

# THANKYOU

for attending the

Tracy Solar Open House

We enjoyed meeting you!





# The Principles That Guide Us





# Creating Value from Origination to Commercial Operation

EDFR is a technology agnostic provider of renewable generation, storage, and management solutions.





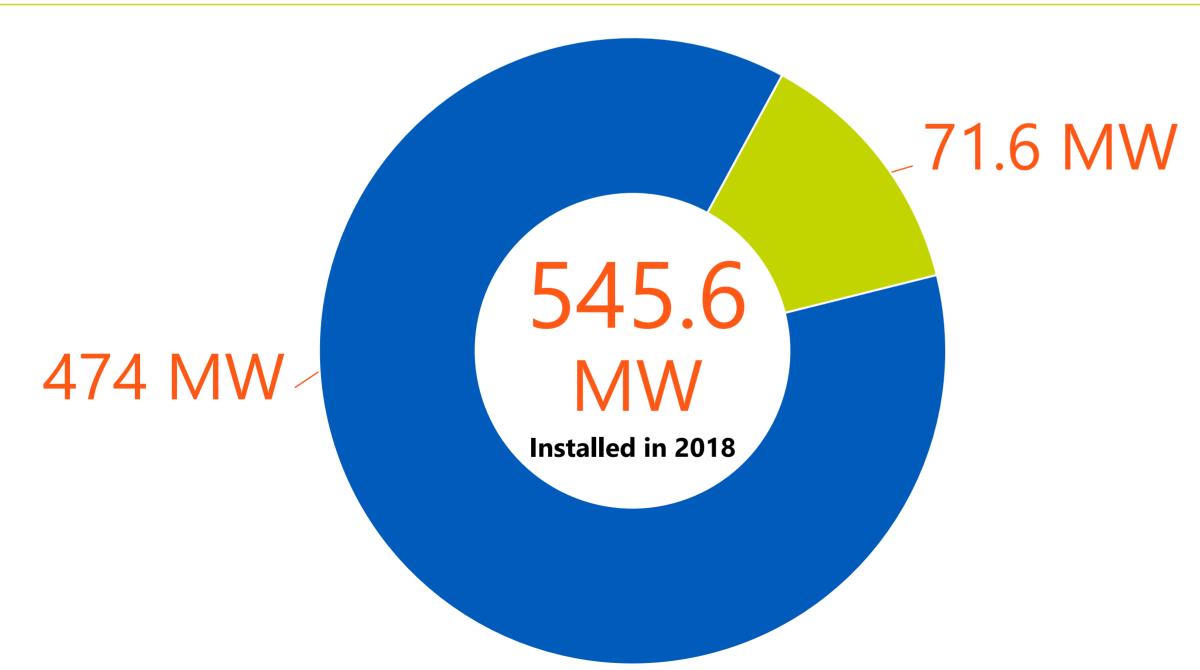
# Leading The Way in Renewable Energy





## 2018 Placed in Service

DISTRIBUTED					
PROJECT	STATE	MWp	OFFTAKER (OWNER)		
Delta 1 & 2	MI	29.3	Lansing BWL (CMS)		
Annapolis Landfill	MD	18.1	City Annapolis (Building Energy)		
Southwick	MA	6.6	Eversource		
MN Community Solar 1	MN	16.4	Community (US Solar)		
Ogdensburg	NY	1.2	OBPA (AEP)		



GRID-SCALE						
PROJECT	STATE	MWp	OFFTAKER			
lvester*	IA	91	MidAmerican			
Copenhagen	NY	80	National Grid			
Pecan	NC	111	Dominion (DBS)			
Pendleton	ON	20	IESO			
Barlow	ON	18	IESO			
Bluemex	SON	119	CFE			
Stoneray	MN	35	SMMPA			

\*sold to MidAmerican prior to construction/commissioning as of /12/31/2018



# Environmental and Economic Impact



272

Approximate number of permanent jobs created in North America



\$1,636,800

Potential annual revenue for farmers / landowners due to land lease payments



6,421,502,329

Equivalent number of bottles of water conserved



220,785.3

Equivalent homes powered

(MWh/10.4 MW per home, per year, per EIA household data 2017)



2018 economic INAPACT

We are committed to our environment and the communities we work in and we are proud of the impact our projects create.

1,826,632

Avoided metric tons of Carbon dioxide annually

CO2 reduction equivalent to taking

388,645 cars off the road

36,532,632

Avoided metric tons of Carbon Dioxide over lifetime, CO2





# Safety Counts





## OVERVIEW

Project Name: Tracy Solar

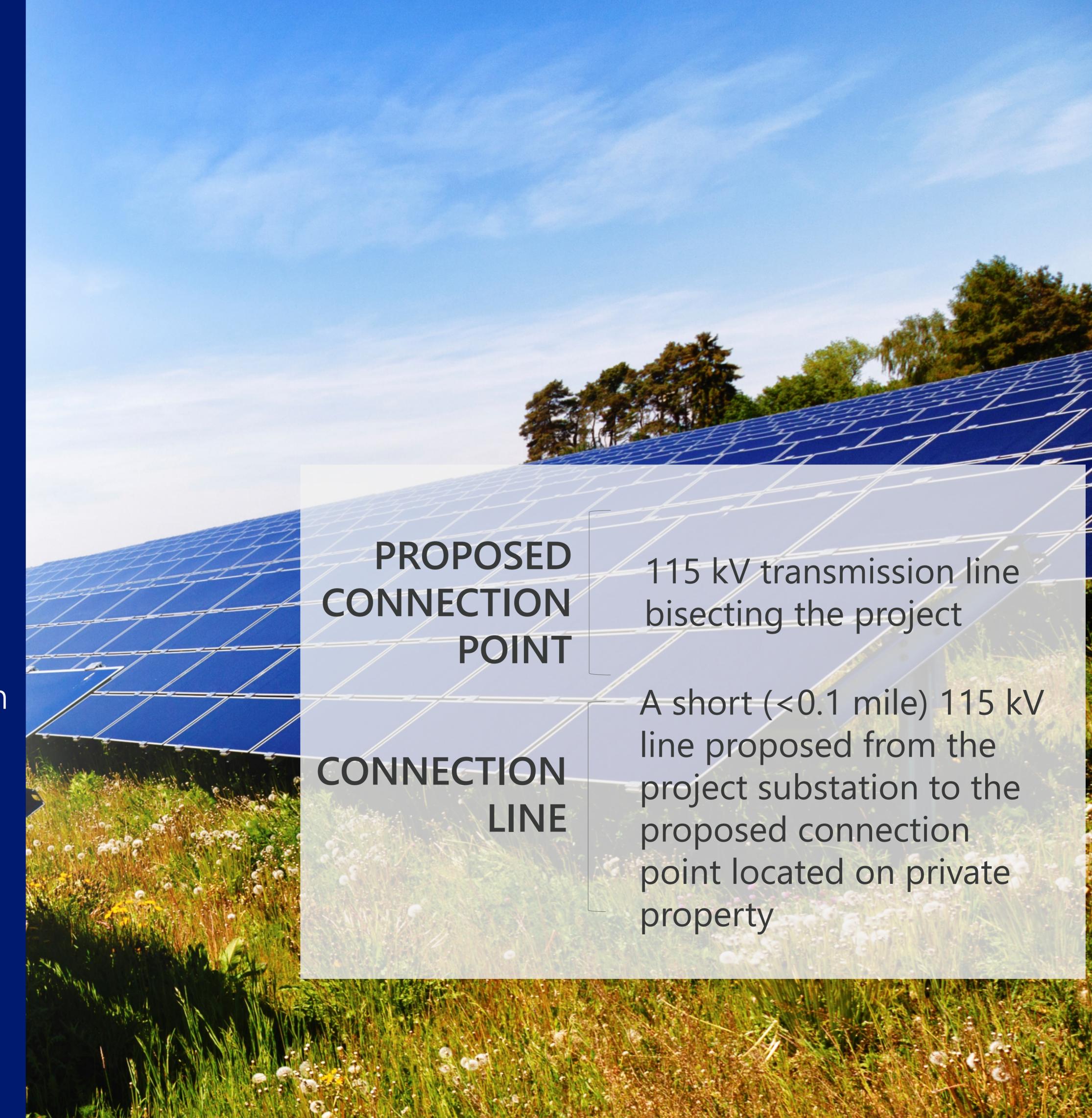
Project Owner: EDF Renewables

Host Municipality: Orleans & Clayton

Renewable Source: Solar

**Proposed Capacity: 119 MWac** 

Proposed Land Use: ~ 1,000 acres





# WHY DID WE CHOOSE THIS LOCATION?

#### SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES:

Both towns support the development of solar projects

#### **AVAILABLE LANDS:**

 Project sited on non-prime farmland, mostly cleared, facilitating project permitting

#### PROXIMITY TO TRANSMISSION LINE:

Located adjacent to National Grid 'Thousand Island to Lyme' 115kV transmission line



# FACILITY AREA

- Targeting ~1,000 acres
   of privately owned land within
   the Facility Area in the Towns of
   Orleans and Clayton
- Will produce enough electricity to power more than 27,200
   New York households
- Leased parcels (not shown) are within the Facility Area





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# PRIME FARMLAND MAP

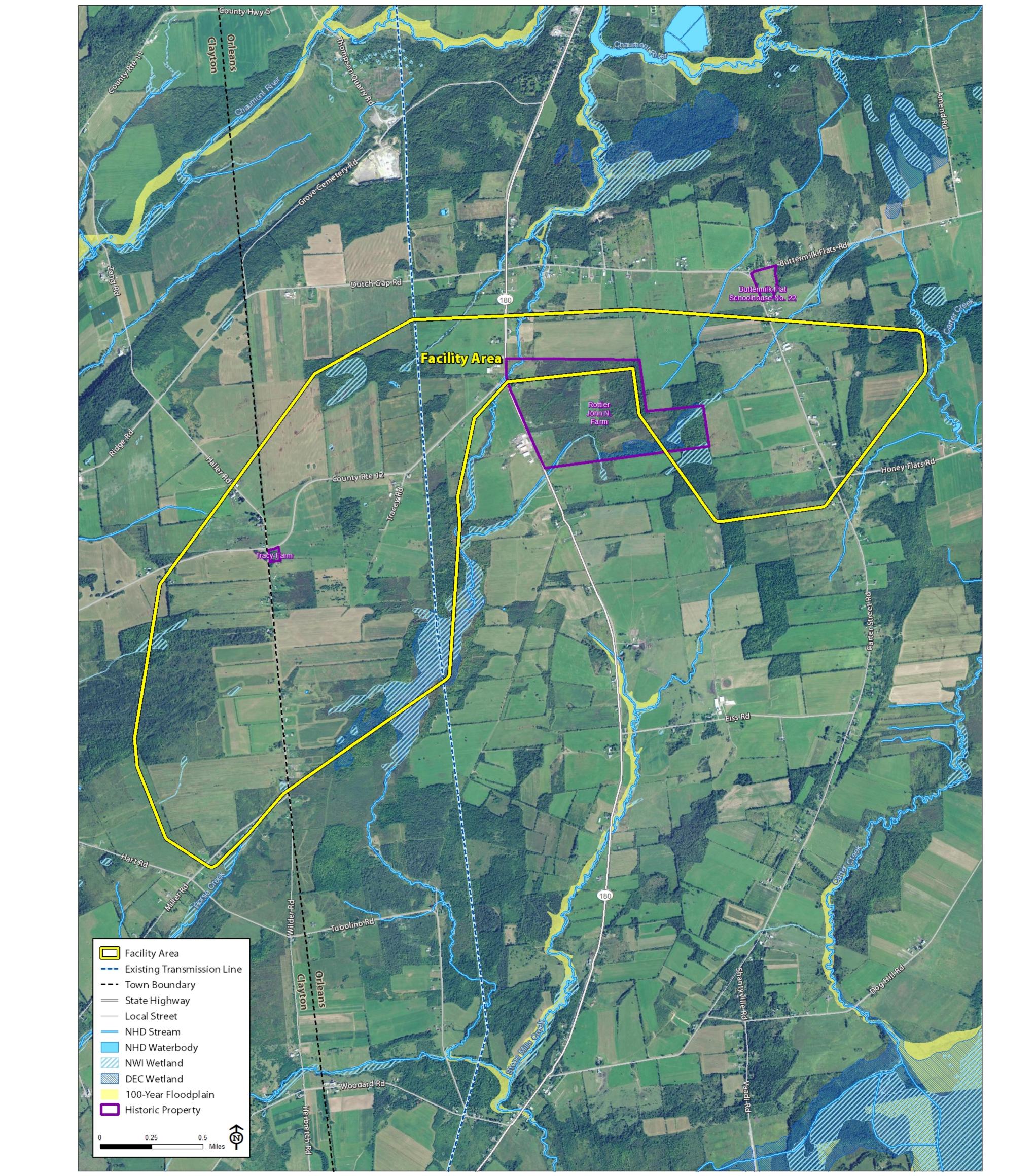
- Soil designations as characterized by U.S.
   Department of Agriculture
- Prime farmland shown in brown





## CONSTRAINTS MAP

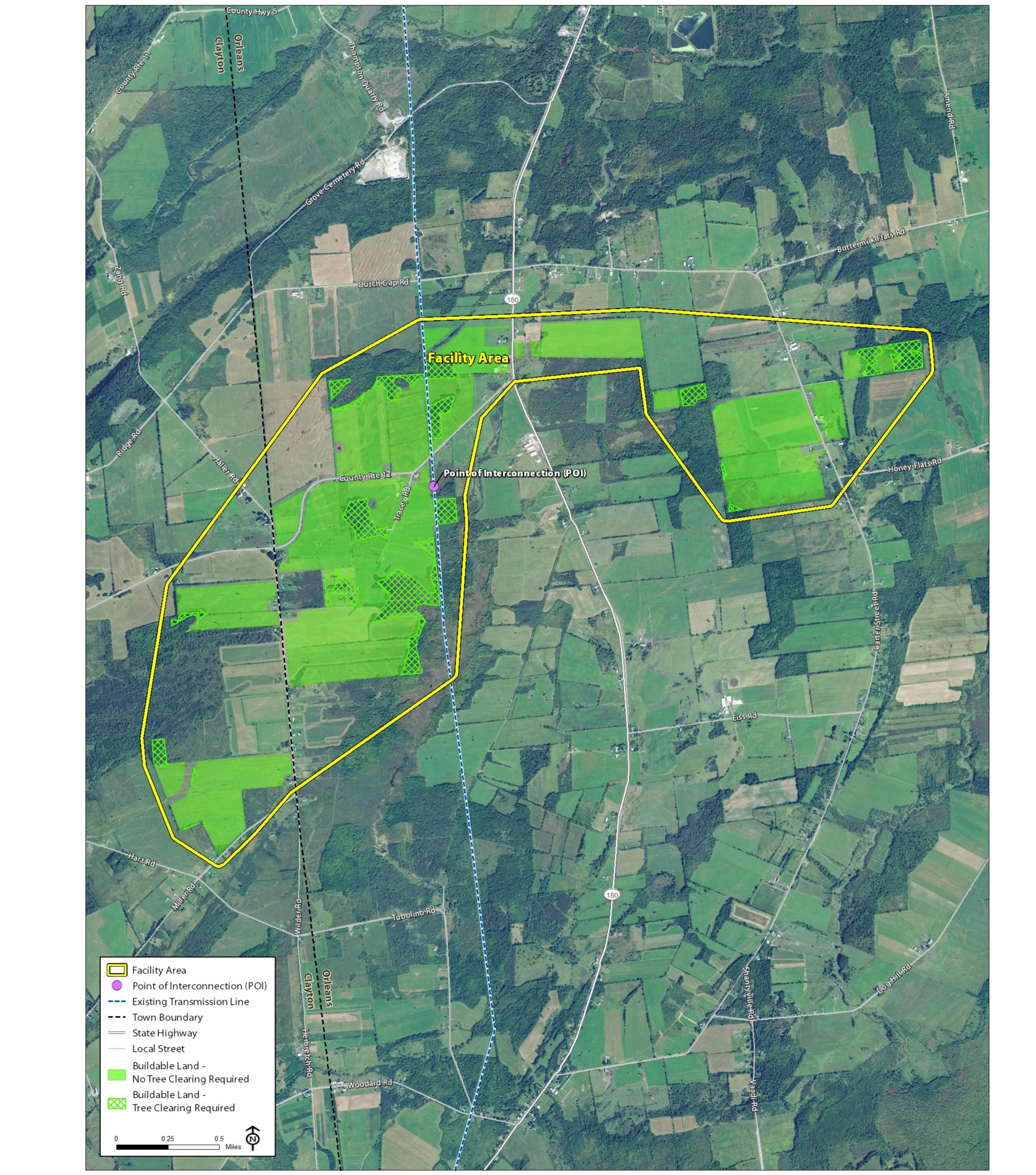
- Constraints shown are according to publicly available data
- Additional studies to be undertaken throughout 2019 and 2020 to confirm presence of features
- Maps will be updated and shared publicly once studies are completed





# BUILDABLE AREA MAP

- Indicates areas where solar panels, inverters and transformers can be installed within project land parcels
- Prefer to build within areas with no tree clearing required
- Constraints identified on previous map and setbacks excluded from buildable area (i.e. 50 ft from external parcel boundaries and roads, 100 ft from wetlands)





# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- EDF Renewables will be initiating environmental studies of the proposed Facility Area.
- Coordinating with:
  - NYS Department of Public Service (NYSDPS)
  - NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
  - NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM)
  - State Historic Preservation Office (NYSHPO), and regional stakeholders to ensure that potential environmental impacts are fully considered
  - Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)



Studies to help avoid and minimize potential environmental impacts are anticipated to include the following:

#### WETLANDS

- Review of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and NYSDEC Wetland Mapping
- Field investigations to identify and delineate wetlands and streams

#### RARE/THREATENED/ENDANGERED SPECIES

- Coordination with NYSDEC and USFWS
- Coordination with regional wildlife advocacy groups
- Field investigations to identify potential habitat

#### **ACOUSTIC STUDIES**

 Noise impact assessment, including background sound monitoring and sound propagation modeling



# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



#### ARCHEOLOGY

- Coordination with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (NYSHPO) and regional advocacy groups
- Research and archaeological field investigations, as needed, to ensure that facilities avoid archaeologically sensitive areas

#### HISTORIC RESOURCES

- Coordination with NYSHPO and regional historical groups
- Historic properties are evaluated in terms of their eligibility for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places
- Evaluate potential visual effect on historic properties

#### VISUAL IMPACTS

- Identification of visually sensitive sites
- Viewshed mapping of areas of potential visibility
- Coordination with stakeholders and preparation of visual simulations to illustrate what the facility will look like when completed
- Landscaping to screen views of the facility from roads and neighbors



# ADDITIONAL STUDIES and CONSIDERATIONS

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Air Emissions
- Noise and Vibration
- Site Security

#### SOCIOECONOMIC EFFECTS

- Jobs
- Intervenor Funding
- Environmental Justice

# EFFECT ON TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Road Use Agreement
- Effect on Communications and Telecommunications
- Coordination with Local, State, and Federal Transportation and Communication Authorities

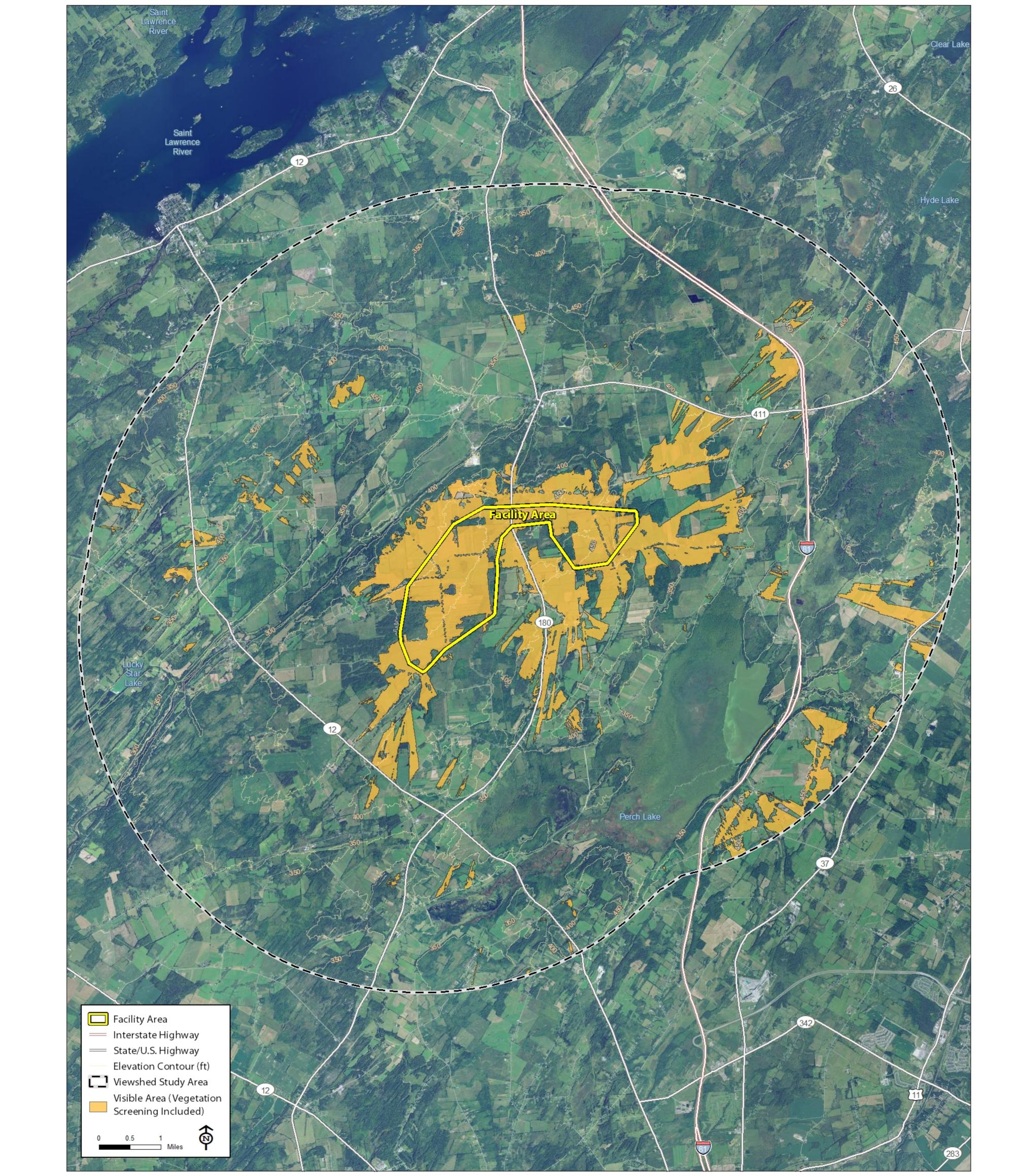
# SITE RESTORATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

- Decommissioning Plan
- Financial Security Mechanism



# VIEWSHED ANALYSIS MAP

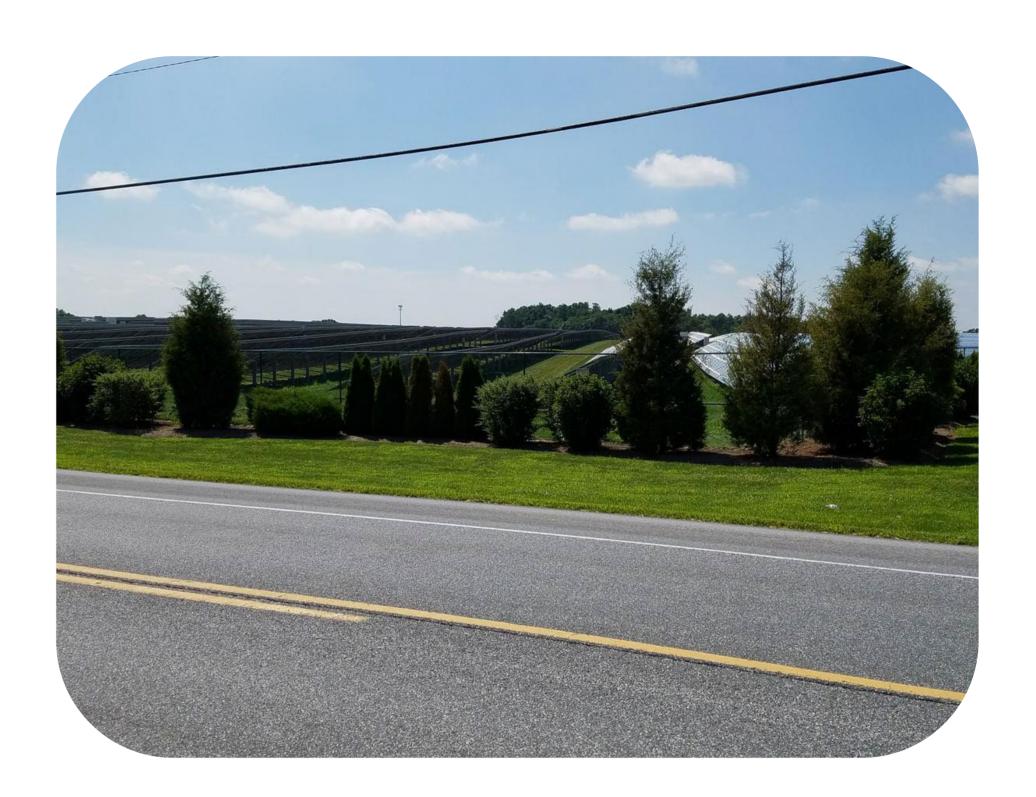
- Indicates areas from which solar panels may be visible following project construction and vegetation screening
- Visibility was calculated using ground elevation, vegetation heights, proposed solar panel locations, and proposed vegetation screening





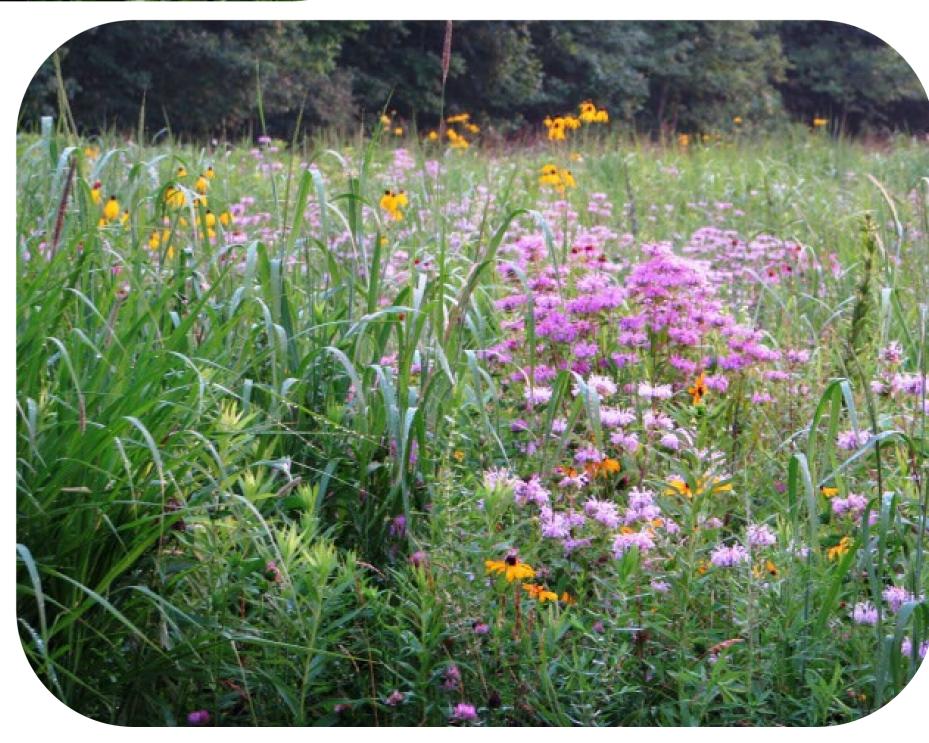
Approaches to site design for solar projects include selection of fencing and planting materials intended to screen or soften views of the project from adjacent roadways and properties











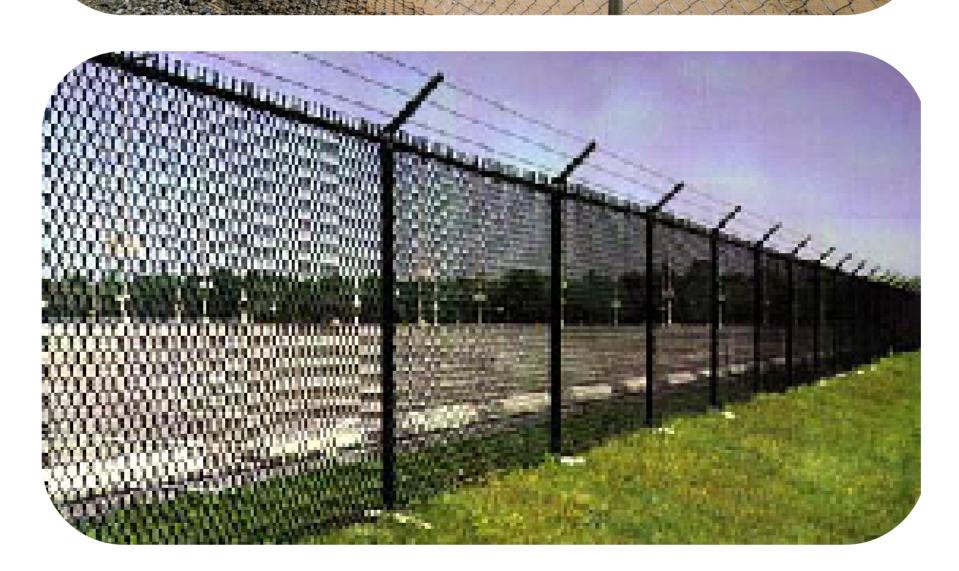


### Fencing

- Fencing is required for solar facilities for safety and security purposes
- Selection of decorative or vernacular fence styles may be considered if permitted by the facility's finance and insurance entities
- Fence styles are typically based on examples within the local community so installed fencing will blend into the existing visual setting

#### **Proposed Solar Array**







#### Fencing & Plantings











#### Evergreen Hedges

- Plantings along fencelines can help integrate a solar facility with the surrounding landscape
- Vegetation may include a screening hedge made up of evergreen trees and shrubs

### Native Plantings

- Use of native shrubs and plantings softens the overall visual effect of the facility and provide wildlife benefits
- Plantings can help to better integrate the facility into the surrounding landscape









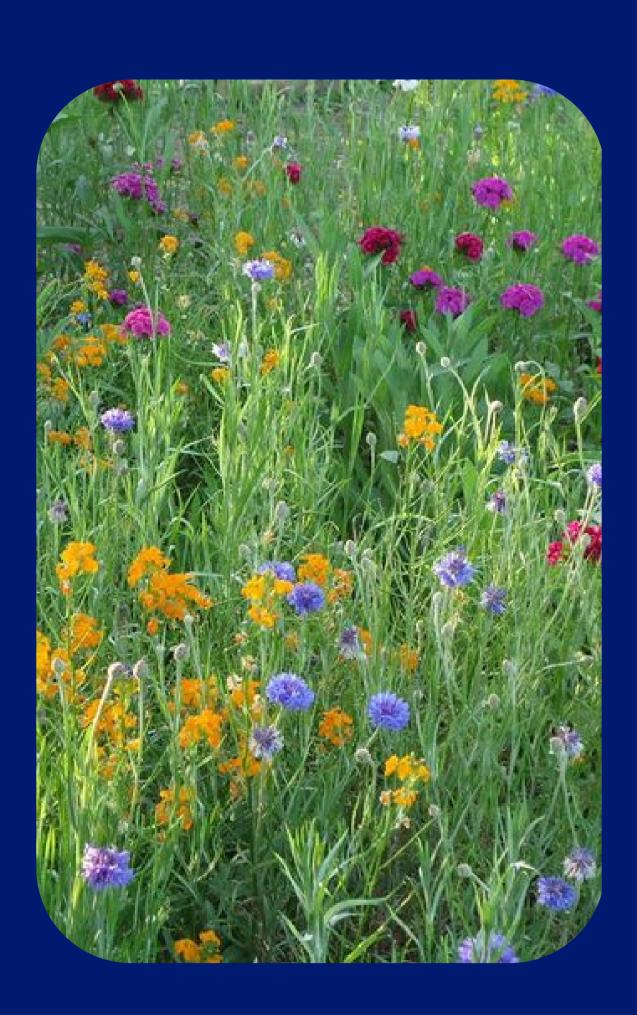




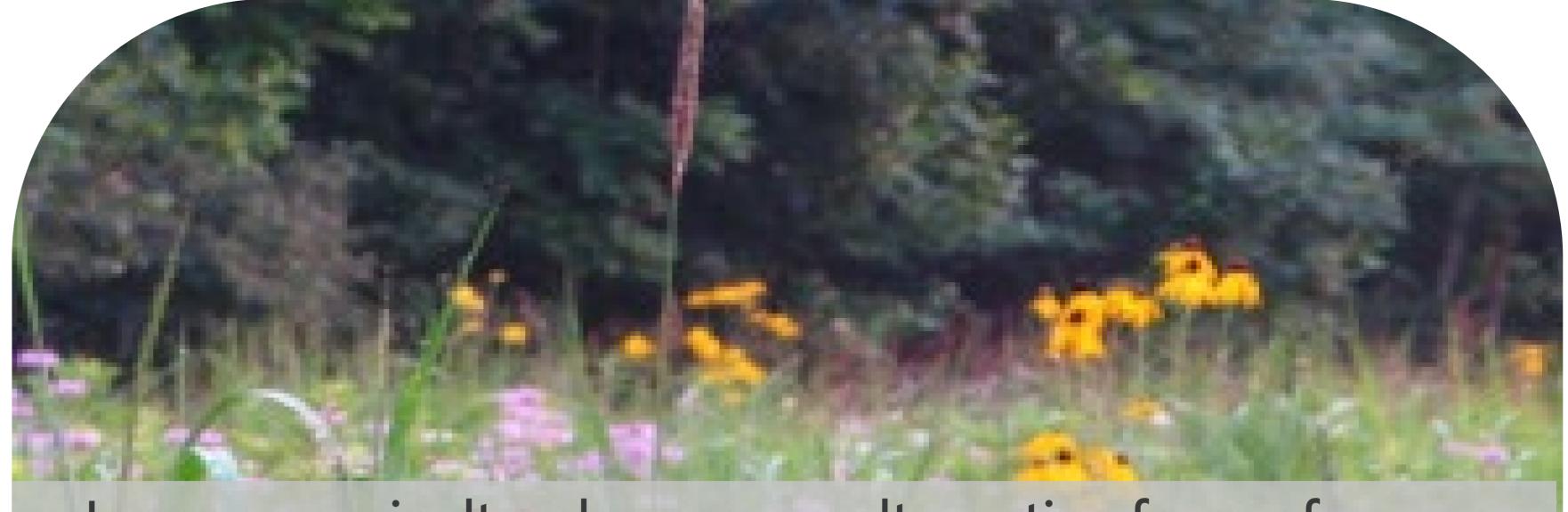




# Pollinator-Friendly Grasses and Wildflowers







- In many agricultural areas, an alternative form of vegetative screening that may be appropriate is tall native grasses and wildflowers along selected roadsides and other fence lines
- Grasses and wildflowers can soften the appearance of the facility and better integrate the facility into the landscape
- Regionally appropriate plantings can also provide habitat for pollinator species when planted around the periphery of the site and/or in locations on site where mowing can be restricted during the summer months
- Sheep are proposed to perform vegetation management;
   typically around 300 for a project of this size





## Acoustics & Noise Modeling

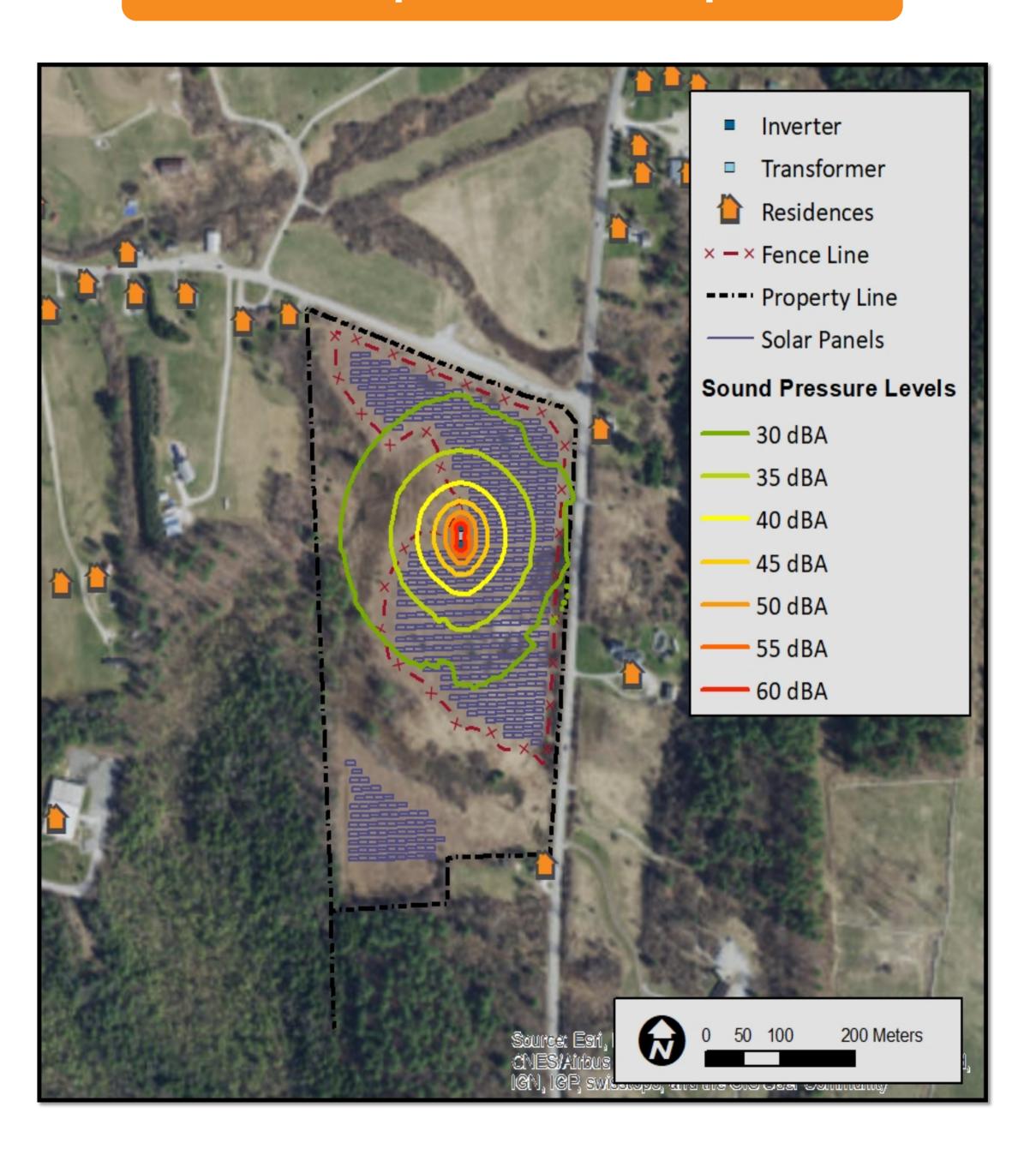
#### **Noise Impact Assessments**

EDF Renewables will conduct a noise assessment to assure that the project is compatible with the surrounding area. The assessment includes:

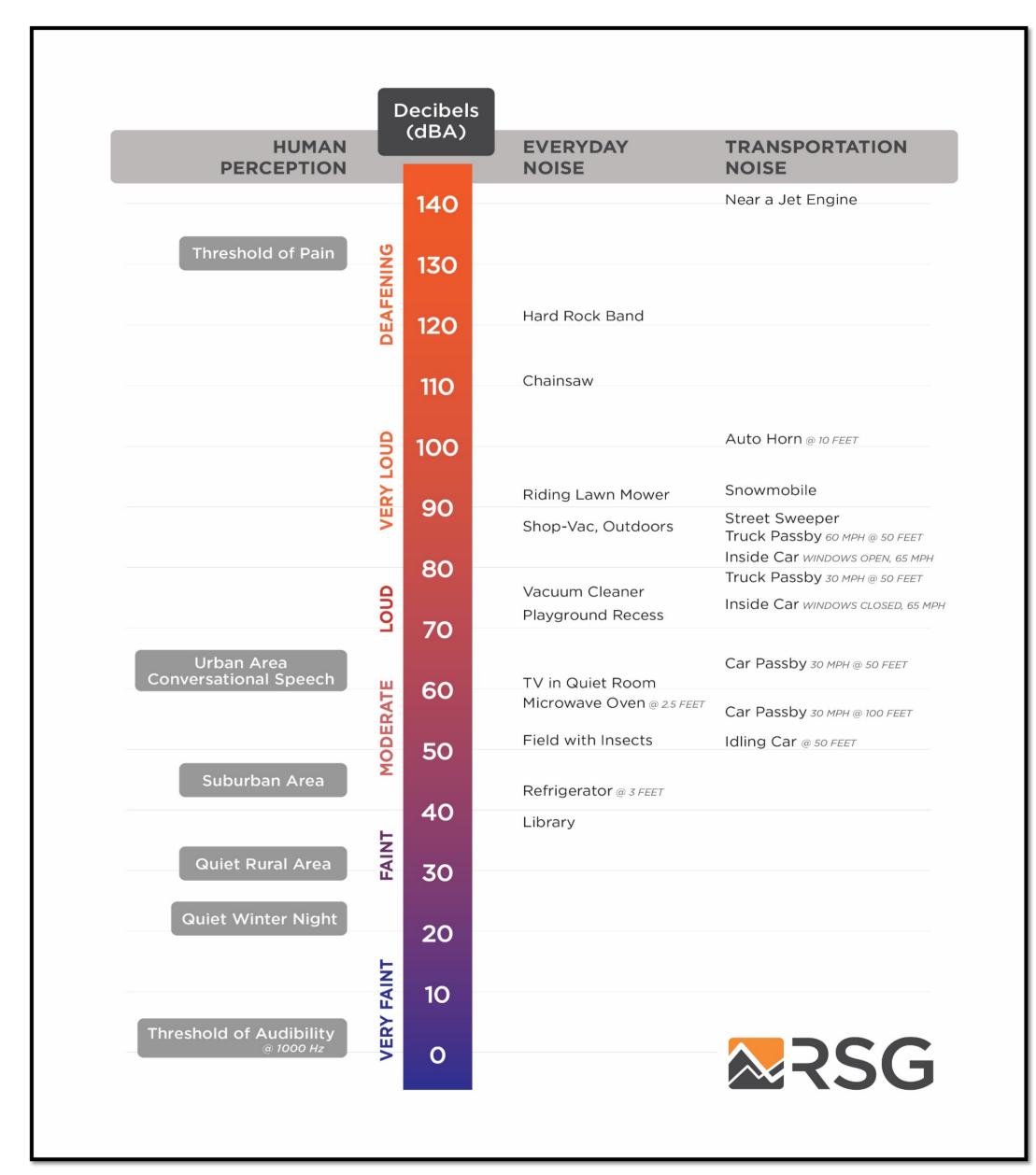
- Background sound level monitoring to assess existing sound levels
- Sound propagation modeling to project future sound levels
- Development of mitigation recommendations to ensure that the project is in compliance with meetings applicable noise limits.
- Compliance with NYS Article 10 noise requirements

EQUIPMENT	SOUND GENERATION
Solar Panels	The panels do not generate any sound
Inverters	These convert DC to AC current and generate some sound during the day
Transformers	These increase the voltage for collection and distribution and generate some sound day and night

#### Sample Sound Map



#### Common Sound Sources & Levels



## PROJECT TIMELINE



**March 2019** 

File Draft Public Involvement Plan June 13 2019

Host First Public Meeting **Summer 2019** 

Begin
Environmental
Studies &
Engineering

Winter 2019/2020

Host Third and Fourth Public Meetings

Fall 2021

Article 10 Approval Spring 2022

Start of Construction

2019

**May 2019** 

File Final Public Involvement Plan **Summer 2019 –** 

Host Second Public Meeting 2020

Fall 2019

File Draft
Public
Scoping
Statement

2021

**Spring** 

2020

Submission

of Article 10

Application

2022

2023

Winter 2021/2022

Compliance Filings for Article 10 Fall 2023

Commercial Operation

\*\*\*PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT LIFECYCLE\*\*\*

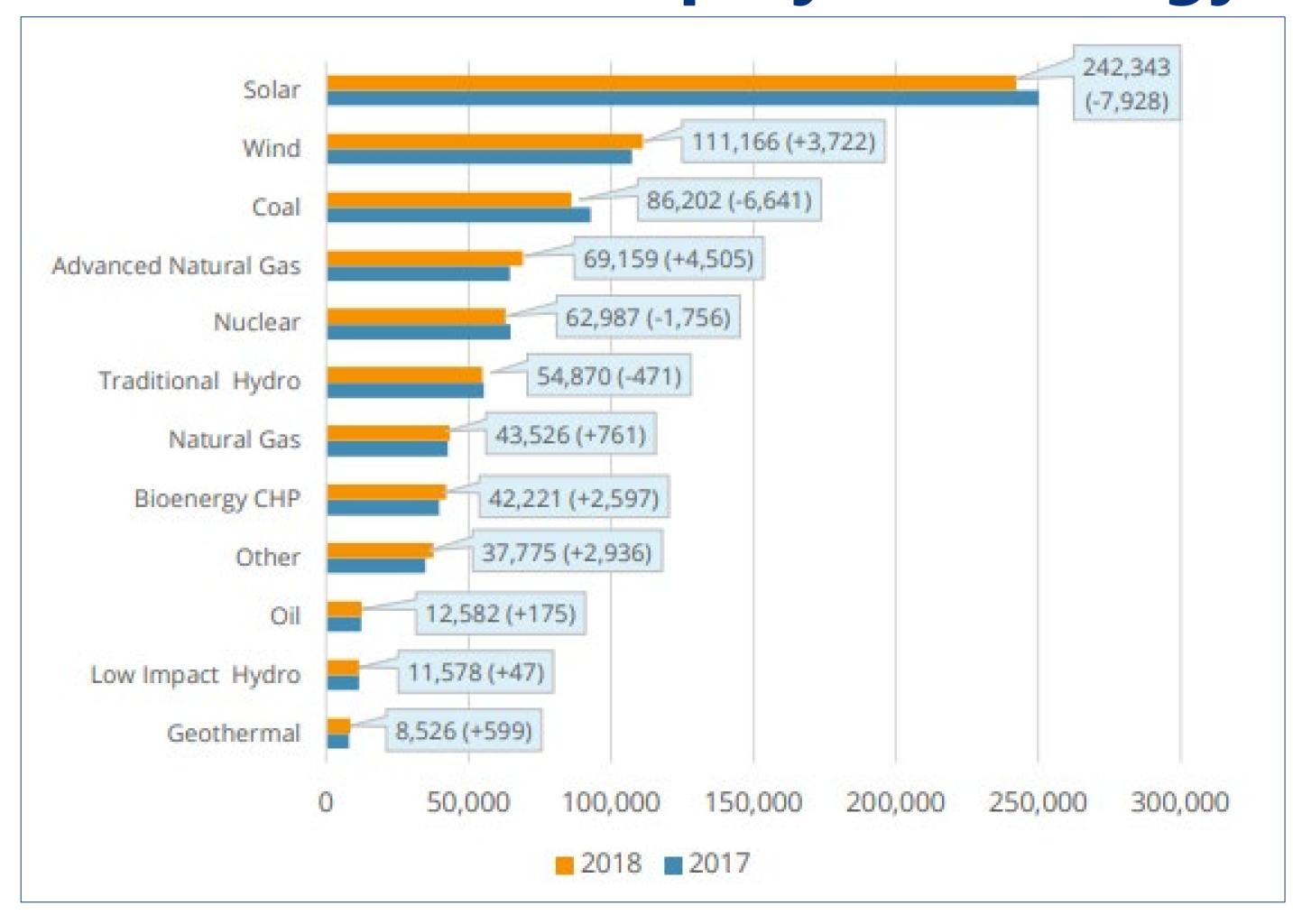


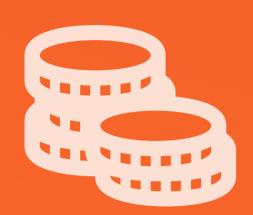
# THE OPPORTUNITY OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

- In 2018, the solar industry generated a \$17 billion investment in the American economy.
- Average annual growth rate of 50% over the last 10 years
- Generates enough electricity to power more than 12.3 million homes
- Solar generation offsets more than 73 million metric tons of CO2 emissions each year, equivalent to taking
   15.6 million vehicles off the road

Solar employment grew about six times faster than the overall U.S. economy from 2013-2018

#### Solar – The #1 Employer in Energy





Total project cost anticipated ~ \$100 million

A portion is sourced locally

(i.e. labor, material supply)



More than
200 jobs
anticipated during the peak
of construction



3 full time
permanent
highly skilled jobs during
operation



Propose to contribute \$6 million in direct

revenues for the Town of Orleans, the Town of Clayton,
Jefferson County, and the
LaFargeville School District in
the first 20 years of operation



# LOCAL BENEFITS

#### DIRECT BENEFITS:

Surveying, civil engineering, mechanical work, electrical work, road construction, transportation equipment, earthwork activities, maintenance of vehicle fleet, maintenance paths, snow removal and other related services.

#### INDIRECT BENEFITS:

Meals and accommodation for construction personnel; products, services and supplies.



# MAXIMIZING LAND USE

#### SOLAR ENERGY PROVIDES STABLE REVENUES FOR 30+ YEARS

EDF Renewables enters into lease agreements with host-landowners and offers annual payments for use of the lands at competitive lease rates.



SHEEP GRAZING AT ARNPRIOR SOLAR (EDF RENEWABLES PROJECT) IN ONTARIO, CANADA



BEES AT ARNPRIOR SOLAR IN ONTARIO PRODUCED 385 JARS OF HONEY IN 2017

#### LAND WILL BE RETURNED TO PRE-EXISTING STATE

At the end of the useful life of the solar facility or the expiration of the lease (whichever comes first), the infrastructure is decommissioned and the land is returned to its pre-existing condition.

#### SOLAR FACILITATES COMPLEMENTARY USES

- Planting clover or other ground cover can stimulate foraging of bees and butterflies.
- Some sites in Europe, the United States and Canada have successfully integrated sheep grazing amongst the solar panels.



## SOLAR PARKS CAN ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY



...as well as making an important contribution to future energy supplies, solar parks can also provide a refuge for plants and animals.

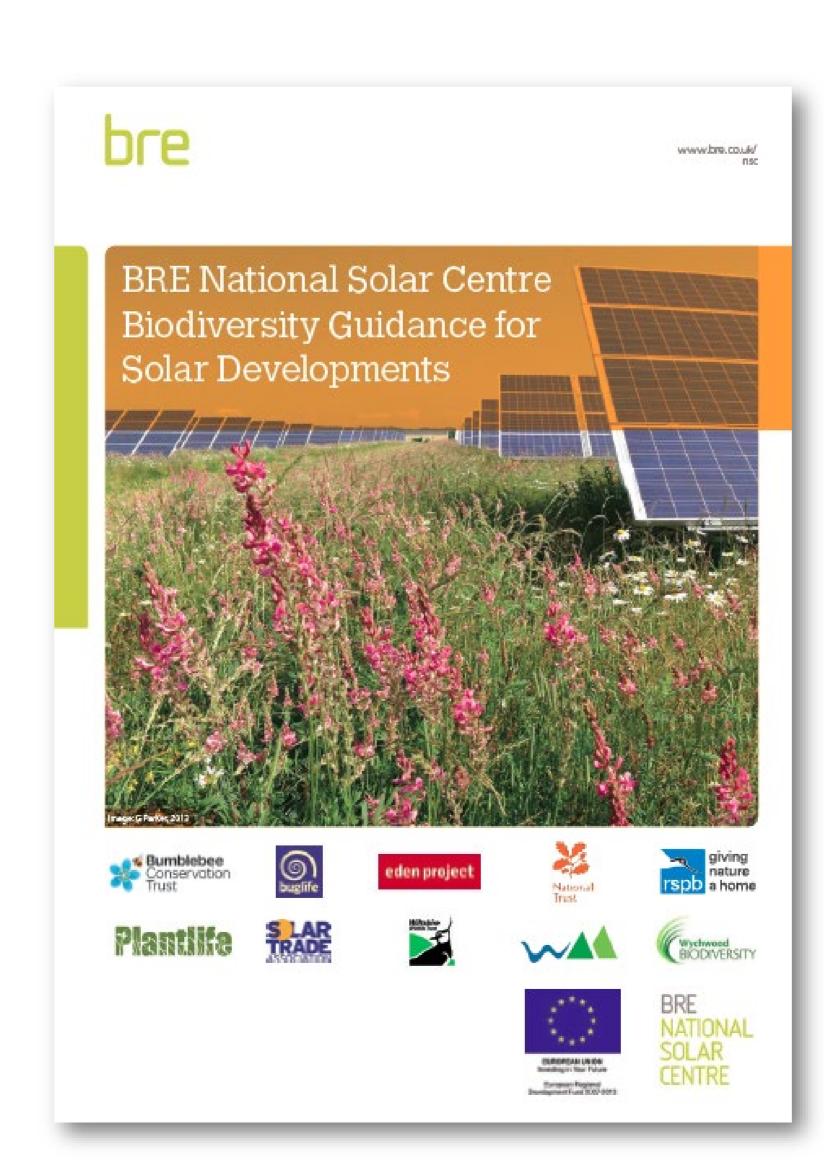


Source: Renews (2010)



With appropriate land management, solar farms have the potential to support wildlife and contribute to national biodiversity targets.







# BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

- EDF Renewables integrates projects into the local community through thorough community engagement.
- Stakeholders have the opportunity to communicate their interests for integration into the project design.
- Much of the land beneath and around solar panels remains unused and can accommodate vegetation in the form of grasses, clover or cultural meadows.

#### Visual Buffer Example



Vegetation After 5 Years

Vegetation After 10 Years

## Tracy Solar - Article 10 Timeline

2019 ------2020-----2020------2023

Pre-Application Phase

**Application Phase** 

Hearings & Decision Phase

Compliance Filings & Construction

**Environmental Permitting Studies** 

Public Involvement Program filed March 2019, initiating the Article 10 Process

Public Scoping Statement to be filed, which will describe the scope and methodology of studies to be included in the Article 10 application anticipated in late 2019. Intervenor funding available to municipalities and local groups.

Stipulations: The applicant may commence consultations and seek agreement with any party as to the methodology or scope of any study or evaluation to be made in support of the application

**Agency Review** 

After submittal of an article 10 application, the NYS Department of Public Service must make a completeness determination within 60 days. If deficiencies are identified, they will be addressed through an application supplement. Intervenor funding available to municipalities and local groups.

Parties submit information requests, identify issues, prepare testimony, and participate in hearings

Application deemed complete. The administrative law judge will set a date for a public statement hearing and a pre-hearing procedural conference

Parties may submit information requests to the applicant seeking additional information or clarification on specific topics. The parties must also prepare testimony and identify issues that they may with to litigate during hearings.

Decision- the Siting Board must make a decision on whether or not to issue the certificate within one year of the application having been deemed complete.

Project Construction commences following a favorable decision and subsequent compliance filings

A certificate issued by the siting board will include numerous conditions such as decommissioning, including compliance filings that must be prepared and submitted by the applicant prior to construction.

During construction, the applicant must implement an environmental compliance monitoring plan, including preparation of an environmental monitoring manual, contractor training, pre-construction walkovers to identify sensitive sites to avoid, and daily inspections during construction and restoration activities.



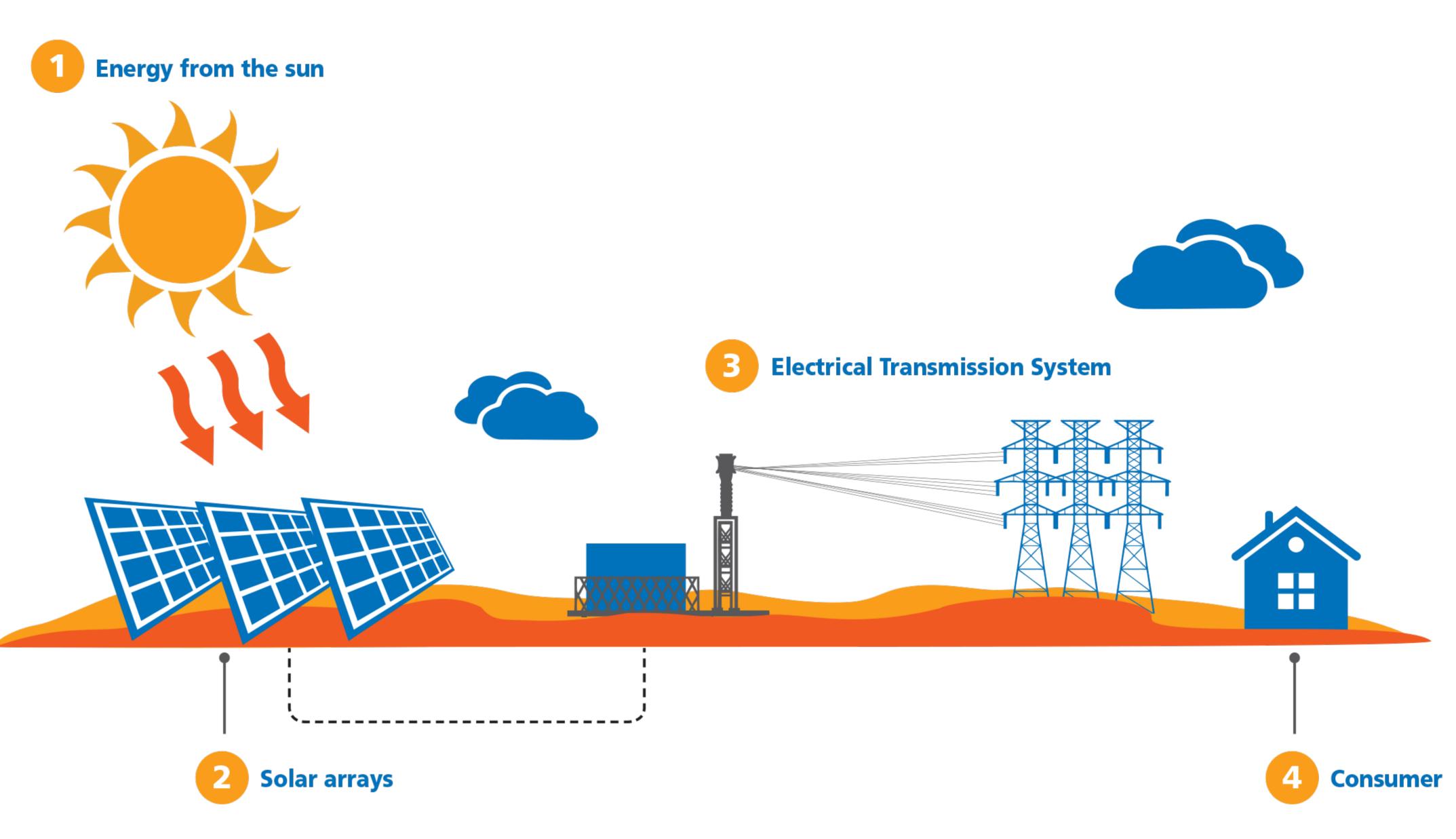
# INTERVENOR FUNDING



- Under Article 10, EDF Renewables is required to provide funds for intervenor participation
  - \$350/MW at time the Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) is filed total \$41,650
  - Additional \$1,000/MW at time project
     Article 10 Application is filed (estimated fall 2019) total \$119,000
- Following PSS and Application submissions, funds are distributed to parties making a request to cover expenses toward participating in the review and providing feedback on project materials
- At least 50% of the funding is reserved for municipalities
- For more information on intervenor funding, please consult the project website www.tracysolarproject.com or speak to one of the team members at the public meeting



# HOW DOES SOLAR ENERGY WORK?



- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Electricity generated travels though transmission /distribution lines to homes and businesses.

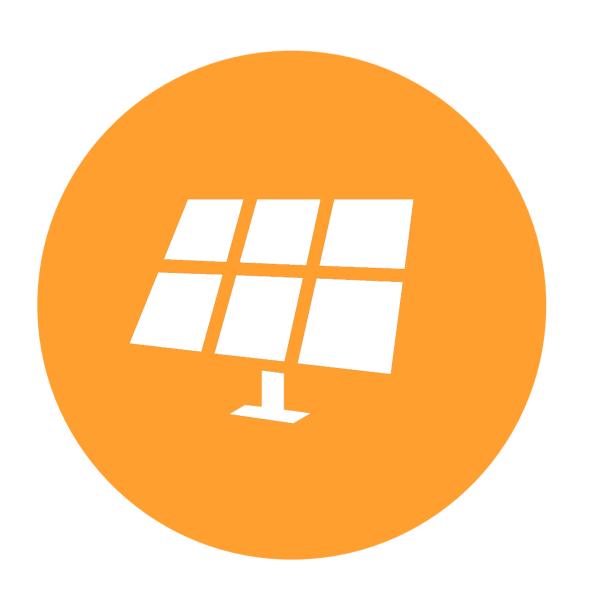


## SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS



#### SOLAR PANELS DO NOT POLLUTE

- No fossil fuels are burned to generate electricity
- No mining or fracking
- No fuel transport required
- No combustion
- No emissions or odors
- No water discharges and no use of neighboring water bodies for heating or cooling



#### SOLAR PANELS ARE SAFE

- PV panels meet strict electrical safety standards
- PV panel designs are such that they will not leak hazardous materials, even in the case of a fire
- Panels have no moving parts and are expected to last 20-30 years or longer
- Panels that do fail for electrical reasons can be detected and easily changed out (modular design)
- PV panel arrays are fenced to ensure safety and security



# SOLAR PARK EQUIPMENT



Racking mounted on piles



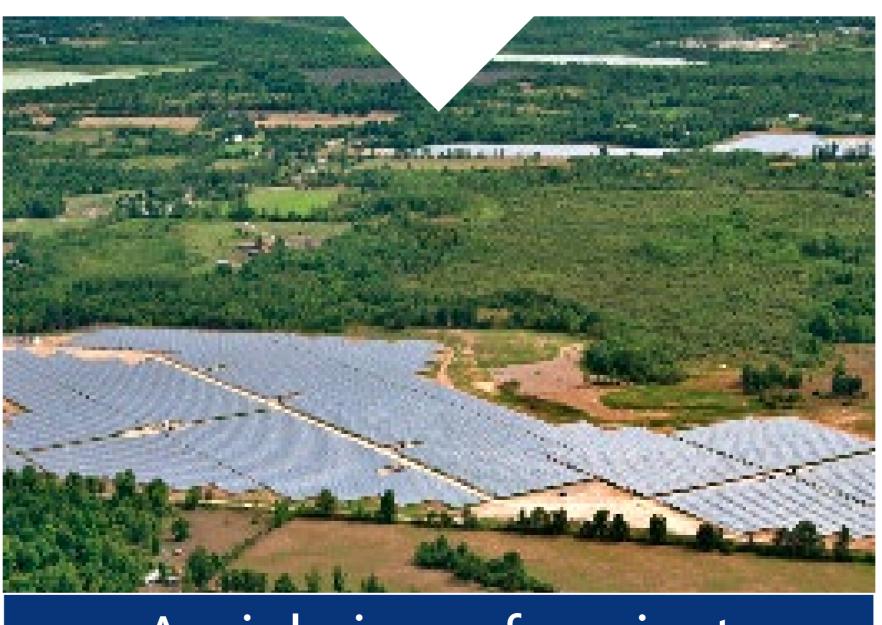
Panels installed on racking



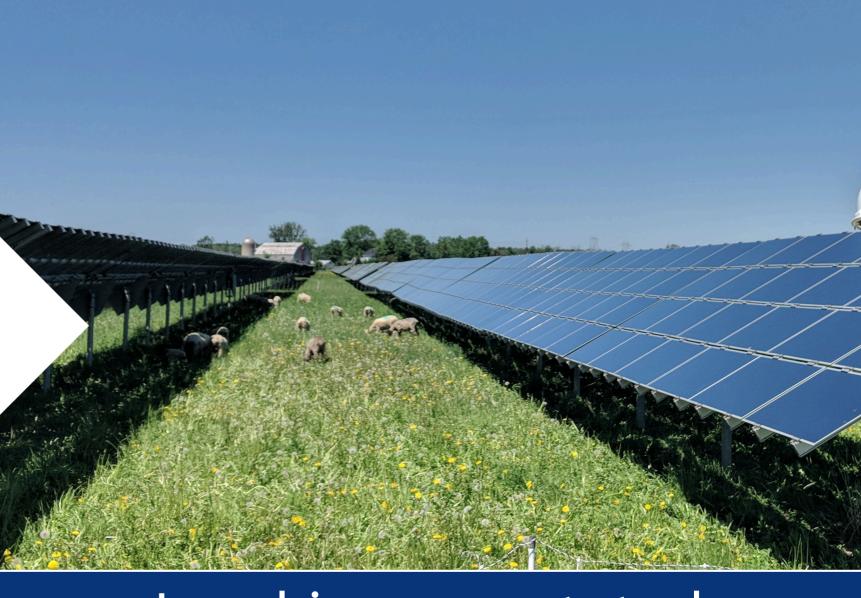
Project substation (grid tie)



Inverter/Transformer Skid







Land is revegetated



## PILING OPTION EXAMPLES

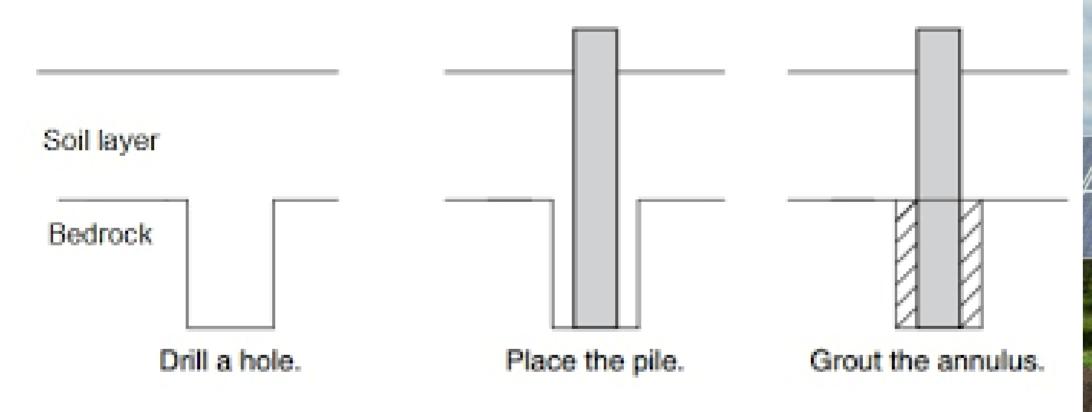
- Helical piles and screw piles are both screwed into the ground at depth of approx. 3' below the frost line (approx. 8' deep)
- Driven piles are hammered into the ground, about 10'-15' deep
- Where bedrock is present, a hole is pre-drilled into the bedrock and the pile is screwed or grouted in place.



Helical Pile Installation (usually about 10' deep)



Driven Piles



Involves drilling a shallow hole into the bedrock, placing the pile and grouting the pile for stability.

**Ground Sockets** 



**Ground Screws** 



# ENERGY STORAGE

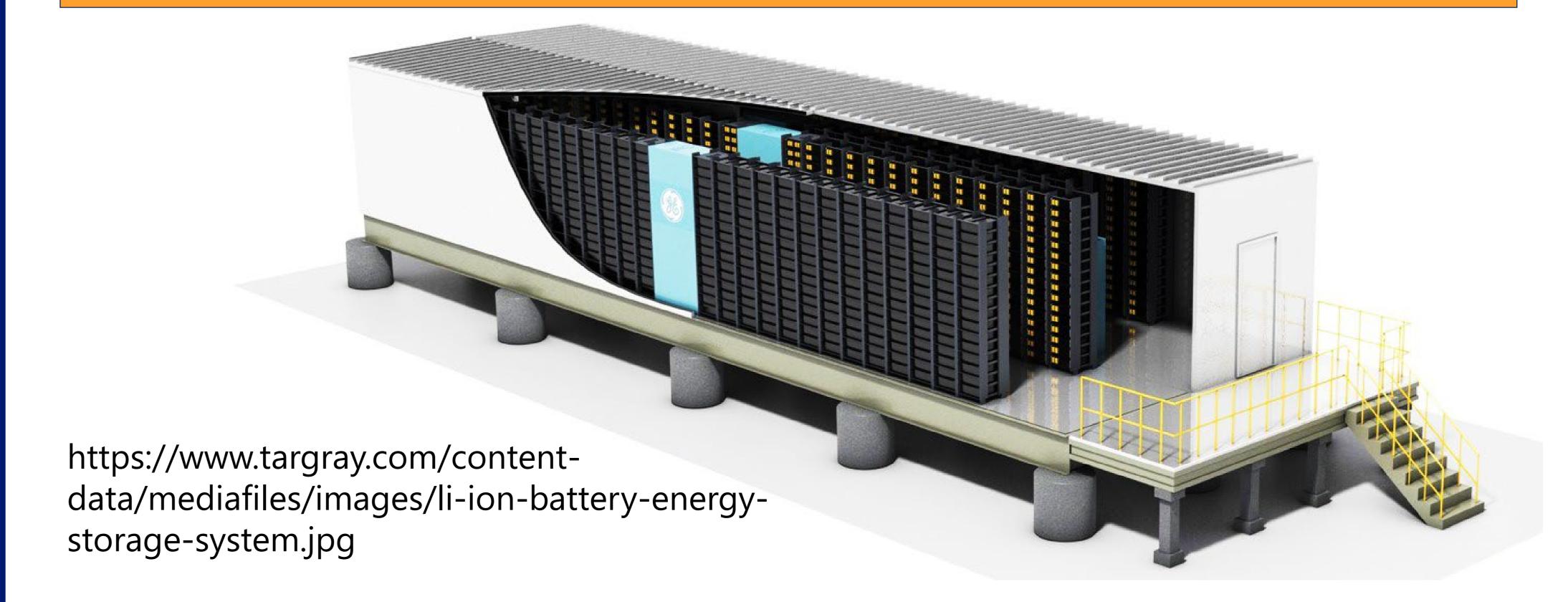
- Project <u>may</u> include energy storage batteries that would be co-located with the inverters within solar panel fields
- Batteries typically installed inside 40 x 8 ft enclosure
- Designed to store electricity until more suitable to inject onto power grid
- More details will be shared later this year



Example of an energy storage battery enclosure (right of picture) and inverter / transformer (left of picture)

https://3vq5kdns38e1qxlmvvqmrzsi-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/IHI-Energy-Storage-baintree-mass.jpg

Enclosure contains a series of lithium ion batteries – same technology that powers our electronics and electric vehicles





## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jack Honor

Development Manager

EDF Renewables

(315) 523-7445 www.tracysolarproject.com Newyork.solar@edf-re.com

