

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor RICHARD L. KAUFFMAN Chair **ALICIA BARTON**President and CEO

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets – Agriculture Districts Law §305 Notice of Intent to Undertake an Action Within an Agricultural District

<u>Instructions</u>: The purpose of this form is to provide NYSERDA with the necessary information required to submit a Notice of Intent to the Department of Agriculture and Markets on behalf of the Project Sponsor. Please populate all fields in this template, as applicable, and return to NYSERDA, with a copy to <u>commercial.industrialpv@nyserda.ny.gov</u>. Please add additional documents if desired and include required maps and/or other figures as outlined below in the response sent to NYSERDA.

I. Project Description

Provide information regarding the system size, NY-Sun incentives awarded, local approvals received, the current status of interconnection, and any other relevant information for the project.

II. Project Contact Information:

Project Name:	
Public Entity: NYS Energy and Research Develo	ppment Authority
Developer:	
Project Sponsor Information:	
Name/Title:	Email:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Contact Information of other individuals authoriz	ed to respond to NYSDAM inquiries:
Name/Title:	Email:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Name/Title:	Email:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Name/Title:	Email:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:

Albany

17 Columbia Circle, Albany, NY 12203-6399 **(P)** 1-866-NYSERDA | **(F)** 518-862-1091

III. Description of the Proposed Action and its Agricultural Setting:

Project Address:

Authority Having Jurisdiction: County:

Agricultural District: Total Parcel Size:

Total Farms Affected¹: Total Acres Affected²:

Anticipated date of commencement of proposed action³:

Please provide a detailed description of the proposed action below. If any grading, shaping, excavation or filling is identified, please express such details in a narrative or on a site plan. Identify if there is any tile drainage installed within this parcel.

Please answer the following questions:

- 1. Will the landowner have access to the remainder of the agricultural field?
- 2. Is the parcel subdivided, or will the parcel be subdivided? If so, will the parcels be merged after the system has been decommissioned?

¹ Total number of farms within the district affected by the action.

² Affected Areas are areas within the proposed Limits of Disturbance (LOD) that are currently used for agricultural production of food and fiber. The following further identifies these applicable affected areas within agricultural areas: (1) Any agricultural areas that would be permanently converted from agricultural use, including: the entire area within the perimeter fencing (accounting for areas being permanently converted from agricultural use), access roads, buried utilities, overhead electric/communication structures, required permanent, and post construction stormwater management. (2) Any agricultural areas infeasible to farm due to the development of the facility. These areas are dependent on the normal operation to maneuver typically used equipment for the production of food and fiber. Examples of these areas would include narrow setback areas or divided fields that are not able to efficiently maneuver equipment. (3) Temporary disturbed soil areas during construction which proposed to be returned to the pre-existing condition, such as: lay-down areas, temporary access areas, stockpiles areas, temporary grading areas, and areas where temporary erosion and sediment controls were installed.

³ The commencement date is the first day the Project Sponsor/Developer starts any construction-related activity and may include, but is not limited to, creating access road(s), digging underground trenches, starting land clearing, staging supplies and/or equipment, or installing solar panels.

Provide as part of your response package to NYSERDA maps showing the site of the proposed action including the following:

- 1. The proposed solar array layout of the project on an aerial image.
- 2. Label or annotate the map with all affected landowners, including tax map numbers, surrounding land uses, and type(s) of agricultural production.
- 3. Label all points of interconnection with the public utilities, all transmission lines associated with the project, equipment storage or mobilization pads/construction areas, and access roads/driveways.
- 4. Include a map showing the proposed solar array overlaid on the soils map, if available

Maps should always be supplied to a displayed scale, include a north arrow, and be viewable rather than an imbedded image. Multiple maps may be submitted to fulfill this request.

Operator of Parcel and Affected Landowners (Provide the names, addresses, and tax parcel identification numbers for the landowners that are directly affected by the construction of the proposed project within the agricultural district. This includes the owners of the land where the project will be constructed and any other landowner that may be affected by the construction of an access road or transmission lines across their property. Do not include landowners within the project vicinity that are not within the agricultural district. This can complicate the review process):

district.	This can complicate the review process):
Operate	or of the Parcel ⁴ :
Affecte	d Landowners:
1.	Name(s):
	Address:
	Parcel Number(s):
2.	Name(s):
	Address:
	Parcel Number(s):
3.	Name(s):
	Address:
	Parcel Number(s):
4.	Name(s):
	Address:
	Parcel Number(s):
5.	Name(s):
	Address:
	Parcel Number(s):

⁴ If the parcel is continuing as an active farming operation, provide information for the operator of the farm.

IV.	Agricultural	Impact of the	Proposed	Action:

Describe and assess all short-term and long-term effects associated with the proposed action, including an assessment of any agricultural impacts and any concerns expressed by farm landowners directly affected by the proposed action.

V. Adverse Agricultural Effects which cannot be avoided should the proposed action be implemented:

Describe any adverse agricultural effects which cannot be avoided should the proposed action be implemented.

VI. Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

a. Describe alternatives to the proposed action, and reasons why the project site was selected as the preferred site for the proposed action. An alternative site is viewed as any other parcel(s) that were assessed or reviewed to be a potential candidate to host the project, before arriving at the selected location.⁵ Provide only the tax parcel ID and a brief explanation as to why the parcel was not ultimately selected.⁶

b. Briefly describe any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of agricultural resources which would be involved in the proposed action should it be implemented. Include the decommissioning plan as an attachment and provide any other plans to return the project site to agricultural use following the conclusion of the proposed action's lifespan. Provide confirmation that the affected parcel will be returned to its current condition, once the project has been decommissioned.

⁵ Examples of what is considered alternatives by NYSDAM are any parcels considered for development in or outside the agricultural district, wooded lots, county owned land, etc.

⁶ Examples of why the alternative was not selected include the unavailability of three-phase connections, landowner unwillingness to lease the alternative site, environmental concerns, etc.

VII. <u>Mitigation measures proposed:</u>

Describe any mitigation measures proposed to minimize the adverse impact of the proposed action on the continuing viability of a farm enterprise or enterprises within the district. Confirm that the proposed action will follow NYSDAM's <u>Guidelines for Agricultural Mitigation for Solar Energy Projects</u> and describe specifically if any guidelines will not be followed.

a.	Describe any aspects of the proposed action where applicable and appropriate, including a area.	which would encourage non-farm development, any local zoning restrictions which apply to the
When this form to NYS	orm is completed, the Project Sponsor must pr SERDA.	provide his/her signature prior to submitting the
Project Spons	or (Developer)	Date