

NYGATS ID: PRO40724



Community Engagement Plan

Agricola Wind Project

Towns of Scipio and Venice,
Cayuga County, New York

August 7, 2024

Prepared by Liberty Renewables Inc.

Liberty Renewables Inc.
90 State St.
Albany, NY 12207
www.liberty-renewables.com





Company Information

Liberty Renewables Inc.
90 State Street
Albany, NY 12207
www.liberty-renewables.com
917 203 8284

Project Representative

Scott Biggar, Director of Development, Liberty Renewables Inc.
sbiggar@liberty-renewables.com
+1 902 209 0452

Project Website

www.liberty-renewables.com/agricolawind/

Document Availability

The Community Engagement Plan (the Plan) and other Bid Facility documents will be made available on the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) website following submission of the Step Two Bid Proposal. For information, visit: www.nyserda.ny.gov/ces/rfp.



Table of Contents

1 Introduction 5

 1.1 Company Profile..... 5

 1.2 Agricola Wind Project 5

 1.3 Principles of Engagement..... 5

2 Authority Having Jurisdiction & Taxing School District..... 6

 2.1 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) 7

 2.2 Taxing School District..... 8

 2.3 Additional Affected Agencies..... 8

3 Outreach Strategies & Activities with Community Stakeholders and Interested Parties 9

 3.1 Engagement Strategies & Mechanisms for Soliciting Project Feedback..... 9

 3.1.1 *Engagement Strategies & Outreach Materials* 9

 3.1.2 *Mechanisms for Soliciting Bid Facility Feedback*..... 12

 3.1.3 *Feedback Received* 12

 3.2 Public Involvement Through Project Milestones 15

 3.2.1 *Engagement During Project Origination & Early-Stage Development* 15

 3.2.2 *Engagement During Later-Stage Development* 15

 3.2.3 *Planned Engagement During Construction, Compliance & Operations*..... 18

4 Creating Value for Disadvantaged Communities as Applicable to Climate Act Goals 19

5 Direct Benefits to the Community & Related Engagement 21

 5.1 Lease & Easement Payments..... 21

 5.2 Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT Agreement) 21

 5.3 Host Community Benefit Agreement (HCA) 22

 5.4 Shared Community Payment Program 22

 5.5 Capital Investments..... 22

 5.6 Job Creation..... 22

 5.7 Workforce Development..... 23



LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Town of Scipio Government Officials	7
Table 2. Town of Venice Government Officials	7
Table 3. Southern Cayuga County School District Officials	8
Table 4. Liberty Renewables Engagement Strategies	9
Table 5. Liberty Renewables Outreach Materials	11
Table 6. Local Interests & Concerns and Strategies for Building Support	12
Table 7. Liberty Planned Engagement Strategies.....	18
Table 8. Disadvantaged Communities Located within 20 Miles of the Bid Facility.....	19

1 Introduction

Liberty Renewables Inc. (Liberty, or the Proposer) is a renewable energy company based in Albany, New York. Its mission is to build, own, and operate wind energy projects that support rural economic development and environmental stewardship throughout New York State. As reflected in this Community Engagement Plan (the Plan), the Proposer's dedicated team strives to be community focused, fostering transparent and equitable relationships with the local representatives, organizations, and families who host Liberty projects.

1.1 Company Profile

Liberty was formed in 2019 and is led by its sponsor Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP). CIP is a global leader in renewable energy investments and makes significant and meaningful contributions to the green transition through developing, constructing, and operating renewable energy infrastructure, including both onshore and offshore wind projects. CIP currently operates over 800 megawatts (MW) of land-based wind projects in the United States and is well-positioned to support the successful delivery of Liberty's New York State portfolio.

1.2 Agricola Wind Project

The Agricola Wind Project (the Bid Facility, or Project) is a proposed wind energy generation facility and associated infrastructure of up to 99 MW in capacity, including up to 24 turbine locations, within the Towns of Scipio and Venice in Cayuga County, New York.

Siting Agricola Wind has been a complex and thoughtful process, involving the close evaluation of several factors over nearly four years to ensure the Bid Facility is responsibly developed, low impact, cost-effective, and community centered. Primary factors in selecting a site for the Bid Facility generally included a local transmission line with adequate interconnection capacity, availability of suitable land with a strong wind resource for the construction of wind turbines, low impacts to environmental and cultural resources, landowners interested in the prospect of hosting infrastructure, as well as compatibility with community economic goals and interests. In alignment with these factors, Liberty possesses the project development experience, technical knowledge, financial resources, and commitment to deliver the planned Bid Facility in fulfillment of the goals of New York's 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).

1.3 Principles of Engagement

Flexibility: Liberty has an iterative development process that incorporates stakeholder input wherever possible. To support this principle, projects are designed responsibly, conservatively, and with enough flexibility to allow the team to be responsive to local interests and concerns

where feedback is received.

Transparency: Liberty engages stakeholders early and often, sharing as much information as feasibly possible based on development progress. In support of this principle, staff regularly provide in-person updates on development efforts to Town officials, Project participants, and Project neighbors, and reflects updates on the Project website in a timely manner.¹

Accessibility: Residents and local officials have limited resources to invest in assessing Liberty and the Bid Facility, so it is the responsibility of staff to be readily available as a resource to all community members. Liberty designs projects with our stakeholders at the forefront, which is achieved by being accessible and responsive. In support of this principle, Liberty offers a toll-free phone number for those interested in the Bid Facility to call for information as well as a contact form on the website for questions and concerns to be submitted via email.² These channels of contact are listed on the Bid Facility's website and are spread in the community through word-of-mouth. Liberty staff monitor comments received and make every effort to respond to all substantive inquiries by email, telephone, or mail. Lastly, Liberty currently employs seven full-time development team staff in Central New York, who regularly make themselves available for in-person meetings with stakeholders and town boards.

Compassion: Liberty staff work to build connections in host communities, ensure mutual understanding, and build trust so that the company can position itself as a welcome long-term partner. Liberty acknowledges that many communities feel burdened by the rapid expansion of clean energy generation in New York State. To support this principle, staff pursue opportunities to engage with concerns, listen, learn from current and past conflicts, and work with the community to create solutions.

2 Authority Having Jurisdiction & Taxing School District

At the start of development for the Bid Facility, Liberty identified the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and Taxing School District as among the primary beneficiaries of the proposed Bid Facility, including a potential future Host Community Benefit Agreement (HCA) and Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT Agreement), in addition to other direct benefits. Liberty has endeavored to ensure that these stakeholders stay informed on Bid Facility updates and are encouraged to ask questions, voice concerns, and provide feedback throughout the development process. Liberty plans to maintain an open line of communication with these entities through construction and operations.

¹ www.liberty-renewables.com/agricolawind/

² <https://liberty-renewables.com/#contact>



2.1 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

The Towns of Scipio and Venice in Cayuga County, New York are, together, the primary AHJ for the Bid Facility.

Table 1. Town of Scipio Government Officials

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY	TENURE	CONTACT
Gary Mutchler	Supervisor (Primary Executive)	Scipio	Present - 2025	supervisor@townofscipio.com 315-730-3638
Susan "Dee" Allen	Deputy Supervisor, Councilperson	Scipio	Present - 2027	susan.allen@townofscipio.com
Jason Botsford	Councilperson	Scipio	Present - 2025	jason.botsford@townofscipio.com
Nancy Hart	Councilperson	Scipio	Present - 2027	nancy.hart@townofscipio.com
Melinda Pitman	Councilperson	Scipio	Present - 2025	melinda.pitman@townofscipio.com
Melissa Alford	Planning Board Chair	Scipio	Present - 2024	melissadeckeralford@gmail.com
Keith Welch	Zoning Board Chair	Scipio	Present - 2025	friartuck.krw@gmail.com
Bill Hall	Highway Superintendent	Scipio	Present - 2025	highway@townofscipio.com
Patrick Doyle	Code Enforcement Officer	Scipio	Present - 2024	codeenforcement@townofscipio.com 315-729-3921
Ann Robson	Clerk	Scipio	Present - 2025	clerk@townofscipio.com 315-364-5740

Table 2. Town of Venice Government Officials

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY	TENURE	CONTACT
Stefan McGonagle	Supervisor (Primary Executive)	Venice	Present - 2027	supervisor@veniceny.com 315-730-4937
Brian Sheils	Deputy Supervisor, Councilperson	Venice	Present - 2025	sheils.farms@plantpioneer.com 315-246-0263
Edward Denton	Councilperson	Venice	Present - 2027	EWD4@cornell.edu , 315-406-7768
Terri Denman	Councilperson	Venice	Present - 2025	tldenman@yahoo.com 315-246-0241
Nancy Abbott	Councilperson	Venice	Present - 2027	abbottnzt54@gmail.com
Stephen Fedrizzi	Highway Superintendent	Venice	Present - 2025	highway@veniceny.com 315-364-8936
Patrick Doyle	Code Enforcement Officer	Venice	Present - 2024	codes@veniceny.com 315-729-3921
Andrew	Clerk	Venice	Present -	clerk@veniceny.com



Simkin			2025	315-364-9512
--------	--	--	------	--------------

2.2 Taxing School District

The Bid Facility is located within the Southern Cayuga County School District (SCCSD).

Table 3. Southern Cayuga County School District Officials

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY	CONTACT
Patrick Jensen	Superintendent	SCCSD	jensenp@southerncayuga.org (315)-364-7211
Loretta Van Horn	Assistant Superintendent, Business & Operations	SCCSD	(315) 364-8711 ext. 1103
Marcy Phelps-Hand	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent	SCCSD	(315) 364-8711 ext.1100
Rachel McCarthy	Board of Education President	SCCSD	SCCSBOE@southerncayuga.org

2.3 Additional Affected Agencies

The Bid Facility ultimately involves several local, regional, state, and federal agencies in addition to the AHJ and Taxing School District. Liberty’s consultations with additional affected agencies throughout the development of the Bid Facility includes, but is not limited to:

State and Federal Agencies

- New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES)
- New York State Department of Public Service (NYS DPS)
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)
- New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYS AGM)
- New York State Historic Preservation Office (NY SHPO)
- New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NY SOPRHP)
- New York State Department of Transportation (NY SDOT)
- New York State Department of Health (NY SDOH)
- New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NY SERDA)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (US ACE)
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA)

Local Agencies

- Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA)



- Cayuga County Highway Department
- Cayuga County Office of Emergency Management
- Cayuga County Office of Real Property

Utilities

- New York Power Authority (NYPA)
- New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG)

Additional Stakeholder Groups

- New York Independent Systems Operator (NYISO)
- Cayuga and Onondaga Nations
- Scipio Volunteer Fire Company
- Long Hill Fire Department
- Southern Cayuga Instant Aid (SCIA)
- Local Environmental Groups

These consultation efforts broadly involve a Bid Facility update notification list, including relevant mailings, to agencies and organization officials; coordination on environmental studies and other survey work; report submittals; and virtual and in-person meetings with agencies and representatives on an as-needed basis.

3 Outreach Strategies & Activities with Community Stakeholders and Interested Parties

3.1 Engagement Strategies & Mechanisms for Soliciting Project Feedback

Liberty engages host communities early in the development process, prioritizes clear communication, and aims to adapt the Bid Facility design to respond to the needs, interests, and concerns of landowners and their neighbors. Details regarding Liberty’s approach, local feedback mechanisms, and feedback received to-date are provided below.

3.1.1 Engagement Strategies & Outreach Materials

Liberty employs various strategies and creates targeted outreach materials to engage interest and input throughout the development of the Bid Facility.

Table 4. Liberty Renewables Engagement Strategies

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY	FREQUENCY	STAKEHOLDERS	DESCRIPTION
Landowner Meetings	Weekly to Monthly (or as needed)	Bid Facility Participants and Neighbors	Liberty meets with Bid Facility participants in-person at their homes and places of business. Liberty’s leadership team is available by phone and



			video conference to promptly address specific concerns from landowners and their attorneys. Staff also meet with neighbors and other residents who have concerns about or oppose the Bid Facility.
Town Board Meetings	Monthly to Quarterly (or as needed)	Town Supervisors, Councilpersons, and Members of the Public	Liberty staff regularly attend Town Board meetings in the host community to provide updates on the Bid Facility as well as to stay apprised of local priorities and concerns. Staff meet and communicate with individual board members as needed.
Planning Board Meetings	Quarterly (or as needed)	Planning Chair, Board Members, and Members of the Public	Liberty staff make a point to attend Planning Board meetings where applicable to give updates on the Bid Facility and to solicit feedback and questions.
County Meetings	Quarterly to Annually (or as needed)	County Leadership and Staff Members	Liberty staff communicate with Cayuga County representatives to provide Project updates and to stay apprised of local interests and concerns. Liberty meets with CCIDA officials on a regular basis as well.
Affected Agency Consultation	As needed	Agency Leadership and Staff Members	Liberty consults with additional affected agencies. as needed.
Email Correspondence	Weekly to Quarterly (or as needed)	Local Officials, Bid Facility Participants, and Others	Liberty communicates with local officials, Bid Facility participants, and area residents with an interest in the Bid Facility via email as needed. Responsiveness and thoughtful information-sharing are core tenants of this engagement strategy.
Website Outreach	Prior to any public event and when updates are available	Members of the Public	Liberty posts Project notices and updates to its website to maintain its accuracy.
Community Events	Semi-Annually to Annually	Members of the Public	Liberty identifies important community events, provides financial support through sponsorships or donations, and hosts meetings on the sidelines of community events.
Public Open House Events	Annually (or in preparation for Project milestones as needed)	Members of the Public and Local Officials	Open house events are crucial milestones in Liberty's project development process. Hosting these events early allows Liberty to begin information-sharing and consultation with the broader community, which may result in important changes to the project design. Open houses are offered through later-stage milestones, including in the lead-up to the Bid Facility's Article VIII permit application and ahead of construction. Liberty works with local government and small businesses



			to execute these events and strives to create a welcoming atmosphere.
--	--	--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------

Table 5. Liberty Renewables Outreach Materials

OUTREACH MATERIAL	FREQUENCY	STAKEHOLDERS	DESCRIPTION
Newspaper Advertisements & Flyers	Prior to Any Public Event	Members of the Public	In advance of public events, Liberty places ads in local press outlets and distributes flyers to community organizations and Town leaders. Local social media platforms have been a helpful venue for flyer distribution as well.
Direct Mailings	Prior to Any Public Event and When Updates are Available	Residents within 1 to 5 Miles of the Bid Facility	Liberty has utilized direct mailing campaigns to reach potential Bid Facility participants and neighbors.
Project Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) One-Pager	Prior to Any Public Event and When Updates are Available	Members of the Public	Liberty staff take detailed notes during community and other stakeholder meetings, maintaining a running list of questions and concerns related to the Bid Facility. Notes are formalized into a succinct FAQ one-pager that is distributed at Project events and implemented on Liberty's website.
Project Facility Site Figures	When Updates are Available	Members of the Public	Figures detailing the approximate Project Area of Interest are shared during early-stage development. Draft Facility Site figures, including anticipated turbine and other infrastructure locations, are shared as engineering design matures and becomes available for distribution.
Handouts on Key Topics of Interest	Prior to Any Public Event and When Updates are Available	Members of the Public	Liberty staff author handouts and gather factsheets published by respected industry research entities to communicate key topics of interest with respect to the Bid Facility, including but not limited to public health and safety, property values, sound and shadow flicker, environmental and wildlife impact mitigation, decommissioning procedures, and facility component recycling.
Project Website Updates	Prior to Any Public Event and When Updates are Available	Members of the Public	Liberty publishes notices, updates, and downloadable informational resources about the Bid Facility and wind energy generally to the Project website. At the time of this submittal, Liberty is undergoing a comprehensive website improvement process led by a professional design firm to update Bid Facility-related content and ensure a user-friendly experience.
Features in Local Media Outlets	Prior to or Following Any Public Event (or as needed)	Members of the Public	Liberty staff speak with journalists from local and regional media outlets regarding updates in the Bid Facility design and development timeline. Staff strive to answer questions clearly and



			comprehensively to create the basis of informative feature articles or other media for publication.
--	--	--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

3.1.2 Mechanisms for Soliciting Bid Facility Feedback

Feedback mechanisms for the Bid Facility are an important component of community outreach and stakeholder engagement. Transparent and robust community engagement informs the public about the proposed Bid Facility and builds understanding, while ensuring that Liberty is aware of stakeholder support and concerns. Liberty implements the following strategies to solicit feedback, address criticism, incorporate ideas, and resolve complaints:

1. Direct outreach to key stakeholders through in-person meetings, phone calls, and email
2. Comprehensive design consultation and collaboration with participants of the Bid Facility by way of discussing draft figures of facility component locations and conducting regular site visits with landowners.
3. Presentations at public Town meetings, prompting attendees for questions and concerns about the Bid Facility, and often distributing staff business cards with additional contact information
4. Town meeting agendas and minutes, where Liberty contributions are detailed and made available for the public through Town websites and other traditional channels
5. Mailers and surveys sent to neighbors of the Bid Facility and a variety of local officials to inform siting considerations
6. Meetings with any concerned community groups to identify and agree on appropriate mitigative measures
7. Liberty contact information, including an email and mailing address, a toll-free phone number, and a contact form for members of the public to submit comments or questions to the Project team
8. Detailed conversation with Liberty staff and subject-matter experts in-person at public open houses and other community events, in addition to comment cards available at these events for attendees to submit written feedback or questions if preferred

3.1.3 Feedback Received

Throughout engagement efforts within the host community, Liberty has received feedback on interests and concerns regarding the Bid Facility. In response, the Proposer applies several strategies for respectfully responding to opposition, mitigating concerns, and ultimately building support where possible. Examples provided below:

Table 6. Local Interests & Concerns and Strategies for Building Support

SOURCE	INTEREST OR	STRATEGY FOR	STATUS
--------	-------------	--------------	--------



	CONCERN	BUILDING SUPPORT	
Towns of Scipio and Venice (Several crossovers with Members of the Public During Open House Events & Via Emails and Phone Calls with Neighbors of the Bid Facility)	Adequate community engagement regarding the Bid Facility	Robust Community Engagement Plan	Community engagement efforts ongoing since 2021, and CEP to be included in NYSERDA RFP
	Road use impacts during construction and operation	Transportation Impact study and Road Use Agreement	To be included with Article VIII permit application, and to be executed between Liberty and Towns
	Land use footprint of Project in predominantly agricultural areas	Compliance with the New York State Guidelines for Agricultural Mitigation for Wind Power Projects and siting best-practices	In progress in collaboration with participants of the Bid Facility
	Decommissioning of Project turbines	Decommissioning Study and Plan and Decommissioning Bond	To be included with Article VIII permit application
	Impacts to local electric supply and grid reliability	NYISO Interconnection & Reliability Studies	To be included with Article VIII permit application
	Project community benefits invested into the Towns and School District	HCA and consideration of other direct benefits	To be detailed within Article VIII permit application and HCA to be executed between Liberty and Towns
	Adequate Bid Facility emergency and safety preparedness, including training for local emergency services	Site Security Plan (SSP) and Safety Response Plan (SRP), and consultation with area emergency responders	SSP and SRP to be included with Article VIII permit application, detailing training plans, and in-person consultation with emergency responders in April 2024
	Impacts to water quality within the vicinity of the Bid Facility	Compliance with Article VIII regulations, including related setback requirements, and the use of a third-party to conduct water tests	To be included with Article VIII permit application; impacts to water quality not expected
	Turbine height and visual impacts	Visibility and viewshed impact analyses, consultation on visually sensitive resources, and photosimulations	To be included with Article VIII permit application, and example photosimulations available at the August 2024 open house
Cayuga County	PILOT agreements	Negotiations with all relevant stakeholders	In progress
	Bid Facility's impact on emergency services and telecommunications	Telecommunications Impact Study & Mitigation Plan	To be included with Article VIII permit application
	Road use impacts during construction/operation	Transportation Impact study and Road Use Agreement	To be included with Article VIII permit application, and to be executed between Liberty and County
	Location of proposed	Draft site layout progressed	Preliminary turbine locations



Members of the Public During Open House Events & Via Emails and Phone Calls with Neighbors of the Bid Facility	turbines	through robust environmental studies, civil and electrical engineering, consultation with Bid Facility participants and Towns, and other due diligence	shared with the public in June 2024, and comprehensive Bid Facility design shared via outreach events and on the website in August 2024
	Construction noise and potential traffic	Construction limited to specific hours by ORES, and consultation with County, Towns, emergency responders, and school districts informs final construction delivery routes	Preliminary plans to be included with Article VIII permit application
	Impacts to threatened and endangered species	Four years of local wildlife studies, and changes to Bid Facility design as needed	To be included with Article VIII permit application, including a Net Conservation Benefits Plan
	Impacts to wetlands	Wetlands and Water Resources Delineation, and Wetland and Stream Restoration & Mitigation Plans	To be included with Article VIII permit application; impacts to wetlands or streams anticipated to be largely avoided/minimized
	Impact of wind projects on local property values	Provide community members with research to-date on impact of wind energy development on property values	Latest studies provided at past and planned open houses and to be available on Liberty's website
	Impacts to local airports	Consultation with the FAA and Determination of No Hazard	In progress
Bid Facility Participants	Agricultural mitigation including the avoidance of high value soils and central fields	Implementing changes to the site layout and Bid Facility design through an iterative process	Largely complete in collaboration with participants of the Bid Facility
	Utilizing existing farm roads for turbine access roads and collection lines	Implementing changes to the site layout and Bid Facility design through an iterative process	Largely complete in collaboration with participants of the Bid Facility
	Minimizing impacts to daily agribusiness operations including seasonal schedules	Compliance with the New York State Guidelines for Agricultural Mitigation for Wind Power Projects; as well as close collaboration with Project participants	In progress
	Visual impacts to neighbors	Comprehensive visual impact analysis and visual simulations of the Bid Facility to inform the final design	To be included with Article VIII permit application, and photosimulations available at the August 2024 open house
	Minimizing tree clearing	Implementing changes to the site layout and design of the Bid Facility through an iterative process	Largely complete in collaboration with participants of the Bid Facility



3.2 Public Involvement Through Project Milestones

Details of major outreach strategies and activities that the Proposer has implemented to-date and will use to encourage public involvement through Project milestones are outlined below.

3.2.1 Engagement During Project Origination & Early-Stage Development

Liberty representatives began outreach and coordination regarding the proposed Bid Facility within the local municipalities during early-stage development efforts beginning in 2020. This early outreach involved introductions at town board meetings, consulting with landowners regarding planned infrastructure and early proposed design, and establishing a familiar presence within the wider community. Liberty hosted two public open house events on July 19, 2021 and March 1, 2022, where the development team and industry subject matter experts welcomed approximately 80 area-residents between the two events, sharing preliminary information on the status and intent of the proposed Bid Facility. Overall, the objectives of initial outreach efforts were to establish broad community awareness, offer opportunities for landowners to participate in the Bid Facility review process and supply valuable development feedback, as well as demonstrate the team’s responsiveness to questions and concerns.



Agricola Wind public open house on July 19, 2021, located at Filmore Glen State Park in Moravia, New York.



Resident mailer for the Agricola Wind public open house on March 1, 2022.

3.2.2 Engagement During Later-Stage Development

The Proposer continued a robust schedule of community engagement efforts over the last few

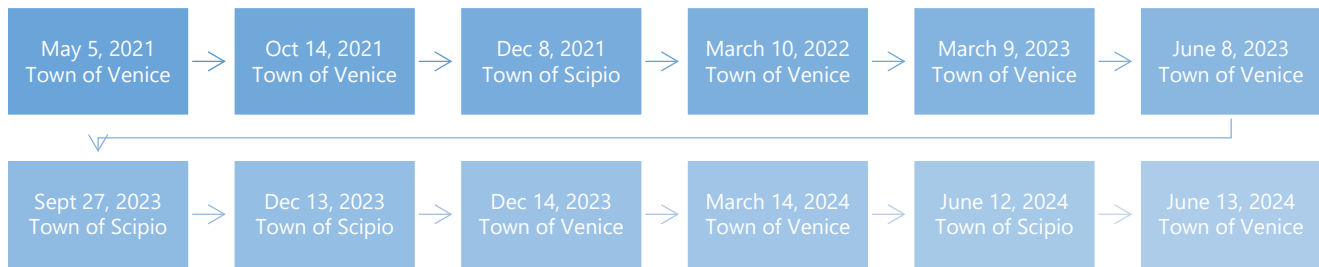
years as the Bid Facility has matured and moved toward a target Article VIII (formerly Section 94-c) permit application filing with ORES, anticipated to take place in Fall 2024. At the time of this submittal, Liberty representatives have attended more than 20 town board meetings and met individually with Town Supervisors, Town and Planning Board councilpersons, county representatives, Code Enforcement Officers, Highway Superintendents, emergency responders, resident groups, and other stakeholders on multiple occasions.

Liberty prioritizes ongoing dialogue and maintaining a strong rapport with AHJ representatives. To this end, the Proposer has engaged in extensive consultation with Scipio and Venice Town Supervisors, Councilpersons, and affiliates, which includes, but is not limited to, information-sharing on the following topics:

1. Local siting considerations, such as current land-use priorities; environmental, cultural, and visual resources; and town Comprehensive Plans
2. The Bid Facility's upcoming field studies and preliminary results of completed field work
3. Project area of interest, land control, and facility design status updates, including sharing preliminary figures of draft turbine locations
4. Local law considerations in reference to wind turbine siting constraints and responsible development best-practices in New York State
5. Opportunities for AHJ and community participation in the ORES permit review process
6. Detailed road use and transportation planning, in coordination with highway departments and local school districts, ahead of construction
7. Town best-practices and suggestions for community outreach and public events

The following examples of meeting minutes published on Town of Scipio and Venice websites over the last four years, although not comprehensive, provide a record of several Liberty presentations and illustrate the Proposer's commitment to AHJ and community engagement regarding the Agricola Wind Project (meeting minutes accessible via hyperlink below):

Scipio & Venice Town and Planning Board Meeting Minutes



Relevant to this Plan, the Proposer initiated consultation with the CCIDA beginning in 2021 and recently, on June 13, 2024, regarding their PILOT Agreement process. In the latest meeting, Liberty provided updated information of the Bid Facility and discussed critical features of the CCIDA’s PILOT requirements, which would operate in coordination with a future economic collaboration. The Proposer also initiated contact with the Taxing School District via a letter sent on July 18, 2024, which provided details of the Bid Facility as well as a map of the planned Facility Site. Consultation with these entities will continue to build ahead of construction.

On July 24, 2024, the Proposer notified the AHJs of Liberty’s intent to enter the Agricola Wind Project into the NYSEEDA procurement process for Tier 1 Eligible Renewable Energy Certificates as described in the latest Request for Proposals (RFP or RESRFP24-1). As part of this notification, Liberty outlined the RFP process, expressed gratitude for each Town Supervisor’s thoughtful and collaborative approach to working with the team over the years, and the Proposer’s excitement to begin the next phase of development in conjunction with Article VIII permit preparations.

The Proposer will conduct an open-house style community meeting on August 13, 2024, at the Venice Pavilion in Venice Center, New York. Notice for the event was published on the Project’s website and in local newspapers, including The Auburn Citizen, Lake Shore News, Hamburg Sun, and Fingerlakes1.com. In addition, the notice was streamed on Finger Lakes Today within their “Get Local” segment and Facebook platform. Notification letters were emailed to the Town Supervisors and Town Clerks for Venice and Scipio and mailed to all residents located within 5 miles of the proposed Bid Facility (i.e., approximately 4,000 recipients), ORES, and the applicable local officials. Liberty staff and regional experts will be available during the event to provide information, answer questions, and address concerns. The team will also be prepared with a collection of informational posters and handouts, including but not limited to a description of the Liberty Renewables Inc. corporate structure and the Bid Facility’s anticipated



development milestones, educational information on turbine setbacks (from both residences and property lines), sound and shadow flicker considerations, preliminary turbine visual simulations, and details on potential community benefits, such as PILOT and HCA payments. In addition, the Proposer will share a figure of the latest design of the Bid Facility for public analysis, which will include anticipated turbine locations, collection lines, access roads, and other infrastructure proposed within the Bid Facility (e.g., substation, meteorological tower, etc.). The Proposer plans to collect names and contact information from open house attendees and will solicit feedback via comment cards and conversation. Resources provided at the open house will be published on the Project website in the near-term.

Community outreach will continue following the August 2024 open house. It will include, but it not limited to, information-sharing on the Bid Facility’s upcoming Article VIII submittal and the ORES review process.

3.2.3 Planned Engagement During Construction, Compliance & Operations

Liberty plans to continue outreach, organizing events with stakeholders around major Bid Facility milestones, including the following engagement details:

Table 7. Liberty Planned Engagement Strategies

PROPOSED DATE	DEVELOPMENT PHASE	PLANNED ENGAGEMENT
Present – Q4 2024	Pre-Award Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional consultation with relevant stakeholders involved in the PILOT and HCA development • Additional consultation with County and Town highway officials to jointly develop a Road Use Agreement ahead of construction • Quarterly Project updates at Town and/or Planning Board Meetings
Q4 2024 – Q3 2026	Article VIII Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Project updates at Town and/or Planning Board Meetings • Announcement of permit review and feedback milestones published on the Project website • Other community and outreach events as needed
Q4 2026 – Q4 2027	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public open house event prior to construction commencement to communicate timeline and expectations; designated construction contractors will be present to address questions and concerns • Safety and emergency response training provided to local first responders • Quarterly Project updates at Town and/or Planning Board Meetings



Q1 2028 - Q4 2028	Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bid Facility updates at Town Board Meetings • Community Project kick-off event
2028 – 2060	Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Bid Facility updates at Town and/or Planning Board Meetings • Meet-and-greet event with Operations & Maintenance Facility staff • Ongoing safety and emergency response training for first responders to stay current on best-practices and address community feedback

4 Creating Value for Disadvantaged Communities as Applicable to Climate Act Goals

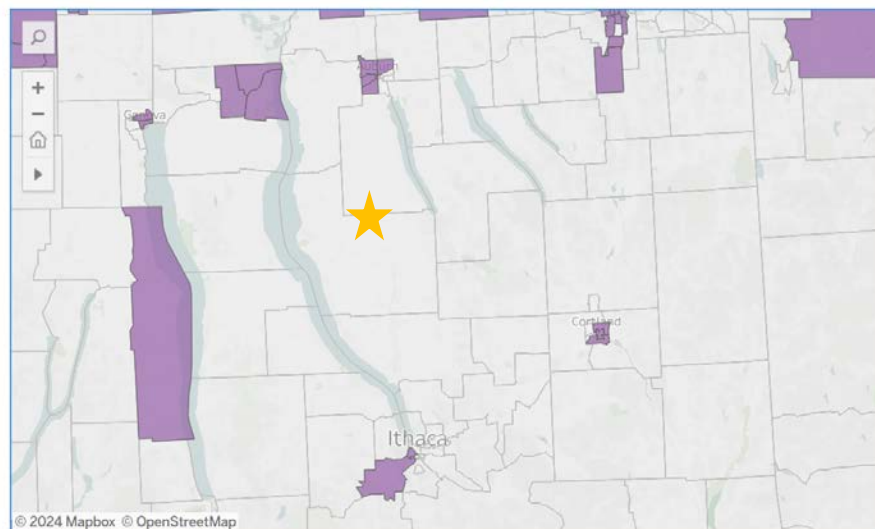
Liberty applauds the historic climate goals set by the State of New York. To assist the State in reaching its ambitious goal of 70% renewable energy by 2030, Liberty commits to building large-scale wind energy projects, to partnering with State universities around workforce development, and to working closely with host communities to ensure they have an active role in project development and receive a fair portion of revenues. Liberty, a member of the Alliance for Clean Energy New York, actively works with other member organizations to advocate for sustainable and equitable clean power generation. In alignment with New York’s Climate Act and the findings of the Climate Justice Working Group (CJWG), Liberty recognizes that climate change does not affect all communities equally. The Proposer aims to ensure that frontline and otherwise underserved communities benefit from New York’s historic transition to cleaner sources of energy, cleaner air, and economic opportunities.

Liberty has paid close attention to the development of the final disadvantaged communities (DACs) criteria, which were approved and adopted by the CJWG in March 2023. The Bid Facility is not located within any designated DAC census tracts and, therefore, Liberty does not anticipate direct impacts. However, Liberty has identified that there are 17 DACs located within, or partially within, 20 miles of the Bid Facility, with the closest DAC, census tract 36011041800, located less than 10 miles north of the Facility in the City of Auburn.

Table 8. Disadvantaged Communities Located within 20 Miles of the Bid Facility

CITY/TOWN	COUNTY	APPROXIMATE DISTANCE FROM FACILITY SITE	CENSUS TRACT
Auburn City	Cayuga	8.9 miles	36011041800
		9.7 miles	36011042100
		10.5 miles	36011041300
		10.5 miles	36011041400

Seneca Falls	Seneca	10.6 miles	36099950300
		13.4 miles	36099950400
		14.6 miles	36099950200
Jordan Village	Onondaga	15.3 miles	36067012000
Port Byron Village	Cayuga	15.9 miles	36011040300
Cortland City	Cortland	17.5 miles	36023970500
		17.8 miles	36023970900
		18.0 miles	36023970600
Dundee Village	Yates	18.2 miles	36123150100
Ithaca City	Tompkins	18.4 miles	36109000800
Savannah	Wayne	18.8 miles	36117021700
Ithaca City	Tompkins	19.1 miles	36109001000
Nedrow	Onondaga	19.2 miles	36067940000



Approximate location of the Agricola Wind Project in relation to DAC census tracts, as identified by the CJWG.³

In applying a community-focused approach to development, with the intent to ensure the wider community is informed of the Bid Facility and aware of potential socioeconomic benefits associated with its long-term operation, Liberty anticipates that these nearby disadvantaged communities may benefit from increased jobs and economic opportunities associated with construction and operation. In coordination with the Project’s managing contractor, Liberty expects to source construction labor, subcontractors, vendors, and materials, not only from the host community, but also from nearby DACs whenever possible. Additionally, the increased effect on spending in hospitality, lodging, dining, and related services will be felt primarily in the cities encompassing several DACs, where these businesses are located.

³ <https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria>

The overall environmental benefits inherent to a wind energy generating facility, including improved air quality and a reduced dependence on traditional fossil fuels, are expected to result in long-term indirect benefits to the region. Furthermore, the proposed Bid Facility is anticipated to have local, countywide, and statewide economic benefits that could indirectly benefit DACs found in the region.

5 Direct Benefits to the Community & Related Engagement

Wind power is clean, quiet, and compatible with existing agricultural operations and residential life due to its small land-use footprint. The Bid Facility will directly invest in the host community in several ways: lease and easement agreements with local landowners, HCA, PILOT Agreement, and Shared Community Payment (SCP) program for neighbors to the Bid Facility. Liberty works closely with the appropriate agencies to structure agreements that financially empower the host community. Financial benefit agreements begin once the Bid Facility is operational and continue on an annual basis for the life of the Bid Facility, which is anticipated to be 30+ years. The Bid Facility will make additional capital investments in local and state industries during construction and operation and contribute to job creation as well as workforce development. Liberty anticipates investing over \$1.5 million annually in local investment once the Project is in operations, and over \$63 million in local investment throughout the life of the Project.

5.1 Lease & Easement Payments

In recent years, New York State farm closures have negatively impacted local economies and job markets. The minimal land-use footprint of wind energy makes it highly compatible with existing agricultural business operations, as well as other industries. By offering a new and additional source of passive revenue, Liberty is helping businesses stay open. Liberty also works with residential households and estates, offering these families supplemental financial security during what has been an economically tumultuous series of years.

5.2 Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT Agreement)

Liberty is seeking a PILOT Agreement for the Bid Facility and has had preliminary discussions with the CCIDA, a public-benefit corporation devoted to promoting and assisting businesses to locate, grow, and expand in Cayuga County (see Section 3.2.2). Formal PILOT negotiations between all affected agencies have yet to take place at the time of this submittal. Liberty is prepared to offer fair market value for an annual PILOT Agreement payment, building on recent precedent set by similarly sized land-based wind projects in New York State. This agreement would be shared between the CCIDA, the Towns of Scipio and Venice, as well as the Southern

Cayuga County School District.

5.3 Host Community Benefit Agreement (HCA)

Liberty acknowledges the crucial role that municipalities play in hosting clean energy projects. HCAs work to ensure that Project revenues are invested back into the local community and into the hands of residents. Liberty is prepared to offer fair market value for an annual HCA payment, building on recent precedent set by similarly sized land-based wind projects in New York State. This agreement would be executed directly with the Towns of Scipio and Venice and is anticipated to remain in place for the life of the project. Included in the HCA will be \$99,000 annually (\$1,000 per MW) to be made available to all electric utility ratepayers in the Project Towns for the first 10 years of operations per New York's Host Community Benefit Program requirement, established in accordance with the 2021 Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act.

5.4 Shared Community Payment Program

As a direct result of community feedback, Liberty is developing an innovative and inclusive new Shared Community Payment program that distributes additional annual payments to community members residing near proposed turbines. This program will offer flexible equity opportunities for members of the community that feel impacted by the Bid Facility but do not benefit directly from leasing land for infrastructure.

5.5 Capital Investments

In the first three years of the Bid Facility, including construction and commercial operation commencement, Liberty will make significant investments into short-term benefits for New York State. This includes construction materials, construction labor costs, site certification services, compliance services, and operations and maintenance costs once the Bid Facility is operational. This amount does not include Liberty's project development costs prior to construction, such as land acquisition, legal services, environmental permitting services, or interconnection study costs, which are also spent exclusively within New York State.

5.6 Job Creation

In the first three years of the Bid Facility, including construction and commercial operation commencement, Liberty will make significant investments into short-term construction jobs within New York State, with up to 52 full-time construction professionals temporary based in the host community and contributing to the local economy. This value represents expenditure of dollars on labor (wages, salaries, and associated expenses) of onsite construction personnel as well as operations and maintenance personnel. The Bid Facility is expected to create three long-term operations and maintenance jobs.



Liberty also employs seven full-time staff based in New York State who work exclusively on regional project development, and they are supported by a CIP office based locally in New York City of around 40 staff. As a relatively young company, Liberty is continuing to grow with several recruitments within New York State scheduled for the remainder of 2024.

5.7 Workforce Development

Liberty understands the importance of workforce development for the clean energy industry within New York State. The Proposer identifies local universities or economic development agencies to partner with and pursues opportunities to hire locally whenever possible.