from the Project.

(9) Visual

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) was conducted to determine the extent and significance of visibility of the Facility. The VIA includes an identification of visually sensitive resources, viewshed mapping, results of field review, visual simulations (photographic overlays), and proposed visual impact mitigation. In addition, a Visual Impacts Minimization and Mitigation Plan (VIMMP) is included as part of the VIA in Exhibit 8, Appendix 8-1. The VIMMP includes a Landscape Mitigation Planting Plan to mitigate views of the Facility from specific viewpoints (including historic sites), a Lighting Plan for the Facility, and a Glare Analysis Report.

As described in Exhibit 8, Visual Impacts, the solar array viewshed analysis presented in Figure 4 of the VIA in Exhibit 8, Appendix 8-1, indicates that some visibility of the proposed solar arrays and supporting infrastructure is expected within the visual study area (VSA). These data suggest that less than one percent of predicted visibility may occur in sensitive locations, such as developed areas (villages, residential, commercial, etc.), open areas (parks, cemeteries, greenspace, etc.) and rivers (Mohawk River and Schoharie Creek).

Overall, less visibility will occur on non-participating properties than on participating properties. Additionally, a Glare Analysis (Exhibit 8, Appendix 8-1, Attachment 6C) was conducted to evaluate the potential effects of solar array glint and glare. According to the results of the Glare Analysis, residences, and roadways in vicinity to the Facility will not be impacted. Overall, the results from VIA indicate that, although nearby locations are anticipated to have moderately strong views of the Facility, the Facility will not detract from any significant unique or scenic visual landscape. Moreover, the VIA indicates that, at locations where the existing landscape has moderate scenic quality, the Facility's visual contrast is not expected to detract from existing views.

See Exhibit 8 for further discussion of visual impacts from the Facility.

2(b) Brief Description of the Public Involvement Program

Since the spring of 2021, the Applicant has been working to inform the local community about the proposed Facility. This involvement with the local community includes attending monthly Town and Planning Board meetings since fall of 2021, working with landowners directly involved with the Facility, and informing the general public in the local community through widely noticed community meetings. The Applicant also outreached to the Amish community within the Facility Site, to local emergency responders, and to Town municipal officers. This early and extensive outreach effort highlights the Applicant’s commitment to balance the needs of the local community with providing a high-quality renewable energy source to NYS.

The Applicant has identified stakeholder groups and individuals with a potential interest in the Facility (Appendix 2-4). Consultation with stakeholders through various forms of public outreach provides a platform for an open dialogue between the Applicant and the community. It also provides a mechanism to distribute Facility information, discuss potential avoidance and minimization efforts, and to solicit local input from the various stakeholders. Consistent effort has been applied to ensuring stakeholders have an opportunity to communicate concerns and questions regarding the Facility and its impacts on the community.

The Applicant took extra steps to provide the local Amish community the opportunity to attend the community meetings, while respecting their values and guidelines. The Applicant worked to provide an equal opportunity for the Amish community to attend the community meetings by providing copies of meeting notices at the Town Hall and via mail. Furthermore, the Applicant hosted these meetings within the Facility Site (Eion’s Hideaway) to accommodate access within

the Amish communities' transportation requirements. The Applicant published notices of the 2023 pre-application community meetings, and the 60 day and 3 day public NOIs in the local Amish newspaper, the Busy Beaver (see Appendix 2-2). On June 20, 2023, the Applicant met with a leader in the Amish community to discuss the Facility, solicit Amish community feedback, and review the draft Facility Site map that was shown at the community meetings in May 2023. The Applicant noted to the Amish community leader that the Town of Glen Supervisor offered to be and could be used as a communication liaison between the Amish community and the Applicant for feedback on or questions about the Facility, given the lack of Amish community use of phone or e-mail communication. A copy of this 94-c application, once submitted, will be made available at the Town of Glen offices in Fultonville, NY, and/or the Frothingham Free Library in adjacent Fonda, NY, as permitted by the relevant officials.

The proposed Facility is not anticipated to have a significant impact on nearby communities and surrounding landscapes, as it will be relatively low in height, will not emit air or water pollution, will have no odors, and potential noise generated by the solar array would only be present during daylight hours since the Facility does not operate at night. The Facility will use a variety of fencing, screening, and landscape strategies to preserve existing viewsheds and maintain the rural character of the surrounding area. Additionally, as detailed extensively above, the Applicant has conducted various surveys throughout the 94-c process to assess environmental and community impacts, as well as aesthetic and visual impacts to the area surrounding the Facility Site.

Construction of the Facility is expected to produce minimal traffic, which will occur only during construction periods. The Facility will support stakeholders and the local community by generating clean, renewable energy and enhancing economic development. Specifically, the region will benefit economically from the construction and operation and maintenance jobs, as well as expenditures for supplies and materials, lease payments to participating landowners, and tax payments to local communities. These transactions will directly contribute millions of dollars to the Town of Glen, Montgomery County, and to school districts in the form of a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement and/or host community agreement (HCA). For more information on the local economic benefits from the Facility, see Exhibit 18, Socioeconomic Effects.

Materials to encourage public involvement throughout the 94-c process such as fact sheets, presentations from meetings with Town officials and open house events, and educational materials are included on the Project website (https://www.millpointsolari.com/). Updates to public involvement materials occurring after the application filing with ORES will be posted on the Project

website throughout the 94-c process (see Exhibit 1, Section 1(b)). Information regarding intervenors seeking funds from the local agency account was presented during the 2023 community meetings, in the 60 day and 3 day public NOIs, and can be found online on the Project website.

The Applicant maintained a Project Coordination Log throughout the development of the 94-c permit application, which lists the coordination and outreach efforts conducted for the Mill Point Solar I Project. The Project Coordination Log is available in Appendix 2-3.

The following sections further describe the Applicant's local engagement and public outreach efforts under the Section 94-c process.

(1) Local Agencies

As required in Section 900-1.3(a) of the Section 94-c Regulations, the Applicant met with local agencies ahead of the submittal of this Application. Specifically, the Applicant met with local Town officials on May 9, 2023, to discuss the Facility component locations, share a viewshed analysis and visual impact areas, transportation haul routes, local law compliance or areas where the Applicant will be requesting a waiver from the local law and why, as well as economic benefits that are anticipated. Meeting materials from the Town consultation meetings are included in Appendix 2-5.

The Applicant also met with the Montgomery County Executive on April 8, 2021 and May 19, 2023, to discuss the Facility and provide the County with information regarding the Facility and its benefits. Following the meeting on May 19, 2023, the County Executive requested additional details related to the Facility, which the Applicant provided on June 15, 2023. Meeting materials from the County consultation meetings are included in Appendix 2-6.

On September 13, 2022, the Applicant met and consulted with the Superintendent of the Fonda-Fultonville Central School District to share an overview of the Project, the Project timeline, and the Project permitting plan, as well as to discuss a contemplated PILOT agreement with the school. Meeting materials from the school district consultation meeting are included in Appendix 2-7.

On October 25, 2022, the Applicant met with the Town of Glen Volunteer Fire Department to introduce the Applicant, the Project, and share typical solar energy project components and design, as well as review the stages of construction for a solar project. On February 2, 2023,

the Applicant also met with the Town of Glen Volunteer Fire Department and provided information regarding project design including Facility layout, fence line, fire access roads and turnaround widths, and fire breaks and buffers. Meeting materials from the fire department consultation meetings are included in Appendix 2-8. Once the Facility design was further along, the Applicant consulted with the Town of Glen Volunteer Fire Department on October 13 and 19, 2023 via phone to discuss the Facility design and share the Mill Point Solar I Safety Response Plan and Site Security Plan (Exhibit 6, Appendices 6-2 and 6-1, respectively), which were shared with the fire department via e-mail.

In addition, representatives from ConnectGen have been regularly attending Town and Planning Board meetings since 2021 and have been available to provide the Town with Facility updates and information as they became available. Specifically, the Applicant provided a Facility update at the Town Planning Board meetings in the spring of 2022 and at Town Board meetings on June 13, 2022, July 11, 2022, September 12, 2022, and April 10, 2023. The Applicant also provided the Town Board with comments and input on the Town's 2022 Solar Law in July 2022 when the Town was considering adopting the new law.

(2) Community Members

Several community meetings have been held throughout the pre-application phase of the Project as required in Section 900-1.3(b) of the Section 94-c Regulations. Community members were invited to attend the virtual community meeting for the Project on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, and in-person meetings were held on August 11, 2021 November 17, 2021; and May 9 and 10, 2023.

Virtual Meeting: April 14, 2021

This community meeting was provided as a Zoom (virtual) meeting due to travel and gathering restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic. Details about the meeting were listed on the Mill Point Solar I Project website as well as published in other community resources: Amsterdam Recorder, Daily Gazette, and the Leader Herald. Invitations were mailed two weeks in advance of the meeting to all landowners and residents within one mile of the Facility Site as it was defined at the time of the meeting. Community notices and their associated affidavits are provided in Appendix 2-2. Approximately 80 people attended the virtual community meeting. The purpose of the virtual community meeting was to introduce ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC and the Project to the local community, to provide information on

the NYS 94-c permitting process, to inform the community about next steps in Facility development, and to inform the community about how to get involved, including intervenor funding. During the meeting, community members raised questions regarding Facility Site and final design, Facility setbacks from roads and adjacent land parcels, Facility decommissioning, and visual impacts. See Appendix 2-1 for the Mill Point Solar I Project Virtual Meeting PowerPoint. Within the Town of Glen there is an Amish community who was not able to attend the virtual community meeting due to cultural restrictions. In response, the Applicant provided hard copies of presentation materials to the Town offices so that this community could gather information on the Project in a meaningful way. A full summary of community questions and the Applicant's answers is available on the Project website and is included in Appendix 2-1.

Although the Applicant heard concerns from the local community that Amish community members could not join this specific virtual meeting, COVID and travel restrictions did not allow for in person meetings at this time. However, once COVID and travel restrictions were lifted, the Applicant conducted seven additional in-person community meetings, including two within the Facility Site so the Amish community could attend.

In-Person Open House Meeting: August 11, 2021

On August 11, 2021, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Eion's Hideaway Pavilion, 212 Mary's Lane, Fultonville, NY 12072, the Applicant held two separate, identical sessions of the community meeting for members of the public to learn more about the Facility, the Section 94-c permitting process, the Application, including the anticipated Application filing date and information regarding the future availability of local agency account funds pursuant to 19 NYCRR Section 900-5.

Details about the meeting were listed on the Mill Point Solar I Project website as well as published in other community resources: Amsterdam Recorder, Daily Gazette, and the Leader Herald. Invitations were mailed two weeks in advance of the meeting to all landowners and residents within one mile of the Facility Site as it was defined at the time of the meeting and State Legislators, Town Supervisor, County Executive and the Town and County Planning Boards. Community notices and their associated affidavits are provided in Appendix 2-2. Approximately 98 people attended the community meeting. During the meeting, community members asked questions regarding Facility Site and final design, Facility setbacks from roads and adjacent land parcels, Facility decommissioning, and visual impacts. In addition to community members asking questions, participating landowners attended this meeting and

spoke with their neighbors about the reason why they were supportive of the Project and their business decision to participate in the Project. See Appendix 2-1 for the Mill Point Solar I Project Boards, presentation materials, and comment cards. A full summary of the presentation provided at the community meeting is located on the Project website and included in Appendix 2-1. The Applicant has provided paper copies of all documents presented at the community meetings at the Glen Town Hall, to provide hard copy access for members that did not attend the meetings or cannot access the project website, including members of the Amish community.

In Person Open House Meeting: November 17, 2021

On November 17, 2021 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Eion's Hideaway Pavilion, 212 Mary's Lane, Fultonville, NY 12072, ConnectGen held an open house, breakout sessions and a presentation with a question and answer (Q&A) section for members of the public to learn more about the Facility, the Section 94-c permitting process, the application, including the anticipated application date and information regarding the future availability of local agency account funds pursuant to 19 NYCRR Section 900-5.

Details about the meeting were listed on the Mill Point Solar I Project website as well as published in other community resources: Amsterdam Recorder, Daily Gazette, and the Leader Herald. Invitations were mailed two weeks in advance of the meeting to all landowners and residents within one mile of the Facility Site as it was defined at the time of the meeting and State Legislators, Town Supervisor, County Executive and the Town and County Planning Boards. Community notices and their associated affidavits are provided in Appendix 2-2. Approximately 68 people attended the community meeting. During the meeting, community members asked questions regarding Facility Site and final design, Facility setbacks from roads and adjacent land parcels, Facility decommissioning, water well impacts, and visual impacts. In addition to community members asking questions, participating landowners attended this meeting and spoke with their neighbors about the reason why they were supportive of the Project and their business decision to participate in the Project. Some community members showed anger to the participating landowners during this meeting for stealing their view of farmland, however, the participating landowners were able to remind the community members that solar isn't the only choice they have to develop their land and they were able to speak as neighbors and help the community understand their decisions and how they considered their neighbors in making the decision to develop their land a certain way.

See Appendix 2-1 for the Mill Point Solar I Project Boards, presentation materials, Q&A notes, and comment cards. A full summary of the presentation provided at the community meeting is located on the Project website and included in Appendix 2-1. The Applicant has provided paper copies of all documents presented at the community meetings at the Glen Town Hall, to provide hard copy access for members that did not attend the meetings or cannot access the project website, including members of the Amish community.

In Person Open House Meeting: May 9, 2023

On May 9, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Scott Hall, Fonda Fairgrounds, 21 Bridge St. South, Fonda, NY 12068, ConnectGen held an open house, posterboard session for members of the public to learn more about the Project, the Section 94-c permitting process, and the Application, including sharing the most recent Facility design, anticipated Application submittal date and information regarding the future availability of local agency account funds pursuant to Section 900-5 of the Section 94-c regulations.

Details about the meeting were listed on the Mill Point Solar I Project website as well as published in other community resources: Amsterdam Recorder, Daily Gazette, Busy Beaver, and the Leader Herald. Invitations were mailed two weeks in advance of the meeting to all landowners and residents within one mile of the Facility Site as it was defined at the time of the meeting and State Legislators, Town Supervisor, County Executive and the Town and County Planning Boards. Community notices and their associated affidavits are provided in Appendix 2-2. Approximately 50 people (a mix of the general public and participating landowners) attended the community meeting. During the meeting, community members asked questions regarding Facility Site and final design, wildlife impacts, water well impacts, Facility decommissioning, and visual impacts. At this meeting, participating landowners continued to have cordial conversations with their neighbors on their commitment to the Project. See Appendix 2-1 for the Mill Point Solar I Project Boards, presentation materials, Q&A notes, and comment cards. A full summary of the presentation provided at the community meeting is located on the Project website and included in Appendix 2-1. The Applicant has provided paper copies of all documents presented at the community meetings at the Glen Town Hall, to provide hard copy access for members that did not attend the meetings or cannot access the project website, including members of the Amish community.

In Person Open House Meeting: May 10, 2023

On May 10, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Eion's Hideaway Pavillion, 214 Marys Lane, Fultonville, NY 12072, ConnectGen held an open house, posterboard session for members of the public to learn more about the Project, the Section 94-c permitting process, the application, including sharing the most recent engineering design, anticipated application date and information regarding the future availability of local agency account funds pursuant to Section 900-5 of the 94-c regulations.

Details about the meeting were listed on the Mill Point Solar I Project website as well as published in other community resources: Amsterdam Recorder, Daily Gazette, Busy Beaver, and the Leader Herald. Invitations were mailed two weeks in advance of the meeting to all landowners and residents within one mile of the Facility Site as it was defined at the time of the meeting and State Legislators, Town Supervisor, County Executive and the Town and County Planning Boards. Community notices and their associated affidavits are provided in Appendix 2-2. Approximately 30 people (a mix of general public and participating landowners) attended the community meeting. During the meeting, community members asked questions regarding Facility Site and final design, wildlife impacts, Facility decommissioning, and visual impacts. Again, at this meeting, participating landowners continued to have cordial conversations with their neighbors on their commitment to the Project. See Appendix 2-1 for the Mill Point Solar I Project Boards, presentation materials, Q&A notes, and comment cards. A full summary of the presentation provided at the community meeting is located on the Project website and included in Appendix 2-1. The Applicant has provided paper copies of all documents presented at the community meetings at the Glen Town Hall, to provide hard copy access for members that did not attend the meetings or cannot access the project website, including members of the Amish community.

In addition to the seven community meetings hosted by ConnectGen, the Applicant has a Project-specific website (https://www.millpointsolari.com/), an email address (info@millpointsolar.com) and a toll-free number (866-203-1118) to allow the public to provide any questions or comments. The Applicant has provided paper copies of all documents presented at the community meetings at the Town of Glen Town Hall. Electronic copies of major Project documents are on the Project's website.

From the outset of Project development, the Applicant adhered to the requirements for public outreach, as outlined in the Section 94-c regulations, and also went beyond the regulatory

requirements by hosting seven (7) community meetings, attending Town Board meetings for 3 years, and regularly communicating with applicable local, Town, and County agencies and officials throughout the development stage and pre-application phase of the Project. The Applicant has appreciated the feedback and open communication from the local community, including the Town of Glen. The local community's feedback and concerns have been reflected in the siting of the Project, including the Project adhering to a change in the local solar laws (see Exhibit 24), and the relocation of Facility components away from publicly identified important resources (e.g. the Glen Village Cemetery). The Project feedback received from the local community was taken into consideration and is reflected in the final Facility design in Exhibit 5, Appendix 5-1 through 5-3. Directly, and through the Project website and phone number, the Applicant will continue to work, coordinate, and communicate with the local community and the Town going forward, through the post-application, construction, and operation phases of the Project, according to the Section 94-c regulations.

2(c) References

EPA. 2023. Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. Available at: https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator#results. Accessed September 2023.