



SPRING 2022

Project Updates: Permitting

Ridge View Solar Energy Center is currently undergoing winter raptor studies and will continue to do so until March. Geotechnical work to study soil conditions and assess project foundation design, was conducted in the area in late 2021 and fieldwork was completed in January 2022. EDFR will continue to progress on permitting and environmental studies as we move through 2022.



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Ridge View Solar Energy Center is currently awaiting results from the 2021 NYSEDA Tier 1 Renewable Energy Solicitation. This is the program that contracts large-scale renewable energy projects in New York, enabling them to have the economic certainty to be realized. We will continue to keep the community notified as we learn more of the status. NYSEDA is expected to hold another solicitation next year. Should Ridge View Solar not be successful in the 2021 solicitation, it could apply again later this year.

CONTINUING THROUGH 2022

Permitting, design,
and community
engagement



2023

State and local
review of
permit application



LATE 2023/2024

Compliance filings and
submission of final
design for approval



LATE 2025

Operation
begins



LATE 2022

State permitting
application submitted



LATE 2023

State permit
approved



2024-2025

Project construction
begins

SOLAR FUN FACT: Sun, Sun, Sun

More energy from the sun shines onto earth in one hour than the whole world consumes each year!

To break it down: “Each hour 430 quintillion Joules of energy from the sun hits the Earth. That’s 430 with 18 zeroes after it! In comparison, the total amount of energy that all humans use in a year is 410 quintillion Joules.”

Source: <https://bit.ly/potentialofsolar>



Large-Scale Solar Agrivoltaic Study - Town of Mount Morris-Livingston County



Source: <https://bit.ly/AgrivoltaicReport>

Supporting the Community

We are soliciting interest from members of the community to participate in conversations to discover feasible options for co-locating agriculture within the project. While sheep grazing and bee foraging have been studied and successfully integrated into numerous projects, we strive to continue to find other ways to maximize the potential for dual use of the lands. New pilot projects and information on the benefits of smart solar siting are evolving, such as the potential to graze cows under small portions of the project, grow lavender or edible mushrooms, or even to improve the local water quality through solar riparian plantings. By planting native species at strategically located solar projects, improved stormwater filtration and retention can improve local water systems over time! If you are interested in learning more about this or participating in these conversations, please contact Haylee Ferington or Kevin Campbell.

In 2021, EDFR partnered with New Yorkers for Clean Power to conduct a solar car workshop for the STEAM club at RoyHart school district. Students were able to build and keep their own functioning solar car!

We look forward to continuing to work with the community on finding innovative ways to continue to educate and bolster local support in 2022.

Recently, The Town of Mount Morris released an agrivoltaic study to further examine the economic outlets and opportunities for both sheep grazing and the foraging of bees under solar panels. A team of both local and national experts interviewed many local stakeholders from farmers to restaurants providing a comprehensive dive into what a regional market for sheep products and honey could be.

Below are some important findings supporting the integration of agrivoltaics at the Morris Ridge Solar Energy Center that can be applied readily to other projects across upstate NY communities, as the markets presented are representative of upstate New York.

SOLAR GRAZING

- In 2021, New York sold the most dollars and pounds of lamb of any market in the US.
- The Northeast and NYC are historically the strongest lamb demand markets in the US.
- In the study region (Finger Lakes), 93% of restaurants surveyed sold lamb and 73% of those sold lamb year-round

POLLINATORS

- Commercial pollination adds between \$308M and \$439M annually to the value of NYS crops.
- There are an estimated 60,000 to 80,000 managed honeybee colonies in the state.
- New York is the 8th largest honey producing state in the country, with production valued at \$11 million.



SAFETY is our #1 Priority

As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, our team continues to be sensitive to holding public events and adhering to the CDC guidelines. If you have questions, you can reach out to a member of our team at any time. We look forward to resuming public events in your community when it is safe to do so.

For more information, contact:

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