

## **Community Engagement Plan Cody Road Wind Farm**

1. Authority Having Jurisdiction is the Town of Fenner Planning Board, Andrew Stone – Chairman -315-440-3413. The School District is Cazenovia Central School District, Chris DiFulvio – Superintendent – 315-655-1317
2. Green Power Energy (GPE) first spoke with all the property owners around the proposal site about the project and asked if they wanted to participate. None had any issues with the project. Then GPE supplied the Town of Fenner with maps, site layout drawings and the Environmental Assessment for the project early in the development stage for town residents to review. The town held a public hearing that remained open for months so that any interested town residents could attend and ask questions. This public hearing was announced in the Cazenovia Republican, Syracuse Post Standard and Oneida Daily Dispatch, the area's local newspapers. During that time most of the residents of the town were spoken to. Presentations were given at the public hearings showing what the new views would be from actual residences, full description of the facility and included answering all the questions the public had. David Senehi the managing member of GPE had the privilege of knowing most of the residents of the small township which already has an existing wind farm located in it because he lives and grew up there so communication was open and transparent. This helped the process of community education of the project. Most of the community is very much in favor of the project. Since to this date the public outreach has been so extensive and the project has been approved for so long no further outreach is planned. GPE is not against performing more but it would really be superfluous at this point.
3. The Town of Fenner where the project is located (census tract 36053030600) is rural and traditionally has been a dairy farming community, an industry that is struggling at this time, is considered a Disadvantaged Community so CLCPA goals will be aided by this proposal by both local jobs being created as well as PILOT payments to both the Town and the School District serving the town.
4. As this project has already participated in public education of the project and has already been permitted further community engagement events are not planned at this time. GPE has had discussions with area colleges and universities about educational opportunities in the technical disciplines of maintaining and running a wind farm, the economics of building renewable energy projects and how to develop renewable projects. In these discussions GPE has offered to work with local institutions to create classes in these disciplines and interest from SUNY Morrisville, Colgate University and Syracuse University has been positive but nothing definite has been planned at this time but GPE would welcome the opportunity to further this opportunity.
5. The direct benefit to the community of Fenner NY would be in the form of the PILOT agreement the project has signed with the Town of Fenner. This PILOT will help lessen

the individual tax burden on residents of the town. GPE also has a PILOT in place with the Cazenovia Central School District which serves the Disadvantaged Community of Fenner, NY.

6. The project has a PILOT agreement with the Town of Fenner as well as the Cazenovia Central School District.
7. Local interest and concerns in the project to this date have been personally concentrated. “Will the turbines affect my tv reception?”, “Will I see them?”, “Will I hear them?”. The Town of Fenner has had a windfarm operating in it since 2001 so the residents are familiar with what they are and don’t have too many objections to them. The aforementioned issues were mitigated by listening to each person and addressing their concerns openly and honestly. The Environmental Assessment done for the project was quite extensive so GPE’s representative, David Senehi could show each person exactly what to expect as far as view shed and noise. The noise level at the project’s parcel property line will not exceed 48 decibels. So once the residents knew this that objection dissolved. Once each resident was shown visual imagery of what they would see from their property after the facility was constructed the opposition of view shed dissolved. Once residents were shown how the television broadcast signals from the tower in La Fayette would not be affected by turbine blades that opposition dissolved. GPE mitigated opposition by open and honest communication with community members. There was only a few people in the community that were still opposed due to reasons that were factually unrealistic that GPE was unable to find a middle ground with and interestingly enough these people were the newest residents to the Town of Fenner and will only be affected in a positive way from the project, ie. they will not see the project, they will not hear the project but will reap the benefit of a lessened tax burden.
8. GPE located the turbines as far as possible inside the parcel to keep noise at the parcel’s boundary as low as possible.
9. The Town of Fenner sent letters to the affected agencies which have been attached on the permitting section of this submittal. All neighboring land owners were contacted in person by a GPE representative (David Senehi) and asked for feedback about the project which was all positive. They were also contacted by mail from the Town of Fenner. Notices of public hearings were published in area newspapers. A public hearing was held open for months at the Fenner Town Building with drawings, future viewshed maps, site layout drawings and all other pertinent information on the project for residents to comment on and ask questions.
10. The public engagement events (Public hearings at the Town Of Fenner Building) were attended by a large cross section of the town residents. At times over 50 residents were in attendance at a single town planning board public hearing for the project and the public hearing was held open for months of Fenner Town Planning Board meetings.
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