

Agenda:

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Act 250/Section 248 Committee

4:30 pm January 7, 2016

1. Call to Order

2. Informal presentation and Q/A on the GMP websites solar map which shows solar installation locations and transmission capacity for the State of VT. The committee has requested a representative from GMP to try to explain what the map is intending to show and how the committee should use it in their reviews.

3. Application reviews:

Review of BDE New Haven Lazar Solar, LLC proposal to construct a 500kw solar array off Rte 17 in New Haven. This project was reviewed in its 45 day status on 12/3. The subsequent application clarifies what screening will be removed and what is proposed to add to the project to reduce visibility. In the hedgerow that is currently located between the project and Rte 17, the applicant proposes to remove all trees taller than 20' and maintain a 20' height. Additional screening will be added to the south and east to reduce the adverse impacts of the project from those vectors. Staff finds that the aesthetics as proposed will likely screen the project adequately. (45 day letter sent 10/31/2015)

4. 45 Day Notice reviews:

BDE North Ferrisburgh Lazar Solar, LLC proposal to construct a 500kw solar array northwest of Pierce Lane in the Town of Ferrisburgh. The project is expected to impact 4 acres of a 175 acre parcel in North Ferrisburgh. The project appears to be well screened by existing trees which are not proposed to be removed. There will likely be limited visibility from Rte 7 from the northeast at a distance of approximately 1500 ft. It appears that the project is well sited from an aesthetics standpoint. No action recommended by staff beyond the standard letter. (45 day notice sent 12/23/15)

West Addison GLC Solar LLC 500 kw solar array proposed for 4375 Lake St in Addison. This project is proposed for the corner of Atherton Rd and Lake St. It will occupy approximately 4 acres of a 10 acre parcel currently used to grow soybeans. The site appears to be well screened from the north and plantings are proposed for the west, south and east sides of the project. The project will be visible from Lake St, Jersey St. Atherton Rd. and Rte 17. This project bears watching to see what is proposed in the way of additional plantings. (45 day letter sent 12/23/15)

Vorsterveld GLC Solar LLC is a 500kw array proposed for 4530 Jersey St in Panton. The project is proposed for 4.5 acres of a 608 acre property across the street from the Vorsterveld farm complex. The site is currently wooded and bounded east and west by class 2 wetlands. An initial review on google earth seems to show that the project will be essentially not visible due to terrain. This appears to be well

sited and staff will review the application in more depth once it is presented. (45 day letter sent 12/23/15)

L.K. Holdings is proposing a 500kw solar site on a 29 acre parcel on the corner of Leicester/Whiting Rd and Sawyer/Needham Rd in Whiting. The project will be visible for approximately 1/3 mile along S/N Rd and more scattered along the L/W Rd. This will be a very visible site and will be difficult to screen adequately. Staff recommends that the committee reserve judgment until a final design showing proposed screening is submitted. (45 Day Letter sent 12/23/15)

Crawford Solar LLC is being proposed for 324 Leicester/Whiting Rd. in Whiting. The array is proposed to be 4 acres in a 200 acre lot. As sited, the array is well screened from the north and east by hills. It will be intermittently visible from the west along the L/W Rd and Rte 30. Project appears to be well sited and takes surrounding features into consideration for natural screening. Staff recommends that the actual application be reviewed once it is submitted but that this is likely a good project given committee standards. (45 Day letter sent 12/23/15)

BDE Ferrisburgh Lazar Solar LLC is a 500kw solar array proposed for 4 acres of a 114 acre site at 3980 Rte 7 in Ferrisburgh. The site will not be visible directly from Rte 7 to the west and will be quite a distance from other viewpoints. Staff believes that, based on the preliminary information, there will be little or no aesthetic impacts from this array. A final review will be needed once an application is submitted. (45 Day Letter sent 12/23/15)

#### 5. Correspondence:

ACRPC has received copies of testimony on three additional projects that are in the 150kw range. The commission is not one of the organizations required to receive notice and applications for these. Sun CSA 22 proposed for 1217 South Street in New Haven, Sun CSA 63 proposed for 601 Sawyer Rd in New Haven and Sun CSA 69 proposed for 955 Hallock Rd in New haven are all on the docket of the PSB. In each of these, the Town of New Haven has submitted testimony requesting a public hearing and Sun CSA 63 has an additional intervener request from a party having a legal interest in the septic capacity of the lot.

#### 6. Other Business

#### 7. Adjourn