

# Welcome

Thank you for coming to the  
Foothills Solar Open House.

Your questions and comments are important to us.  
Please sign in and complete a comment sheet.

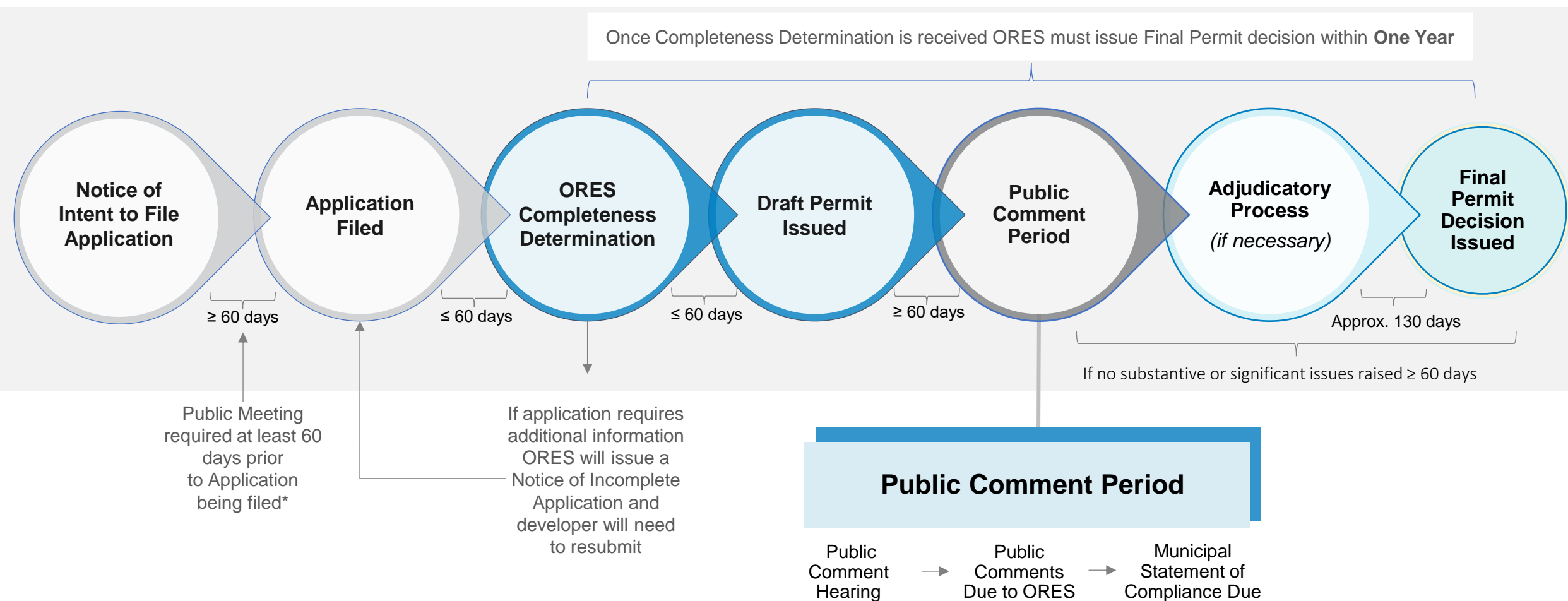
**Have more questions or looking for additional information?**

Please reach out to Boralex's primary project contact for Foothills Solar:

Mike Peckford, 902-670-7562 | [mike.peckford@boralex.com](mailto:mike.peckford@boralex.com) | [www.boralex.com/projects/foothills](http://www.boralex.com/projects/foothills)



# ORES 94-c Application Process



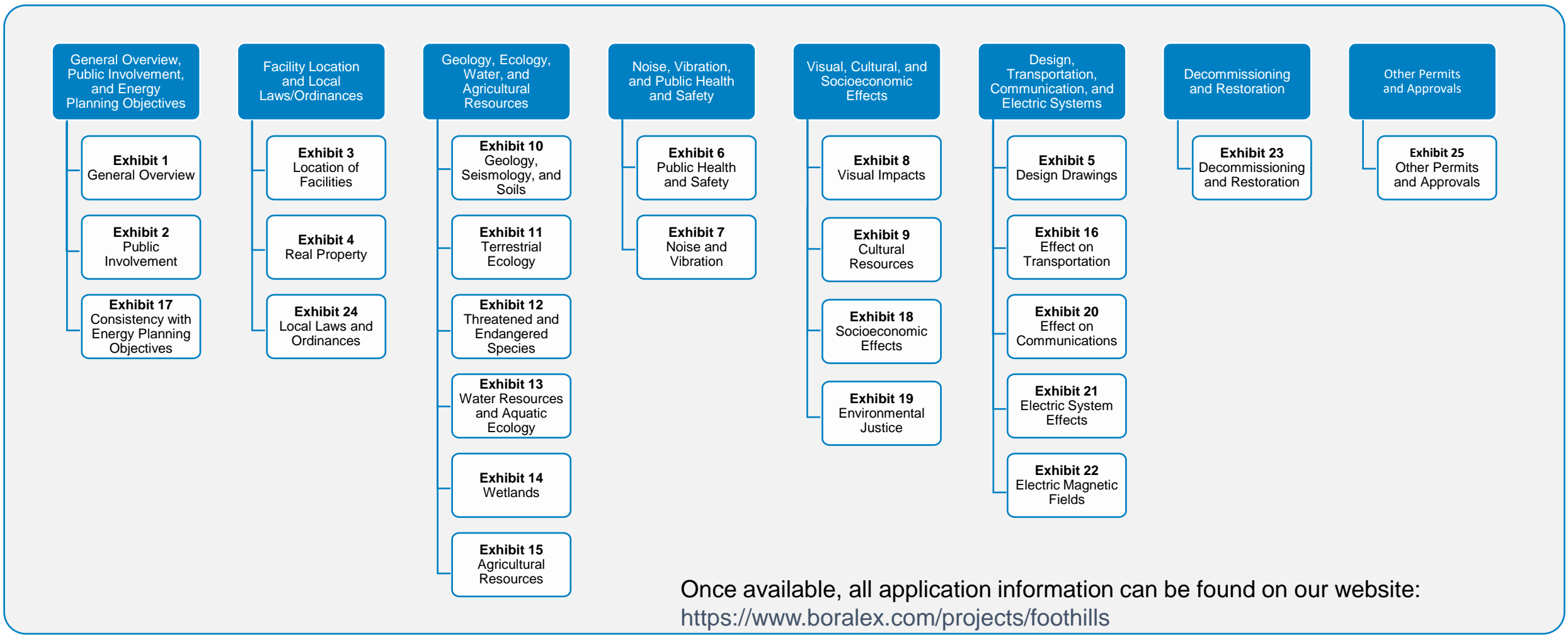
\* Today's meeting is the required meeting at least 60 days prior to application submission.

94-c Application requires \$1,000 per 1,000 kilowatts of capacity. Boralex will deposit \$40,000 in the Local Agency Account. 75% of the of Local Agency Account funds shall be reserved for local agencies. Subject to ORES approval, the funds can be used to defray expenses for expert review, or local agencies will use the funds to determine whether a proposed facility is designed to be sited, constructed, and operated in compliance with applicable local laws. Any local agency or potential community intervenor shall submit a request for initial funding within 30 days of the date application filing.

# 94-c Application

Executive Law §94-c created the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), the nation’s first state office specifically devoted to the siting of large-scale renewable energy projects. The purpose of the 94-c Application is to consolidate the environmental review and permitting of major renewable energy facilities in New York state and to provide a single forum by which ORES may undertake a timely and coordinated review of the proposed facilities.

Extensive desktop assessments and on-site environmental assessments to support the 94-c application have been completed and will include information for the following required Exhibits:



# Foothills Solar Project Schedule



# The Close Family Farm

Est. 1879

- The Close family has been exploring alternatives to diversify and protect economic viability of the farm, while trying to protect the community's best interest and maintain 'green space'
- Strong history of working closely with Ag and Markets, in addition to New York Soil and Water Conservation Districts to practice sustainable agricultural technique



- The Project is composed of approx. 310 acres (55%) of non-agricultural land cover, and approx. 254 acres (45%) of agricultural land cover
- Agricultural land within the Project Site is owned by Close Family Farm and is used mainly for cattle grazing and crops

*“Over the last 25 years we have lost about 250 acres of rented land to development due to the high land value in our area. We can’t afford to buy land for ag purposes... if we sold for homes/condos, the green farm would be gone forever and so would the natural beauty...”*

- Jon Close

*We understand and appreciate the call to “stop solar, and save the farms”, but these voices fail to see the entire picture. In reality, solar development is what is saving our farm. This project will provide significant PILOT payments to Fulton County, the Mayfield School District, and the Town and Village of Mayfield. If, instead, we sold our farm for development, there would be miles of new roads, new intersections, increased and nonstop traffic and significant maintenance costs to the town. Furthermore, the land would be gone forever, and another farm would be lost.*

*We are in dire times. The world is changing, and we must adapt to survive. Stand with us and save the farms!*

*Respectfully,*

*The Close Family Farm*

# Boralex in the United States

Present in the United States **for 20 years**

Operating assets in **6 States**, including in the **CAISO, ERCOT NYISO** and **SPP** markets

Represents **25%** of Boralex's global operating assets



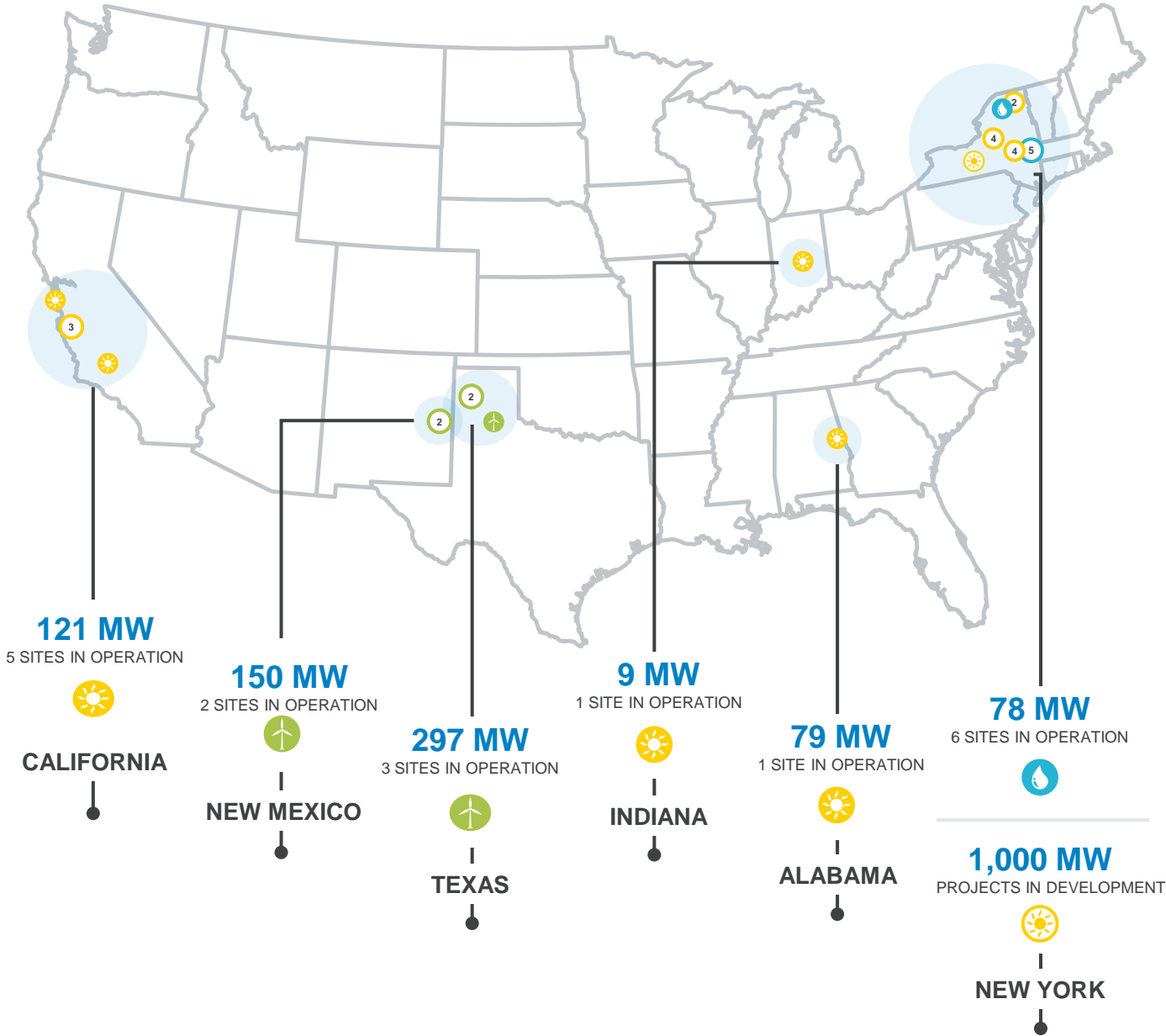
WIND  
447 MW



SOLAR  
209 MW



HYDRO  
78 MW



# Project Benefits

- Partnering with local non-profits and stakeholders to assist in local improvements
- Create a new revenue stream the Town and Village can use for community services
- Generate increased tax revenues to local school districts, host communities, and the county throughout project operations
- Beyond Renewables Fund to support STEM education and workforce development programming:
  - Created following receipt of NYSERDA 2021 Tier-1 project awards
  - Partnering with Cornell Cooperative Extension and local school districts' P-TECH
  - To meet the objectives of the NYS climate law, additional emphasis is placed on investing in programs focusing on disadvantaged communities

## BENEFITS

Solar farms provide many economic benefits to local municipalities.



SUPPORTING  
LOCAL SUPPLIERS



INCREASING TAX REVENUES  
TO MUNICIPALITIES



OFFSETTING  
GREENHOUSE GASES



IMPROVING  
AIR QUALITY

# Local Benefits

Approximately  
**50 - 60**  
**jobs** will be  
created during  
construction

Contracts with  
local businesses  
and workers for  
engineering,  
surveying, and  
construction

Support local  
landowners  
with reliable  
revenue source

Approx. **\$2.5**  
**million** in  
materials  
sourced from  
New York  
State

**\$9.3**  
**million** in  
local goods  
and services  
purchased

Donations and  
sponsorship  
opportunities  
across the  
Project  
footprint

Boralex is dedicated to being a good neighbor, and an integrated part of the communities where we have built renewable energy facilities

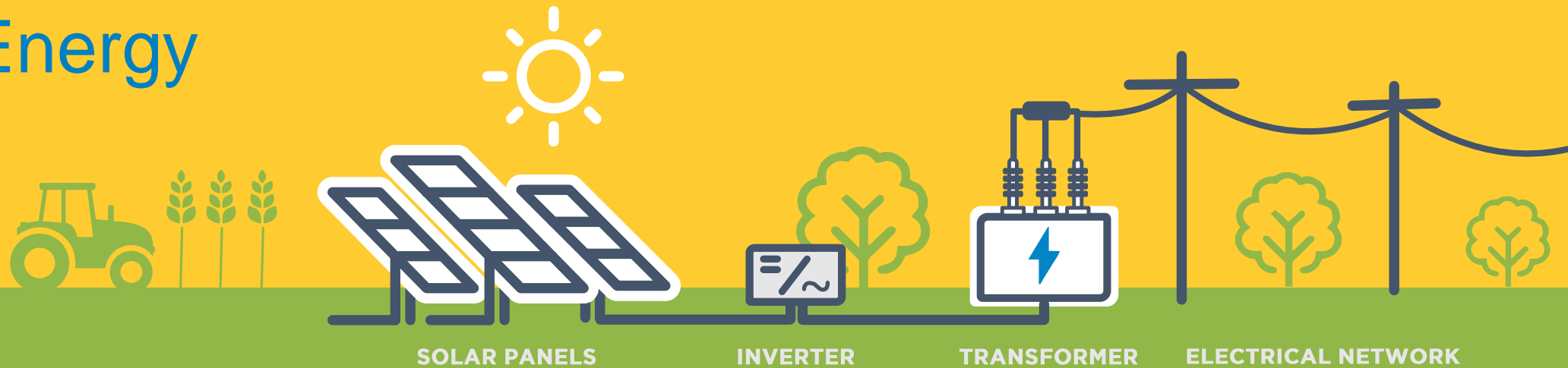
- Every year we support local non-profit organizations, charities, and events that contribute to the vitality of the communities
- Boralex has contributed more than **\$1,000,000** over the past two years to our partner communities through our donations and sponsorship programs

## PILOT

- The Project will generate Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) revenues to the local school district, host communities, and the county throughout the Project's operation
- These payments will be higher than the tax payments currently being contributed by the Project host properties and their existing land use



# Solar Energy



## HOW DOES A SOLAR FACILITY WORK?

A photovoltaic installation (solar panels) collects energy emitted by the sun and creates DC (direct current) electricity which is converted to AC (alternating current) at the inverter. The low voltage AC electricity is then converted to a higher-voltage electricity at the transformer and then distributed to the customers connected to the nearby grid.

Solar panels generate electricity when demand is the highest during the day, throughout the whole year, whenever the sun is up (even if it is overcast).

# Environmental & Cultural Studies

## Wildlife Site Characterization, Breeding Bird Survey, Winter Grassland Raptor Survey

- Conducted several wildlife studies to determine whether federal and state protected wildlife species could be present at the site
- ORES provided a draft determination that **no threatened or endangered species will be affected by the Project**
- A final determination will be issued by ORES following review of the 94-c application

## Wetland and Stream Delineation

- Desktop study and field delineation of the boundaries of wetlands and streams on the Project site
- ORES and the Adirondack Park Agency visited the site to confirm the delineated boundaries
- **Facility has been designed to avoid jurisdictional wetlands and maintain a 100-foot buffer around these wetland areas**

## Visual Resources

- Consulted with Town and Village managers / historians and the Adirondack Park Agency to aid in the identification of aesthetic resources that may be affected by views of the Project
- The findings of the Visual Impact Assessment will form a part of the 94-c application
- **See other boards for viewshed map and photo simulations**

## Water Resources

- Conducted a survey of landowners within 1,000 feet of the site to determine the presence of private water wells
- **No private water wells will be affected by the construction or operation of the Project**

## Archaeological and Historic Architectural Resources Studies

- Completed cultural resource studies, including a Phase 1A Cultural Resources Investigation, and Historic Resources Survey
- No impacts to archaeological or historic resources are anticipated as a result of Project construction or operation
- State Historic Preservation Office concurred that the **Project will not affect cultural resources**

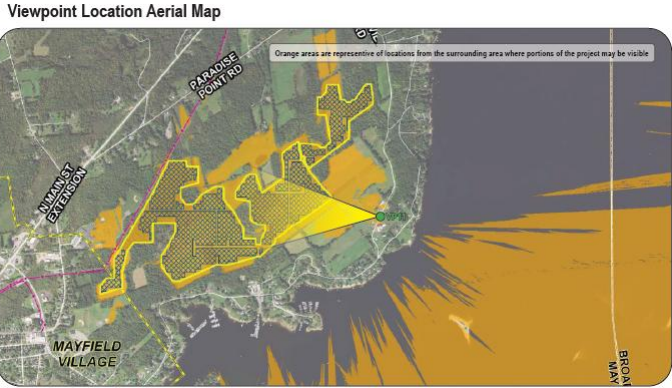
## Geotechnical Engineering Study

- Supported decisions regarding foundation and site construction of the Project



# Visual Simulations

- Photos were taken from Viewpoint 11
- Facing North/Northwest from Lake View Road



**BORALEX**

Viewpoint Coordinates	43.11225 -74.23386
Town	Mayfield
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	848
Distance to Fence Line	0.23 Mile
Direction of View	West Northwest
Lens Focal Length	50 mm (Full Frame)
Date/Time of Photograph	11/22/2022, 1:40 PM

Existing Conditions



Photo Simulation with landscape design in 5 years





# Visual Simulations

- Photos were taken from Viewpoint 29
- Facing Northwest from The Great Sacandaga Lake
- Adjacent to Beacon Island

Viewpoint Location Aerial Map



Viewpoint Coordinates	43.10447 -74.22847
Town	Mayfield
Viewpoint Elevation (MSL)	770
Distance to Fence Line	0.82 Mile
Direction of View	Northwest
Lens Focal Length	50 mm
Date/Time of Photograph	04/18/2023, 11:57 AM

Existing Conditions



Photo Simulation with landscape design in 5 years



# Noise Assessment

- Ambient sound level monitoring
  - In April 2023, ambient sound levels in the Project area were continuously measured over a 7-day period at several locations around the Project
- Sound level modeling
  - Utilizes International Standards Organization (ISO 9613-2) as required by ORES
  - Project-Only sound levels are predicted within a 3,000 foot radius from Project components
  - Construction and operation sound levels are predicted through acoustic modeling
- Operational equipment
  - Solar panels – Produce no sound
  - Inverters – Produce sound during the day
  - Substation – Produces sound during the day and typically lower sound levels at night

## 94-c Noise Requirements

Project shall comply with sound level limits defined in 94-c regulations

- Non-participating residence = 45 dBA
- Participating residence = 55 dBA
- Non-participating residence = 40 dBA due to substation
- Non-participating property line = 55 dBA
- Penalty applied for any audible prominent tones

Specific conservative acoustic modeling parameters are prescribed (e.g., all sources operating simultaneously, ground absorption factor, temperature, humidity)

Sound levels due to construction and operation of the Project will be displayed graphically as sound contours over aerial imagery



ORES  
Requirement



# Traffic Study

## Traffic Study will Address:

- Project access points
- Haul routes
- Pre-construction characteristics of the area
  - School bus routes
  - Traffic volumes (e.g., during summer)
  - Emergency services
- Analysis of traffic and transportation impacts of the Project
  - Construction deliveries
  - Construction timing and routes
  - Hours of construction

### Project Access

- Main access point to Project: Lakeview Drive
  - Use for construction vehicles and workers
- Secondary access point: N. Main Street
  - Use for access to substation only during operations and maintenance

### Routes to Project

- Traveling West from Interstate 87 via State Route 50, State Route 29 and U.S. Route 30 to Lakeview Drive
- Traveling North from Interstate 90 via U.S. Route 30 to Lakeview Drive

### Planning/Implementation

- Coordination with the Town and Village of Mayfield Highway Superintendent, Local School Districts, Emergency Response Organizations

# Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)



What is a REC?

To support renewable development, NYSERDA enters into an agreement to compensate renewable energy owners for a REC. A Tier 1 REC represents the **ENERGY PRODUCTION** of one megawatt-hour of generated electricity. Each REC is proof that energy has been produced from eligible renewable sources.



When do projects receive state funding?

NYSERDA will purchase RECs from the contracted projects **AFTER** they have become operational and begin to deliver power. Depending on the type of project, these REC contracts can last up to 20 years. RECs **ARE NOT** upfront payments. Developers bear **ALL THE COSTS** of project development.



Why is this needed?

The development and construction of renewable energy projects involves significant capital investment, necessitating **LONG-TERM CONTRACTS**, in order to finance and construct the projects. A REC contract allows project developers to fund project development and construction costs then recoup their investment over the life of the project.

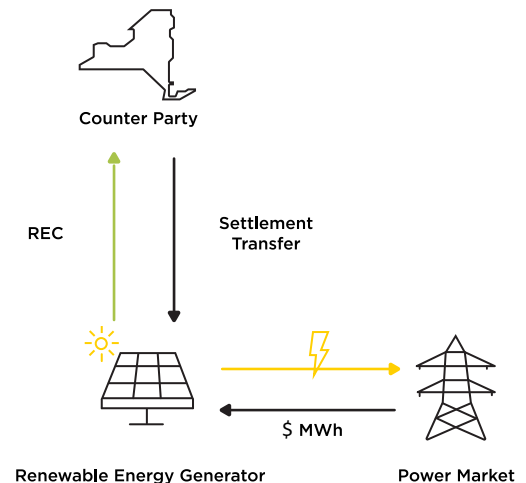
## What are Indexed RECs?

An Indexed REC price is based on a difference between the market price and an agreed “**strike price**”.

If the “strike price” is higher than a market price, the Counterparty (NYSERDA) must pay the renewable generator the difference between the “strike price” and the market price.

If the market price is higher than the agreed to “strike price”, the Counterparty **does NOT pay anything.**

The state has said indexed RECs: “**reduce the risk premiums** that developers account for in their bids to accommodate for uncertainty in power market revenues, thereby **lowering ratepayer costs.**”



# Decommissioning



## Panel Lifespan

The panels are designed for a minimum lifespan of 30 years. Individual panels can be replaced as needed across the project. Panels will be recycled or reused at a different site at the end of the project life.



## Restoration

When the project is decommissioned, Boralex is committed (and obligated) to return the land to its original state. During the lifespan of the project, Boralex will work with the current landowner, soil experts and agricultural experts to improve soil quality for improved productivity and/or a return to native ecosystems.



## Component Recycling

The project components are primarily made of steel, aluminum, glass, silicon, copper and silver. The scrap and recycling value of these materials are expected to be more than the cost to dismantle at the end of the project life.



## Local Commitments

Boralex (or any project owner) is obligated through the 94-c permitting process to provide a Decommissioning Plan that outlines a commitment to pay for decommissioning costs, which will include a financial surety.

These costs will be recalculated every 5 years to ensure the scrap and recycling value continues to support decommissioning costs.

Additionally, Boralex will follow New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets published Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects which detail post-construction, monitoring, and decommissioning work on agricultural lands.

**BORALEX**

*Beyond*  
RENEWABLE ENERGY