

Agenda:

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

Act 250/Section 248 Committee

4:30 pm July 7, 2016

1. Call to Order

2. Section 248 Application reviews:

On June 28th Meadow Glen Solar LLC submitted an application for a 500kw solar installation to be located off Meadow Glen Drive in Middlebury. This project is located east of Creek Road in Middlebury on lands owned by Middle Road Ventures LLC. There appears to already be one solar installation located near or on the same property. The project will be most visible from Creek Road and 3 Mile Bridge Road and plantings are proposed which are unlikely to screen that view. ACRPC has heard nothing from the Town of Middlebury either in support of or opposed to this project.

On June 20th LK Holdings LLC submitted a new 45 Day notice for its 500kw net metered solar facility off Sawyer Needham and Whiting Roads in the Town of Whiting. This is a second filing of this notice based on changes to the original proposal which was modified to take into account comments received from the original proposal. The Town of Whiting has been quite involved since the original 45 day notice. This proposal attempts to reduce the local opposition to the project. Ellen will hopefully be able to give us her read on the current proposal.

3. Other Section 248 updates:

On May 23rd ACRPC received notice of a request to amend CPG #NM-1516 which permitted two wind turbines in the Town of Cornwall off Lemon Fair Road. The amendment is requesting to remove one of the turbines and relocate the other by the new property owner. The move has been objected to by a neighbor because it will be more visible from their property.

SunEdison Origination 1 LLC previously proposed a 347 kw group net metered solar array to be located at 690 Rte 73 in the Town of Orwell. This will be the second array located on this property and though it will be located further away and less visible than the first, there have been a few objections due to the cumulative impacts of the second project.

The Town of Pantton has come to agreement with GMP to accept the proposed solar array of Pantton Road in exchange for certain upgrades and benefits for the town. Among other items, GMP is proposing to provide energy efficiency assistance to all residents and to the town properties. ACRPC was involved in reviewing this project and supported the town as an interested party. This appears to be a win-win for the town.

The Next Generation Soar project proposed for Field Days Road in New Haven continues to be contentious with the town and neighbors battling the project based on aesthetics, wildlife habitat and

the town's town plan which recommends solar installations limited to 300kw or less. This project is proposed for 2.2 mw on 20 acres. Members of the committee have previously attended site visits and have agreed that the project will be visible from both Field Days Rd and Rte 17. The visibility can be lessened with appropriate screening.

3. Act 250 Applications and determinations:

Heffernan Brothers Aggregate LLC – Application was received on April 26th for expansion of a currently permitted sand, gravel, and quarrying operation off Hardscrabble Rd in Bristol. The applicant has provided additional information requested by the Act 250 coordinator on noise levels. The committee previously took no action on this application.

David Hunt and Charlene Collins have been issued a Land Use Permit to construct an ancillary structure on their property to house a rug fabrication business. This project is located East of Rte #7 just south of the junction of 7 & 22A in Ferrisburgh. The committee took no action on this application.

The necessity of the expansion of the Middlebury Airport has come into question. It appears that there are no actual "safety requirements" that the runway be lengthened. Opponents are concerned about additional traffic and noise as well as an increased potential for contamination of the aquifer located under the property.

4. Other news:

S260 was passed during the legislature's veto session as a modification to the original S230. It allows for increased input by towns and regional commissions provided that they have plans which have been accepted by either the region or the Public Service Dept. The standards for these acceptable plans will be made available prior to the end of 2016. Without any standards, we will not be able to discuss this new law in any detail but we should probably conduct a quick overview anyway.

5. Other Business

6. Adjourn