



Community Engagement Plan

Brookside Solar

NYSERDA RESRFP23-1

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Key Contacts

The Proposer has identified the following key contacts as of Q1 2024.

Authorities Having Jurisdiction and Taxing School District

The Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) are the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay, New York. The taxing School District is the Chateaugay Central School District. The school district ID is 3607080.

Locally Elected Officials

The locally elected officials for the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay, New York are listed below.

| Name | Title and Office | Tenure | Contact | Address |
|---------------------------|--|--|----------------|---|
| Edward Lockwood | Franklin County, Chairman of the Legislature | Elected by Legislators for 3 year session of legislature. Term ending 12/31/2025 | (518) 481-1642 | 355 West Main Street, Suite 409 Malone, NY 12953 |
| Andres Dumas | Franklin County, Vice Chairman of the Legislature | Elected – 3 Years. Term ending 12/31/2025 | (518) 524-9514 | 355 West Main Street, Suite 409 Malone, NY 12953 |
| Philip Hans | Franklin County Office of Economic Development and Tourism, Director | Employee. Term ends upon resignation or termination. | (518) 481-1597 | Franklin County Courthouse, 4 th Floor, suit 438 355 West Main Street Malone, NY 12953 |
| Jeremy Evans | Franklin County Industrial Development Agency, Chief Executive Officer | Employee. Term ends upon resignation or termination. | (518) 483-9472 | 355 West Main Street, Suite 428 Malone, NY 12959 |
| Elizabeth Crawford | Franklin County, Acting District Attorney | Elected 4 Years 12/31/27 | 518 481 1544 | 355 West Main Street, Suite 466 Malone, NY 12953 |
| Janelle LaVigne | Franklin County, Attorney | Elected - 3 Years Term ending 12/31/2025 | (518) 481 1405 | 355 West Main Street, Suite 466 Malone, NY 12953 |
| Lynn Harrigan | Chateaugay Tax Collector | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2027. | (518) 425-6633 | 191 East Main Street Chateaugay, NY 12920 |
| Don Bilow | Chateaugay Town Supervisor | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2027. | (518) 497-3126 | 191 East Main Street Chateaugay, NY 12920 |

| Name | Title and Office | Tenure | Contact | Address |
|--------------------------|--|---|------------------|--|
| Phyllis Lemay | Chateaugay Town Clerk | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2027 | (518) 497-6931 | 191 East Main Street Chateaugay, NY 12920 |
| Marie Cook | Chateaugay Town Justice | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2025 | (518) 497-6931 | 191 East Main Street Chateaugay, NY 12920 |
| William Wood | Burke Town Supervisor | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2027 | (518) 497 – 6387 | P.O. Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Judy Tavernier | Burke Town Clerk | Elected - 4 Years Term ending 12/31/2025 | (518) 521 3098 | P.O. Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Lorelie Miller | Town Justice | Elected – 4 Years Term Ending 12/31/27 | 518) 483 5497 | P.O Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Jim Dumont | Burke and Chateaugay Code Enforcement Officer | Appointed. Appointment to be renewed or terminated at discrepancy of Supervisor/Board. | (518) 483 - 6130 | P.O. Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Tammy Spinner | Burke Tax Collector | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending 12/31/2025. | (518) 483 – 0790 | P.O. Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Jim Otis | Town Councilmen | Elected – 4 Years. Term ending. 12/31/2025 | (518) 353 0205 | P.O Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Tim Crippen | Town Councilmen | Elected – 4 Years Term ending. 12/31/2025 | (518) 483 7426 | P.O Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Paddy Wheeler | Town Councilmen | Elected – 4 Years Term ending. 12/31/2027 | (518) 524 4334 | P.O Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Eric Ashlaw | Town Councilmen | Elected – 4 Years Term ending 12/31/2025 | 518) 483 1518 | P.O Box 121 Burke, New York 12917 |
| Thomas West, Esq. | Special Counsel to the Towns of Burke & Chateaugay | Appointed. Appointment to be reviewed or terminated at discrepancy of Supervisor/Board | (518) 641 - 0500 | Albany Office: 575 Broadway, 2nd Floor Albany, NY 12207 |
| Gregory Mountain | Special Counsel to the Towns of Burke & Chateaugay | Appointed. Appointment to be reviewed or terminated at discrepancy of Supervisor/Board | (518) 641 - 0500 | Albany Office: 575 Broadway, 2nd Floor Albany, NY 12207 |

Outreach Strategies and Activities

Bid Facility Background

Brookside Solar (the “Bid Facility”) is a proposed 100 megawatt (MWac) solar photovoltaic electric generating facility located in the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay in Franklin County, New York. The Bid Facility Area will span approximately 645 acres and plans to interconnect to the nearby Chateaugay – Willis 115kV transmission line.

The Proposer is committed to the responsible development of renewable energy as a catalyst for long-term community benefit. The Bid Facility is anticipated to positively impact both the environment and the local economy by reducing carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 131,000 metric tons each year – the equivalent of powering approximately 27,413 homes’ electricity use per year. Additionally, the Bid Facility will contribute to the local economy by producing significant tax revenue and other economic benefits for the area.

94-c Application Status

On December 8, 2023, the Bid Facility received its Final 94-c Siting Permit from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), to develop, design, construct, operate, maintain, and decommission the Bid Facility in the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay in Franklin County. The Proposer will approach all aspects of development, operation, and decommissioning of the Bid Facility in accordance with the specifications laid out in the 94-c permit. The Final Siting Permit and all other materials filed in the Brookside Solar 94-c proceeding can be found in the New York State Document and Matter Management System (DMM) under [DMM Matter Number 21-00917](#).

Description of Stakeholder List

The stakeholder list includes a variety of individuals and parties with interest in the Bid Facility. The host communities are the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay. The Town Boards representing the host communities have been identified. Points of contact (POC) will be the Town Supervisors and the Town Clerks.

Community Members

Within this Community Engagement Plan, community members include participating and adjacent landowners and community members within a 1-mile radius of the boundaries of the Bid Facility, the local school district, the towns, county, and state agencies who are expected to take part or have interest in the Bid Facility.

Local Agencies

Local affected agencies are also stakeholders. The Proposer has been in contact with local agencies, following 94-c regulations. These groups include: officials from the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay, and Franklin County; New York State (NYS) officials; Chateaugay Central School District; local first responders and fire department utility providers; and local interest groups. Contact has been made with the local agency representatives listed below.

- William Wood – Town of Burke Supervisor
- Don Bilow – Town of Chateaugay Supervisor
- Donna Kissane – Franklin County Manager
- Donald Dabiew – Chairman of the Franklin County Board of Legislators
- Gregory Janisewski – Vice Chairman of Frankin County Board of Legislators
- Loretta Fowler – Superintendent of Chateaugay Central School District

Throughout the 94-c permitting process, the Proposer has consulted with state agencies on several occasions, including with ORES, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM), and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP).

The Proposer has engaged in outreach with local stakeholder groups including the Adirondack North Country Association, North Country Chamber of Commerce, Chateaugay Historical Society, Chateaugay Central School District, Franklin Essex Hamilton Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), Chateaugay Rotary, Chateaugay Revitalization Committee, Town of Burke Fire Department, Burke Foothills Ambulance Center, Town of Burke Adult Center, and the Wilder Farm historic site and association.

Methods of Communication

The Proposer utilizes a variety of communication channels to disseminate information about the Bid Facility including: the Bid Facility website, mailed notifications, and notices in local papers. Additionally, the Proposer asks the towns to post key Bid Facility information on their websites. Permit application materials are made available at key locations in the host communities, per 94-c regulations.

The Proposer consistently meets 94-c communication requirements regarding public meeting notifications, notifications about key Bid Facility milestones, and status of the 94-c application. A mailing list has been developed that includes the stakeholders listed above, as well as additional addresses solicited from community meetings and the Bid Facility website.

Bid Facility updates will continue to be shared on the Bid Facility website throughout the 94-c permitting process. Community meeting materials, such as slide presentations and Q&As, are also made available on the Bid Facility website.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Bid Facility website | https://www.aes.com/brookside-solar-project |
| Bid Facility email | brooksidesolar@aes.com |
| Burke Town Board website | https://www.burkeny.org/ |
| Chateaugay Town Board website | https://www.chateaugayny.org/ |

Outreach Efforts – Pre-Award and Development

In addition to regular communication with local officials in the host community, the Proposer has conducted community engagement and outreach events for the Bid Facility in accordance with 94-c regulations. Some of these outreach efforts are described below.

| Date | Community and Stakeholder Engagement Event |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <p>March 16, 2021</p> | <p>Virtual Community Meeting</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Farrell – Director, Development AES • Brett Hastings – Director, O&M AES • Eric Will – Senior Manager, Development AES • Jim Muscato – Permitting Counsel, Young Sommer • Hayler Effler - Environmental Permitting Project Manager, TRC <p>Watch Recording Slide Deck View Q&A</p> |
| <p>February 1, 2022</p> | <p>In-Person Meeting at Burke Town Hall</p> <p>Presenters and Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mario Rice – Lead Developer/Manager, Development AES • Eric Will – Senior Manager, Development AES • Brett Hastings – Director, O&M AES • Sasha Kran – Manager, Development AES • William Wood – Burke Town Supervisor <p>Notification of 94-c Application Filing issued February 22, 2022</p> |

Community Engagement Event Details

Community engagement events offer opportunities for the Proposer to meet with local stakeholders. The purpose of community meetings is to introduce AES and the Bid Facility, inform the community on the 94-c permitting process, present next steps in Bid Facility development, and inform the community on ways to get involved. The Proposer notifies stakeholders about community engagement events in accordance with 94-c regulations.

March 16, 2021

On March 16, 2021, the Proposer held a Virtual Community Meeting. The virtual meeting was an opportunity for the Proposer to provide updates to the community on the preliminary Bid Facility layout, timeline, and economic benefits and to solicit community input.

The meeting included a Q&A session. Community members raised questions regarding labor and construction, endangered species, and stakeholders involved in the Bid Facility. A full summary of community questions and the Proposer’s answers are available on the Bid Facility website.

February 1, 2022

Community members were invited to attend the in-person community meeting for the Bid Facility. The meeting was listed on the Bid Facility website and on other community resources two weeks before taking place. Community members in attendance included current Bid Facility landowners and neighboring landowners within one mile of the Bid

Facility. The purpose of the meeting was to continue to provide information on the 94-c permitting process, inform the community about next steps in Bid Facility development, and inform the community on how to get involved. During the meeting, community members raised questions regarding the Bid Facility final design, setbacks from roads and adjacent land parcels, decommissioning, and impacts on recreation activity in the community.

The Proposer continues to engage with stakeholders, including groups and individuals with a potential interest in the Bid Facility. Continued consultation with stakeholders has provided a platform for open dialogue to distribute Bid Facility information, discuss potential avoidance and minimization efforts, and solicit input from community members (including participating and non-participating landowners, local governments, and public interest groups). Throughout the development of the Bid Facility, the Proposer applies consistent efforts to ensure the towns have an opportunity to communicate concerns and ask questions regarding the Bid Facility and its impact on the community.

Notification of Community Events

In advance of the community engagement events, notice was provided in compliance with 94-c regulations. Ahead of the Brookside Solar Open House and Virtual Community Meeting, postcards announcing the events were circulated to community stakeholders, including all host and adjacent landowners and community members within a 1-mile radius of the project’s boundaries. The meeting details were posted on the Bid Facility website and on other community resources two weeks before taking place. Additionally, notification for both events was provided in the Malone Telegram and Jefferson County Pennysaver publications, in accordance with 94-c notification regulations.

Local agencies were also invited to attend both the Open House and the Virtual Community Meeting. The invitees were informed of the meetings at least two weeks prior. The following agencies and organizations were invited to attend Town of Burke, Town of Chateaugay, Franklin County officials, NYS officials, Chateaugay Central School District, local first responders and fire departments, adjacent municipalities, utility providers, and local interest groups.

Notices were addressed to the full Town Board, care of the POC, and the appropriate Clerk, with language clearly stating the expectation that the notices and information should be distributed to the full board. The Proposer also provided notices to each member of the State Legislature whose district lies within any portion of the proposed Bid Facility area.

Outreach Strategies – Construction

The Proposer will continue community outreach and engagement during the Bid Facility’s construction phase. In consideration of the local host community and the temporary disruption caused by construction, the Proposer is receptive to hosting a local Construction Open House to inform the community about what to expect during the construction phase.

The Proposer will abide by the 94-c regulations to develop and implement a Complaint

Management Plan during the construction phase. At a minimum, the Complaint Management Plan shall describe the following:

- Methods for registering a complaint, which shall include a phone number, email address, mailing address, and a form to report complaints;
- Notification to the public of the complaint procedures;
- Process for responding to and resolving complaints in a consistent, timely, and respectful manner;
- Logging and tracking of all complaints received and resolutions achieved, with records of the following for each complaint containing:
 - The name and contact information of the person filing the complaint;
 - Location and owner of the property where the complaint originated;
 - Date and time of the underlying event causing the complaint;
 - Description of the complaint; and
 - Current status and description of measures taken to resolve complaint.
- Reporting to the Office and the New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS) any complaints not resolved within 30 days of receipt;
- Mediating complaints not resolved within 60 days; and
- Providing annual reports of complaint resolution tracking to the Office staff and NYSDPS staff, which shall also be filed with the Executive Director of the Office and Secretary of the NYSDPS.

Through these engagement tactics, the Proposer will ensure that stakeholders have appropriate recourse to learn and share feedback about the Bid Facility’s construction phase.

Outreach Strategies – Operation

The Proposer will make reasonable efforts to keep the community informed about the Bid Facility throughout all phases. During operation there will be signage posted at the Bid Facility with AES contact information. Signage will also include specific instructions on responding to an emergency.

Throughout the life of the project, the Proposer is committed to being accessible to the community and all stakeholders.

Climate Act Goals and Benefits for Disadvantaged Communities

The Climate Act requires the state to invest or direct resources in a manner designed to ensure that disadvantaged communities receive at least 35%, with the goal of 40%, of overall benefits of spending on:

- Clean energy and energy efficiency programs
- Projects or investments in the areas of housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low-income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development

An overview of our contributions through social impact partnerships in the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay is described below.

Social Impact Program

To support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including the Bid Facility, AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021.

Through the Social Impact Program, the AES team collaborates with community leaders from government, business, education, social services, and residents to identify opportunities where AES can provide financial support and other types of support to high-impact initiatives, programs, and institutions that enjoy broad support in the community. AES has developed these four focus pillars from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

1. Partnering for access to Safe, Efficient, and Affordable Energy and Basic Services
2. Partnering for Inclusive Economic Growth & Education
3. Partnering for the Environment
4. Partnering for Community Resilience

Within these pillars, the Social Impact Program strives to create partnerships that align with AES' purpose and values while strengthening AES' investment in community-led initiatives that meet the targets set forth by the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goals](#) and American Clean Power's [Energy Transition for All initiative](#).

These targets and goals closely align with the Climate Act's goals for disadvantaged communities.

AES Social Impact Spending for, in, or near Disadvantaged Communities

To date, more than 40 percent of overall AES Social Impact program funding in New York has been invested in communities that meet the criteria for disadvantaged communities. Per the Climate Justice Working Group Draft Criteria 15 percent of residents in Northern New York live in a disadvantaged community.

AES understands the need for investing in workforce development, and through our Social Impact program we have invested in workforce development in three disadvantaged communities through partnerships with:

- Franklin Essex Hamilton Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES)
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
 - Local 910 Apprenticeship Program
 - Local 237 Apprenticeship Program
- Genesee Community College, Solar Electrical Technician Certificate Program
- Solar One, Green Workforce Program, New York City

Regional Workforce Development

AES is pleased to offer financial support for workforce development in the North Country and for disadvantaged communities. In addition, an AES representative has participated in the Electrical Trades Consultant Committee of the FEH BOCES, based in Malone, since October 2022.

In this role, the AES representative has shared his perspective on the program and curriculum and gives input on possible changes that need to be made to best prepare their students for renewable energy industry careers.

Clean Energy Career Fairs

AES recognizes the importance of sponsoring and attending career and job fairs in disadvantaged communities. The table below reflects AES participation in these events in 2023. In 2024 through COD, AES will continue to support a minimum of one event per year in the Bid Facility region.

| Date | Event Title | Location | Organizer | DAC |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| 3/22/2023 | Job and Internship Fair | Tompkins Cortland Community College, Dryden, NY | Tompkins Cortland Community College | yes |
| 3/28/2023 | Spring Job Fair | Valley Chapel Hall Ministry Center, Warsaw, NY | WyomingCounty Chamber of Commerce | yes |
| 4/18/2023 | Clean Energy Careers NY | Sustainable United Neighborhoods, Brooklyn, NY | CleanEnergy Careers NY | yes |
| 4/20/2023 | Orleans County 2023 Job Fair | YMCA, Medina, NY | Orleans County Job Development Agency | yes |
| 4/21/2023 | Clean Energy Careers Fair | Rochester Convention Center, Rochester, NY | Climate Solutions Accelerator | yes |
| 5/17/2023 | Spring Job Fair | Westside Ballroom, Plattsburgh, NY | Northern New York Chamber of Commerce-Plattsburgh | yes |
| 9/26/2023 | GLOW With Your Hands | Genesee County Fairgrounds, Batavia, NY | GLOWWorkforce Development Board | yes |
| 10/4/2023 | NYCHA Clean Energy Career Fair | The Opportunity Charter School, 240 West 113 Street New York, NY, 10026 | Kinetic Communities Consulting | yes |

AES Social Impact Program and Commitment to Disadvantaged Communities

During the development and construction of our 2.5+ GW renewable energy portfolio in New York, AES intends to continue growing our Social Impact program for the state. Funding in this program will be dispersed in host communities, including the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay, and across the state.

Given AES’ own commitment to a just transition and the goals of the Climate Act, AES is committed to ensuring that Social Impact spending in New York directly benefits disadvantaged communities, with AES committing to ensuring at least 40% of all Social Impact spending in New York directly benefits disadvantaged communities.

Plans for Public Engagement

The Bid Facility website provides the designated Bid Facility email address, a New York phone number, and information about weekly office hours. It is regularly updated to provide the community with easy access to Bid Facility information.

Direct Community Benefits

As described in this Community Engagement Plan, AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021. This program is designed to support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including Brookside Solar.

You can learn more about the importance of AES to the communities where we are developing and operating projects [in this video](#).

Local Partnerships and Memberships

In addition to our partnership with the FEH BOCES in Malone, AES’ presence in the North Country has led to partnerships with:

- Chateaugay Central School District
- Northern Adirondack Central School
- Ellenburg Fire District
- Churubusco Fire Department
- Croghan Free Library
- Brownville Glen Park Library
- Lyme Free Library
- Croghan Fire Department
- Castorland Fire Department
- Chateaugay Revitalization Committee
- Chateaugay Rotary
- Burke Volunteer Fire Department Inc.

- Foothills Ambulance Service Inc.
- Burke Adult Center, Inc.
- Almanzo Wilder Homestead – Almanzo & Laura Ingalls Association

The Bid Facility will also provide the residents of the Towns of Burke and Chateaugay with electric utility bill credits for the first 10 years of its operation. The credits will total \$50,000 annually, based on \$500 per MW of capacity. Over the 10-year period, a total of \$500,000 in credits will be given.

During the development of the Bid Facility, the Proposer will continue the Social Impact funding in these host communities and region, in the critical areas of clean energy and energy efficiency programs, investments in the areas of housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low-income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development.

Community Economic Benefits

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) and Host Community Agreement (HCA)

The Proposer expects to execute a PILOT agreement, which will require annual PILOT payments from the Proposer to each taxing jurisdiction. The terms of the PILOT agreement have not been finalized. The Proposer also expects to execute an HCA with the host municipalities and the financial and economic benefits for the host community and county are expected to be in the millions of dollars during the life of the Bid Facility.

Balancing Stakeholder Interests

The Proposer has conducted stakeholder outreach throughout the development of the Bid Facility. These efforts include stakeholder consultation, public education, public meetings, ample notification periods, and public comment periods at key milestones in compliance with 94-c regulations. This information is outlined in Exhibit 2 of the 94-c application, which can be found on the DMM website. Further information is also available to the community via the Bid Facility website. These outreach efforts have ensured community participation during the Bid Facility’s development.

Building Stakeholder Support

The Bid Facility’s success depends on continuing a strong relationship with the Burke and Chateaugay Town Boards and host communities. The Proposer will take the appropriate steps to ensure the community is aware of and participates in the planning, development, construction, and operation of the Bid Facility. Our desire is to be sensitive to local concerns and to build a final Bid Facility that results in a project that the community is proud of.

Response to Community Concerns

The Proposer has worked in cooperation with the community throughout the development of the Bid Facility. The Bid Facility takes into consideration concerns raised by the community and has incorporated solutions to respond accordingly.

Our community engagement philosophy is to create a strong foundation at the local level and build additional layers of support at the regional and state levels. The Proposer will continue this outreach during development and is committed to responding respectfully to community feedback and concerns.

Mitigating Concerns from Stakeholders

Throughout the development of Bid Facility, the Proposer is committed to listening to, understanding, and responding appropriately to the public and local community’s concerns and feedback.

The Proposer has a long history of working with participating and non-participating landowners of the Bid Facility. While Bid Facility updates are being shared throughout the 94-c application process, the Proposer is committed to working with individual landowners to mitigate any of their Bid Facility-related concerns and impacts.

The Proposer has conducted surveys and studies for the Bid Facility, as required by the 94-c permitting process. These studies assess and measure environmental and community impacts and identify potential opportunities for avoidance and mitigation.

The Proposer will use a variety of fencing, screening, setbacks, and landscaping to preserve existing viewsheds and maintain the rural character of the area surrounding the Bid Facility. Through careful siting of the Bid Facility and its components, AES’ solar projects positively impact the environment in many ways by providing natural vegetation that can serve as wildlife habitat and improve water quality by reducing stormwater runoff.

The Bid Facility will have a decommissioning plan that includes a financial security to ensure that the Proposer can cover the cost of removing the infrastructure at the end of the Bid Facility’s life.

Community Questions and Answers

During meetings with the host community, the Proposer holds Q&A sessions, and thereafter posts results for viewing on the Bid Facility website. Throughout development, the Proposer will continue to solicit feedback and input. Listed below are some of the concerns that have been raised by the host community and how the Proposer has responded.

| Question | Answer |
|--|--|
| <p>You said that when the sun is shining the project produces 100MW of electricity, what is the average expected energy production given that it can be quite cloudy in our area?</p> | <p>Extensive studies are done prior to entering a project area to ensure that there is enough of a solar resource to make a project like this viable. 100 MW is the nameplate capacity of the Project. This means that when the sun is shining brightly during the middle of the day, the facility is producing 100 MW of power, but obviously at night it is not producing any power. If you take into consideration these swings of sun and no sun, approximately 20% of the time the project will be producing 100% of the nameplate value. This percentage value is known as the capacity factor. Solar projects in this area typically have a capacity factor of 20%+.</p> |
| <p>Are there bald eagles or other protected species that nest/live in the project area?</p> | <p>At this time, based on the studies we have implemented, there has been no evidence of bald eagles living within the Project site. There are other protected species that we are evaluating through several of our ongoing analyses, but nothing to report on currently.</p> |
| <p>How do you assure you have qualified, local labor for the construction of this project?</p> | <p>This is one of the reasons we have done a fair amount of engagement to date with some of the labor organizations mentioned earlier in the PowerPoint presentation, like the Laborers (NYSLOF), the Carpenters (NASRCC), and the Electrical Workers (IBEW 190). Taken as a whole, these organizations have a significant membership. These projects require the work of many people, and we are trying to make sure these organizations are aware of the Project timeline so that when the time comes, the level of competence will be there, as well as the right numbers, to deliver on construction.</p> |
| <p>What is the difference between a stakeholder and an intervenor?</p> | <p>The term “stakeholder” is generally used more broadly, to refer to individuals and groups that may have an interest in the project. When Eric refers to the stakeholders he’s engaged with, these are the kinds of individuals and groups he’s talking about. Engaging stakeholders involves contacting groups and identifying concerns they may have with respect to the to the project. This is a component of the pre-application consultation phase of the 94-c process. An intervenor is somebody who has an interest in the proceedings of the project and formally files a party status request when the draft permit is issued. Intervenors can seek intervenor funds up until 30 days after the application has been filed. They then become full parties, and can present evidence, potentially raise issues for adjudication, and participate in the more formal phases of the process. Intervenor funding is described in detail in Subpart 900-5 of the final 94-c regulations, which can be found here.</p> |

Feedback Solicitation

This Community Engagement Plan has been designed to ensure stakeholders’ participation in the Bid Facility lifespan. The Proposer has described explicit methods through which feedback is being solicited and incorporated into ongoing Bid Facility development. In summary, the Proposer:

- Organizes community meetings; two have been organized thus far
- Hosts Q&A sessions (and posts results for viewing on the Bid Facility website) and distributes feedback forms
- Solicits input on the Bid Facility website
- Monitors the Bid Facility email Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm

Additionally, the Proposer follows 94-c regulations for responding to public comment. Public

comments are posted on the New York State Department of Public Service Document Matter Master (NYS DPS DMM).