

October 21, 2020

Town of Farmington Planning Board
1000 County Road 8
Farmington, New York 14425

**RE: Delaware River Solar, LLC
Solar Energy Facility
466 Yellow Mills Road
Response to Town Staff Comments**

This comment response letter was drafted in coordination with Delaware River Solar, in response to comments received from the Planning Board members. The plans have been revised as follows:

Doug Viets email dated October 15, 2020:

1. The top of embankment line is the approximate location of the change in slope from generally flat to 1:5 to 1:10 in most cases. In the areas where the fence is located near this transition, the fence is generally running parallel to the contours. As shown the proposed fence is more than 5' offset from any steep portion of the embankment.
2. The Silt Fence Placement detail on sheet ES-1 states that the edge of the 100 foot buffer shall be field staked prior to silt fence installation, the silt fence shall be a minimum of 12-inches from the staked buffer line and the deer fence is to be installed a minimum of 18-inches from the staked buffer.
3. As part of the submitted response to Town Staff comments dated 10/15/20, additional screening has been added to the northwest portion of the project. This took into account the line of sight from Fox Road immediately west of the existing pond.
4. As part of the submitted response to Town Staff comments dated 10/15/20, additional screening has been added near the project entrance. The amount of screening has been doubled to match the recommended planting schedule from the MRB Group letter dated 10/5/20. The facility will be screened from this angle by the arborvitae hedge located along the fence line.
5. The height of the arborvitae hedge will not be an issue along the fence line. Per revisions made to sheet L-1 as part of the submitted response to Town Staff comments dated 10/15/20, the hedge will be maintained at about 15' in height. The coniferous trees proposed closer to the roadways will be allowed to grow to natural heights as they are far enough from the system to not impact the availability to the sun.
6. The "possible tree screening" (shown by the thick green line on the markup) is in areas of Lot 4 which are intended to be cattle grazing and/or feed producing fields. As part of the submitted response to Town Staff comments dated 10/15/20, the amount of screening along the fence line has been increased to match the recommended planting schedule and heights from the MRB Group letter dated 10/5/20.

7. In response to the comment about landscape maintenance if owner of a facility changes we have added access and maintenance easements to provide access to all landscaping features.
8. The limit of cable trench excavation is governed by the Town Code which is referenced in Construction Note #13 on sheet S-2. The location of the cables and trench excavation areas are within the designated limit of disturbance shown on the plans. It is not feasible to depict temporary soil stockpiles adjacent to the proposed trench on the plans. A label has been added to the site plan referencing Construction Note #13 in regards to the cable trenching.
9. Cable trays, suspended between the racks, will be used to connect the rows of panels. Cable trays are hollow metal tubes which act as a conduit for the cables. A trench utilizing the specifications from the detail on sheet D-1 will be required to connect the line cable trays to each inverter and are now labeled on the plans.
10. The construction equipment will access the southeast portion of Lot 3, by crossing the wetland using the proposed pre-cast concrete slab bridge. The bridge is designed to avoid any impact to the wetland area. As per our conversations with the ACOE, if there is no discharge of dredged or fill material within the high water mark plus 25%, there is no need to submit to the ACOE. The electric cables will utilize conduits, supported by piles, suspended above the wetlands to cross without disturbing the wetland. These features have been added to the plans and are referenced to the detail on sheet D-1.
11. A label has been added to the plan to describe the proposed landscaping berm in the southeast corner of the project. The proposed berm will be 2'-3' in height, constructed with clean offsite fill material and will raise the base of the landscaping to within 3' of the centerline grade.
12. The proposed warning signs located on the solar fence are not commercial signs that are regulated by the sign code.
13. The proposed Electrical Conduit Trenching detail on sheet D-1 has been revised to show 48" of cover over cable conduit and the material notes have been expanded to clarify the layers of soil to be used.
14. Where possible the cable trench backfill material should use screened native material. The geotech recommendation of uniform offsite material is to be followed if the onsite material is not suitable once screened for rocks, roots and other organic matter. The proposed Electrical Conduit Trenching detail notes on sheet D-1 have been expanded to clarify the layers of soil to be used.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding this project.

Sincerely,



David Matt
Project Engineer