



For Immediate Release: 05/25/21

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21057 /19-F-0299

Virtual Public Statement Hearings Set Regarding Excelsior Energy's Proposed Solar Farm

ALBANY — The New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Siting Board) announced that it will hold two virtual public statement hearings on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, regarding an application by Excelsior Energy, LLC for authority to construct a 280-megawatt (MW) solar farm and 20 MW energy storage system in the Town of Byron, Genesee County.

The project components would include solar arrays, access roads, buried and possibly overhead electric collection lines, energy storage, and electrical interconnection facilities. During construction, the project would require one or more laydown yards. Additional project facilities would consist of a new collection substation and 345 kilovolt (kV) switchyard, which would be used to connect to the New York State grid and would be transferred to the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to own, maintain and operate. The proposed collection substation and interconnection facilities would be located on land adjacent to NYPA's 345 kV Line #NR2, between its Niagara and N. Rochester substations. The project would be located on land leased from owners of private property in the Town of Byron. The application consists of a filing made on September 28, 2020, supplemented by filings made on December 23, 2020, January 29, 2021, and April 2, 2021.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that public statement hearings will be held virtually before the assigned examiners, as follows:

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| DATE: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 TIME: 1:00 P.M. | DATE: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 TIME: 6:00 P.M. |
| Electronic Access: www.webex.com Event Number: 129 880 4736 Password: June1-1pm | Electronic Access: www.webex.com Event Number: 129 881 6364 Password: June1-6pm |
| Phone-Only Access: (518) 549-0500 Access Code: 129 880 4736 | Phone-Only Access: (518) 549-0500 Access Code: 129 881 6364 |

Those wishing to comment on any aspect of this proceeding will have the opportunity to make a statement on the record at the virtual public statement hearings. **Any person wishing to provide a public statement must pre-register to do so by 5:00 P.M. on May 31, 2021.**

To register electronically: Participants who would like to provide a statement and will login to a hearing electronically may register to do so by visiting www.webex.com, where they should click “Join” at the top right-hand corner of the screen, enter the appropriate event number listed above, and provide all requested information.

On the appropriate date and time of the hearing, please visit www.webex.com to log in to the hearing, click “Join” at the top right-hand corner of the screen, and input the appropriate event number for the hearing. (You may need to “refresh” the Webex home page if the “Join” button does not at first appear). Participants will be asked to “select audio system.” It is recommended that participants opt to have the system “call me” or “call using computer.” The “call me” option will require participants to enter their phone numbers.

To register by phone: Any participant who is not able to login to a hearing electronically may participate by phone. Call-in participants wishing to provide a statement may register to do so by calling 1-800-342-3330, where they should follow prompts to the appropriate hearing and provide the following information: first and last name, address, and phone number.

On the appropriate date and time of the hearing, all call-in users should dial (518) 549-0500 and enter the relevant access code listed above.

All participants will be muted upon entry into the hearing. The Examiner will call on each person who has asked to make a statement. The public statement hearing will be held open until everyone who has registered to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements to submit comments into the record have been made. Time limits may be set for each speaker as necessary. It is recommended that lengthy comments be submitted in writing and summarized for oral presentation. A verbatim transcript of the hearing will be made for inclusion in the record of this case.

To listen to the hearing: Any person who would like to listen to the hearings without making a statement can access the hearings without pre-registering. The hearings will be livestreamed on the internet and available for viewing on the Department of Public Service YouTube channel on the date and time listed above. To access that YouTube channel, visit the Department’s website, www.dps.ny.gov, and click on the YouTube icon at the bottom of the homepage. In addition, any person without internet access may listen to the hearings by phone by calling **(518) 549-0500** and entering the applicable access code.

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should call the Department of Public Service’s Human Resources Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Department at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this notice.

Other Ways to Comment

Those who prefer not to present comments at a public statement hearing may provide comments in several other ways.

Internet or Mail: Go to www.dps.ny.gov, then click on “Search” and enter the case number in the “Search by Case Number” field, and then click on “Post Comments” at the top right of the page or send comments by email to the Secretary to the Siting Board at secretary@dps.ny.gov.

Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. All written comments will become part of the record considered by the Siting Board and may be accessed on the Department of Public Service website by searching the case number, as described above, and clicking on the “Public Comments” tab.

Toll-Free Opinion Line: You may call the Siting Board’s Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-State callers, 24-hours a day. These comments are not transcribed verbatim, but a summary is provided to the Siting Board. All submitted comments should refer to “Case 19-F-0299.” **Although comments will be accepted throughout the pendency of this case, to ensure timely consideration by the parties’ public comments are requested by September 30, 2021.**