# UPDATED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

# **RIVERSIDE SOLAR PROJECT**

Towns of Lyme and Brownville Jefferson County, New York

Section 94-c Case Number 21-00752 Previous Article 10 Case No.: 19-F-0781

**Prepared for:** 

Riverside Solar, LLC 2180 South 1300 East, Suite 600 Salt Lake City, UT 84106-2749



Prepared by:

TRC Companies, Inc 1090 Union Road, Suite 280 West Seneca, NY 14224 Tel: 716-204-9543



Updated April 2021

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# List of Acronyms

ACENY	Alliance for Clean Energy New York, Inc.
ACS	American Community Survey
CES	Clean Energy Standard
CLCPA	Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act
DOE	Department of Energy
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
GIS	Geographic Information System
HCA	Host Community Agreement
IBEW	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
IPP	Independent Power Producers
kV	kilovolt
LFIP	Large Facility Interconnection Procedures
MW	megawatt
NYCRR	New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations
NYISO	New York Independent System Operator
NYPA	New York Power Authority
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSDPS	New York State Department of Public Service
NYSERDA	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
OATT	Open Access Transmission Tariff
OPRHP	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
ORES	Office of Renewable Energy Siting
PILOT	payment in lieu of taxes
PIP Plan	Public Involvement Program Plan
POC	point of contact
Project	Riverside Solar, LLC Project
Project Area	locations being evaluated for placement of permanent Project facilities, including the proposed collection substation and interconnection facilities
PSL	Public Service Law
PV	photovoltaic
RTE	rare, threatened, or endangered
SEP	2015 New York State Energy Plan

SRIS System Reliability Impact Study

Siting Board New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Riverside Solar, LLC (Riverside Solar or the Applicant) proposes the construction of an approximately 100-megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation facility (Facility) called "Riverside Solar" in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. The original Public Involvement Program (PIP) Plan was filed on December 30, 2019 and was revised on February 27, 2020 under Case Number 19-F-0781. Since that time, the Project has been acquired by AES Corporation (AES). AES is a Fortune 500 global energy company accelerating the future of energy focused on building utility-scale generation facilities. Although not required under Section 94-c of the New York State Executive Law, as the new owners of Riverside Solar, LLC, AES will continue to implement the existing PIP and has updated it herein to keep the public up to date on outreach activities planned for the Project.

 Section 94-c and its associated regulations govern the process for developers to apply for siting review by the New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES). The Section 94-c process enables developers to permit a major electric generation facility in a single unified proceeding at the state level.

The purpose of this updated PIP Plan is to introduce Riverside Solar to the public; identify state and local stakeholders and engage them, other interested parties, and the general public in the permitting process; and explain how the Applicant's efforts will satisfy New York legal and regulatory requirements. The results of Riverside Solar's outreach efforts described herein will inform the 94-c Application. Through this process, stakeholder concerns can be evaluated, addressed, and considered by ORES.

# 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF AES AND THE RIVERSIDE SOLAR FACILITY

#### 2.1 Company Profile

Riverside Solar, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of AES Clean Energy, AES' US-based clean energy development business, and part of AES Corporation. Across the U.S., AES Clean Energy currently operates 3 GWs of solar, solar + storage, wind, and standalone storage facilities, with 12 GWs of renewable energy projects in development.

With a growing team of more than 500 industry experts, AES Clean Energy has the in-house expertise to carry renewable energy products from development, through construction, to long-term operation. AES Clean Energy represents one of the top renewable growth platforms in the country, and is focused on accelerating the safe, reliable transition to cleaner energy solutions in the U.S.

### 2.2 Project Summary

The Riverside Solar Project (the Project) will have a nameplate capacity of approximately 100 MW and may include the addition of 20 MW of battery storage. The Project is estimated to generate enough renewable green energy to power approximately 16,500 New York households<sup>1</sup>. The Project's size, location, and interconnection make it an economical resource, allowing Riverside Solar to provide New York State with affordable renewable energy. Specifically, the Project would be compatible with New York State policies mandating the generation of electricity from renewable energy, including the 2015 New York State Energy Plan (SEP), the Clean Energy Standard (CES), and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) of 2019, which proposes that 70 percent of the State's electricity will be generated by renewables by 2030 (superseding the 50 by 30 goal), and that energy production will be 100 percent renewable by 2040.

The Project will achieve maximum energy output during hot summer afternoons when airconditioner usage is at its highest. Increased levels of solar energy production during peak energy usage decrease the need for fossil-fuel-fired energy production, reducing air pollution and power prices during periods of peak energy demand. The Project will also provide economic development benefits to host and adjacent communities and neighbors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) <u>https://www.seia.org/initiatives/whats-megawatt</u>

As presented in the original PIP Plan, the PIP Project Area consists of approximately 2,600 acres as shown on Figure 2. It is anticipated that the actual Project will require only approximately 1,000 acres of land for siting of Project components within the Project Area. Project components will be sited on leased, private land owned by a number of participating landowners. Starting in the early development phases of the Project, the size, location, and environmental impact of the Project, as well as other factors such as local politics, landscapes, and land uses, were carefully considered,

The Applicant anticipates that the Project will have minimal impact on its neighbors, nearby communities, and surrounding landscapes. The proposed Project will be relatively low in height, will not emit air or water pollution, will have no odors, and will produce minimal noise. Riverside Solar will also use a variety of fencing, screening, setback, and landscaping strategies in an effort to preserve existing viewsheds and maintain the rural character of the surrounding area.

As stated above, the Project is located in the Towns of Lyme and Brownville in Jefferson County. The Project is located in northern New York, approximately 11 miles from the Canadian border. The Project Area is situated approximately one mile from Chaumont Bay at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, directly east of the Village of Chaumont, and southwest of the Town of Clayton.

The Project will have significant positive impacts for the region, including economic benefits for the local communities, County, and State in the form of clean renewable energy generation and economic development through construction, operation, and maintenance jobs, expenditures for supplies and materials, lease payments to participating landowners, and tax payments to local communities. Riverside Solar anticipates that it will contribute millions of dollars to the Towns, County and school districts in the form of a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement and/or host community agreement (HCA).

The Applicant will conduct various surveys and studies throughout the Section 94-c process to assess and measure environmental and community impacts, as well as potential opportunities for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation. As required by Section 94-c, the Project will have a decommissioning plan that addresses funding to ensure that the Applicant can cover the cost of removing the facility's infrastructure at the end of the Project's life. The Project can therefore be viewed as temporary in nature, and the Project Area will have multiple use options at the end of the Project lifespan. The Project may be repowered if financially feasible or could be restored to farmland or repurposed for another use.

The Project may consist of tracking technology PV panels installed on low-profile racking systems mounted on poles driven directly into the ground. Inverters, which collect the electricity by the panels and convert it from direct current to alternating current, are spaced throughout the Project. The substation will take the power from the inverters and step it up to match the voltage of the electrical grid. A protective fence will surround the Project. Temporary laydown and staging areas will be used during construction to store and position vehicles and equipment.

Riverside Solar will interconnect to the power grid via a line tap to the existing Lyme to Lyme Tap 115-kV line. The Project applied for interconnection on June 10, 2019 in accordance with the specifications laid out by Attachment X of the New York Independent System Operator's (NYISO) Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT), which details the Standard Large Facility Interconnection Procedures (LFIP) for facilities 20 MW or larger in size. Riverside Solar had scoping meetings with staff from NYISO and National Grid to review the feasibility of the Project interconnection and is in the process of finalizing the scope for the Project's System Reliability Impact Study (SRIS). The Riverside Solar SRIS was completed, and the Project is qualified, and plans to enter the NYISO 2021 Class Year study process in spring 2021. For reference, Riverside Solar is number 882 in the NYISO interconnection queue.

### 2.3 Project Area and Study Area

Figures 1, 2, and 3 show the regional Project location, the PIP Project Area, and the preliminary Study Area, respectively.

The Project Area consists of the locations being evaluated for placement of permanent Project facilities (see Figure 2). The Project Area is described in Section 2.2 above and consists of approximately 2,600 acres; however, only a portion of this area will be required for development of the Project (approximately 1,000 acres). Additional land area beyond what is required for the Project is included in the Project Area in order to provide setbacks from neighboring land uses and to minimize or mitigate potential impacts to environmental resources. The land within the Project Area is relatively flat throughout and consists of mostly cultivated cropland, along with smaller portions of successional shrubland, hedgerows, and forestland. The Project Area is zoned as "Agriculture & Rural Residence" in the Town of Lyme, while within the Town of Brownville the parcels are identified on the Jefferson County GIS website as agricultural land use being utilized for field crops, horse farming, and vacant agricultural land.

With the exception of the Village of Chaumont, the area around the Project is primarily cultivated cropland interspersed with agricultural land for livestock, hay, and pasture, with some forest and woody wetlands. The Applicant identified the Project Area for potential development of a solar project due to access to transmission capacity, relatively few anticipated environmental impacts, open and available land, and willing participant landowners.

For the purpose of the PIP Plan, Riverside Solar has conservatively designated a two-mile radius around the Project Area boundary in all directions as the Study Area. The Study Area currently consists of approximately 23,200 acres of land and is depicted in Figure 3. Similar to the Project Area itself, the area surrounding the Project Area consists of relatively flat topography, and because of the Project's low-profile, visibility of the Project components will be largely limited to the immediate vicinity of the Project and within the two-mile buffer. A more in-depth description of the Study Area will be included in the 94-c Application and will vary based on the specific resource being evaluated in accordance with the Section 94-c Regulations.

# 3.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### 3.1 PIP Plan Goals

Riverside Solar developed this PIP Plan in order to identify stakeholders including groups and individuals with a potential interest in the proposed Project. Consultation with stakeholders through the PIP process provides a platform of open dialogue to distribute general Project information, discuss potential avoidance and minimization measures, and solicit local input, such as the identification of potential impacts. This PIP Plan discusses public involvement activities that will be utilized to achieve these various PIP goals, including encouraging stakeholder engagement and providing awareness and understanding of the proposed Project and Section 94-c process. Information gleaned from stakeholders through their participation in various public involvement activities will aid in the development of studies to be further discussed in the Section 94-c Application.

#### 3.2 PIP Plan Schedule

Riverside Solar has already begun outreach activities within the local communities to introduce the Project and provide updates and will continue conducting public involvement activities during the pre-application phase. Riverside Solar will continue these activities throughout the Section 94-c process. During and after construction of the Project, public involvement will continue pursuant to the dispute resolution plan. These specific activities are discussed below in Section 5.0. Additional outreach to host landowners and municipal officials will take place during decommissioning activities, which will be further discussed in the Application.

## 4.0 STAKEHOLDERS

#### 4.1 Identification of Stakeholders

Riverside Solar is committed to identifying and involving all applicable stakeholders during development. Proper stakeholder identification helps ensure that the Project has community support and is integrated well into its host community. Riverside Solar seeks to evaluate stakeholders that may be impacted by construction and operation of the proposed Project. To ensure successful identification of relevant stakeholders for the PIP, the Applicant reviewed the following resources, including stakeholders below based on the definitions of "local party" (as defined in (16 NYCRR §1000.2[s]) and "affected agencies" (16 NYCRR §1000 et seq.) described in the Siting Board's rules under Article 10:

- Land use plans;
- County websites;
- Town websites;
- Tax records;
- Geographic Information System (GIS) resources; and
- Other independent research.

Although the Project is no longer being permitted through the Article 10 process, the Applicant will maintain the stakeholder list as previously presented in earlier iterations of this PIP Plan. The Applicant has developed a list of potentially interested parties from these resources, comprising the categories identified and discussed in Sections 4.2 through 4.15 of this Plan.

Riverside Solar plans to update the Master Stakeholder List based on Article 10 requirements (included as Appendix A to this document) as it identifies potentially interested parties. The Applicant has maintained and updated a mailing list based on the stakeholders listed below and per 94-c regulations, addresses provided at public meetings, and those obtained from contacts generated through the Project website. The Applicant anticipates that the mailing list will be updated as necessary based on information received during PIP Plan activities, and these updates will be provided to ORES along with the PIP Plan tracking submissions. Materials distributed for public outreach will include information detailing how individuals and groups can be added to the Master Stakeholder List. Individuals will have various opportunities to be added to the Master Stakeholder List, including mailing a letter to a Project representative through the

Project website, requesting to be added to the Master Stakeholder List at a community meeting community meeting event, via the Project-specific email address, or the Project's toll-free phone number (See Section 5.4.1).

#### 4.2 Host Communities

The host communities are defined as the municipalities within which the Project Area and the anticipated Project components are located. The Town Board and Planning Board representing the host communities, as applicable, are considered stakeholders and have been identified through publicly available information located on Town and County websites.

#### 4.3 County Agencies

County agencies representing areas with the potential to be affected by the Project have been identified by review of the county websites and/or county GIS data and thereby identified as stakeholders. Additionally, emergency responders such as the County Emergency Services Coordinator and Sheriff have been identified as stakeholders and will be consulted throughout the Section 94-c process where applicable.

#### 4.4 State Agencies

State agencies specifically identified in 16 NYCRR §§ 1000.5 and 1000.6 (under Article 10) have been listed as stakeholders, as well as departments of New York State governments.

#### 4.5 Federal Agencies

Agencies of the U.S. government were identified using the Applicant's experience in developing projects in the United States, review of previous PIP plan submittals, and NYSDPS guidance.

#### 4.6 Legislative Representatives

Offices of the New York State Legislature, the U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, and Jefferson County Legislators representing the Project Area and Study Area were identified by review of publicly available information and have been added to the stakeholder list.

#### 4.7 Highway Departments

County and town departments responsible for managing roads in the Study Area were identified by review of town and county boundary maps, and online research.

#### 4.8 Schools

School districts serving municipalities identified as stakeholders within the Study Area and school districts adjacent to these districts were identified by review of county tax maps and desktop analysis of publicly available data.

#### 4.9 Emergency Responders

Emergency responders including fire departments, emergency medical services, and police or sheriff departments serving parcels in the Study Area were identified by review of county tax maps and online research.

#### 4.10 Adjacent Municipalities

Towns, villages, or other municipalities that are not host communities but are in the Study Area have been identified as stakeholders and added to the stakeholder list by review of municipal boundary maps and GIS mapping.

#### 4.11 Utilities

Companies that own gas, water, sewer, electric, or communications infrastructure in the Project Area were identified through available local and state geographic information databases, online research, and previous PIP plan submittals. Utility companies will be contacted concerning location of facilities, design, and safety standards for construction near existing infrastructure.

#### 4.12 Public Interest Groups

Organizations that serve interests of the public including county and town historians, and business, conservation, outdoor recreation or environmental organizations have been identified as stakeholders. These groups have been identified through online research.

#### 4.13 Airports and Heliports

The Section 94-c regulations require an applicant to consult with airport or heliport operators if the Project triggers the requirement that a Notice of Proposed Construction be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Project will not have any facilities that extend more than 200 feet above ground level, nor does the Project meet any of the other requirements triggering notice in the FAA's regulations. Consequently, the filing of a notice with the FAA will not be required for the Project. However, Riverside Solar has included the Salubrious Point Airport the Watertown

International Airport, and the John Gonzales Field Airport (NY-69) as stakeholders and will consult with airport administrators as part of the Section 94-c process, as necessary.

#### 4.14 Community Members

Under Section 94-c regulations, community members to be notified of the Project include both: landowners with whom the Applicant has entered (or will enter) into a lease, purchase, or easement agreement for the purpose of installing Project facilities on their land; and persons residing within one mile of the Project. These community members are considered to be stakeholders in the development of the Project. This represents an expansion of persons to be notified relative to previous regulations (Article 10), where adjacent landowners up to 2,500 feet (0.47 mile) from the Project were required to be included as stakeholders. As noted herein, pursuant to 94-c requirements, public notices of events such as information sessions will be provided to landowners residing within a mile of the Project.

The Project layout will be substantially complete and available for discussion prior to the submittal of the Application. While not anticipated, if the Project layout or boundary evolves, some stakeholders within 1 mile of facilities may be removed while others may be added in response to changes in land acquisition and facilities siting. Additionally, persons indicating interest in the Project will be added to the stakeholder list throughout the process. However, for privacy purposes, the stakeholder list may include addresses or parcel numbers rather than landowner identification. Riverside Solar also has broad additional outreach planned, such as mailings and in-person gatherings to facilitate the development of this list. Riverside Solar will keep ORES apprised of additional outreach by filing revised versions of Attachment C. Riverside Solar also plans to keep the Project website updated with Project development information as necessary throughout the Section 94-c process.

# 5.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Riverside Solar has begun outreach to identify interested parties and will continue to do so throughout the Section 94-c process. Riverside Solar plans to adapt stakeholder and outreach activities to best encourage local input and participation as the Section 94-c process proceeds.

#### 5.1 Initial Outreach and Consultation

The Applicant has identified agencies and municipalities which may potentially be affected by the Project and will undergo consultations as required under Section 94-c. The purpose of consultation is to provide information about the Project, the Section 94-c process, and unique aspects of the site and local community; receive and discuss stakeholder interests and issues regarding the same; and schedule follow-up consultations if appropriate. Riverside Solar's communications to identified parties will include (at a minimum) the following:

- A description of the Project and Project location;
- An explanation of the Section 94-c process, including opportunities for participation by interested parties at each step;
- A description of the intervenor process and explanation on how to qualify for and obtain intervenor funding; and
- A request for input on the potential impacts and benefits of the Project.

As identified above, Riverside Solar plans to consult a broad number of stakeholders and interested parties regarding the Project. As an opportunity for education beyond the specifics of this Project, Riverside Solar provided information at public meetings and the Project community meeting (see Section 5.3.2) so as to educate the public on renewable energy as a technology and New York's unique history of renewable energy policy and regulation. At said events, Riverside Solar provided information 94-c process and timelines, as well as the intervenor fund (including how to participate) and opportunities for public comment. This is discussed in further detail in the following sections.

Riverside Solar plans to carefully track and document all above described activities and will file these logs as part of its revised Appendix B filings.

#### 5.1.1 Stakeholder Notifications

Riverside Solar has and will continue to publish all required notices in The Watertown Daily Times, the Thousand Island Sun, and the Jefferson County Pennysaver (see Section 5.7). The notices will be placed in a prominent location in the newspaper rather than the "legal notice" section in order to ensure visibility by the largest number of stakeholders.

As noted in Section 4.15, Riverside Solar notified residents within the Study Area of public meetings individually by mailing an informational flyer. The flyer provided general Project information and announce the community meeting to all unique addresses in the tax assessment rolls for the Study Area. Additional information on this notification is provided in Section 5.12.

Riverside Solar will publish a notice of the Application filing in the newspapers listed above no fewer than three days before filing. Additionally, Riverside Solar will serve notifications on each member of the State Legislature whose district lies within any portion of the proposed Project Area; provide written notice to those persons who have filed a statement with ORES within the past 12 months that wish to receive such notices; and provide mail notification to all parties on the Master Stakeholder List. Additionally, the Applicant will publish notices on the Project website.

The Applicant will publish any other required notices in the manner prescribed by the procedures contained in Section 94-c.

#### 5.1.2 Collection of Stakeholder Input

For stakeholder groups, Riverside Solar will identify and contact the group's point of contact (POC) to introduce the Project and offer to meet with the stakeholder group or POC. At stakeholder meetings Riverside Solar will introduce Riverside Solar representatives and inform attendees about the Project and the overall Section 94-c review process. In addition, Riverside Solar will request feedback on issues that stakeholders want to have considered in the Project design or review. This feedback will be tracked in the PIP Plan Tracking Report, which is further discussed in sections below.

Individual stakeholders will be notified of several opportunities to learn about the Project and submit input, including on the Project website.

#### 5.2 Pre-Application Activities to Encourage Stakeholders to Participate

#### 5.2.1 Community Meeting Events

Under the Article 10 process, open house meetings are typically held at a location that maximizes accessibility for physical attendance by the greatest number of residents; however, to comply with COVID restrictions regarding public gatherings, Riverside Solar modified the May 2020 in person open house to a virtual event. Additionally, Riverside held a Virtual Community Meeting in March 2021 to provide an update and present the Project in accordance with the Section 94-c requirements. Riverside Solar provided notice to ORES Staff of the pending community meeting via email. Riverside Solar's representatives were present at the Virtual Community Meeting and provided information on the Project, solar energy, and the Section 94-c review process, which included information regarding intervenor funding availability and the Section 94-c application process. During virtual meetings, attendees were encouraged to submit questions prior to and throughout the presentation, responses were provided during the meeting as time allowed, and a summary document providing responses to all provided questions will be available on the Project website.

#### 5.3 Project Contact Information

For the duration of the Section 94-c process, the Project Representative will be available to receive and address public questions and concerns during normal business hours at:

Brett Hastings Senior Manager, Development The AES Corporation 195 Montague Street 14th Floor, Suite 1461 Brooklyn, NY 11201 (866) 757-7697 riversidesolar@aes.com

Riverside Solar continues to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a Project office in the vicinity of the Project Area. Whether or not a local office is ultimately established, Riverside Solar will continue to seek public involvement throughout the Section 94-c process. It is Riverside Solar's intent to facilitate communication with interested or affected stakeholders, and to encourage engagement in the public process. Project materials and presentations will be posted on the Project website as they become available and will be available locally if the Project establishes a local office.

#### 5.3.1 Project Contact Information (Toll-Free Telephone Number and Email Address)

Riverside Solar will maintain a toll-free telephone number that includes a connection to an automated voicemail, as well as a Project-specific email address. The phone number and email address will be advertised on the Project website and in outreach materials and will be monitored for questions on the Project. Riverside Solar will endeavor to respond to questions within 2-5 business days.

- The toll-free phone number is: (866) 757-7697
- The Project-specific email address is: riversidesolar@aes.com

#### 5.4 Activities Designed to Educate the Public on the Proposal, the Section 94-c Review Process, and Funding

Town Board meetings and the community meeting (as described above) provide multiple opportunities for Riverside Solar to disseminate information to the public concerning Project specifics, the Section 94-c process, and the availability of funding for municipal and local parties, as well as to receive information from the public. Educational materials will be available at all meetings, including information on Project specifics and the public's role in the Section 94-c process, intervenor funding, Project contact information, an invitation to join the stakeholder list, and the location of document repositories. All public meetings and written educational materials will also encourage interested parties to visit the Project website (described below) for information and updates. As mentioned previously, Project materials and presentations will be posted on the Project website as they become available and will be available locally if the Project establishes a local office.

At the community meeting, Riverside Solar provided information covering topics such as:

- How photovoltaic solar energy works;
- Overview of the proposed Riverside Solar Project;
- Project schedule;
- Intervenor funding and the Section 94-c process (including Pre-Application stakeholder involvement and scoping process);
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- Information about AES;
- Studies expected to be required for permitting of the Project;

- Viewsheds (to the extent available); and
- Economic benefits of the Project to the local economy.

The above subjects will be elaborated further in materials that Riverside Solar will prepare to present and distribute using information from its knowledge of the Section 94-c process, and industry sources such as New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) NY-Sun Program, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York, Inc. (ACENY), and the Department of Energy (DOE). Versions of these materials will also be made available on the Project website as they become available and will be made available locally if the Project establishes a local office.

#### 5.5 Website

Riverside Solar is creating a user-friendly website in plain English that describes the proposed Project. The website also includes information about Section 94-c and related Project status and provides notice of opportunities for public participation. As the Project develops further, Riverside Solar will update the website with maps, educational materials, Project milestones, etc. as soon as reasonably practicable after the information is available to keep the public informed during the development process. The website will also provide further opportunities for submitting questions and concerns directly to the Applicant, the content of which will be documented by the Applicant.

The Project website URL is: <u>https://www.aes.com/riverside-solar-project</u>. The Applicant anticipates that the website will include the following, as each item is completed or becomes available:

- Facility description;
- Facility benefits and need;
- Summary of permitting requirements;
- Links to the ORES home page, and case-specific documents;
- Information on the Section 94-c process;
- Summary of the Intervenor Funding process and how to apply;
- Facility layout figures and photo simulations/renderings;
- Facility contact information, including email address and toll-free telephone number;
- Copies of Section 94-c and related licensing documents;
- Addresses of local document repositories;
- A schedule that lists dates/times/locations for outreach events and key milestone dates,

such as when the Application will be filed; and

• Tracking Reports summarizing the Project's PIP activities to date, including summaries of stakeholder interactions, comments, and questions.

As indicated above, the website will include Project contact information (email address and tollfree telephone number). The Applicant intends to respond directly to all substantive inquiries and comments submitted to the Project contact and will document all such correspondence throughout the Application process. Email and postal addresses collected through the website will be added to the Master Stakeholder List.

#### 5.6 Notifications

In addition to mailings and newspaper notifications described above, the community meeting was advertised via emails to stakeholders identified in sections above, on the Project website, and in the newspapers listed below. The Applicant used postal mail and/or email to ensure those stakeholders without an email address on file received the notification.

Instructions on how stakeholders can contact Riverside Solar throughout the Section 94-c Application and construction process will be included with mailings announcing community meeting information. Procedures for submitting concerns, questions, and complaints will also be detailed in the Complaint Resolution Plan to be included in the Section 94-c Application.

Riverside Solar will publish notice of the Application filing as required by the Section 94-c regulations. This information will be published on the Project website and in the following news sources:

- The Watertown Daily Times, a paid-subscription daily newspaper for Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties. The Watertown Daily Times is also available online at <a href="https://121-wdweb.newscyclecloud.com/">https://121wdweb.newscyclecloud.com/</a>
- Thousand Island Sun, a weekly newspaper subscription serving St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties. <u>http://thousandislandssun.net/Home.html</u>
- Jefferson County Pennysaver, a free community periodical published in Watertown, NY.
- Town of Lyme website, a free online resource where the town publishes public notices. <u>https://www.townoflyme.com/</u>

Additionally, the stakeholder list will be notified via mail when the Application filing will be available for review. The Applicant will include an updated stakeholder list with these filings, including individuals and parties identified through the Applicant's outreach efforts, as well as proof that a mailing has occurred. Copies of the Application will be distributed to the local repositories listed below in addition to being posted on the Project website.

#### 5.7 Activities Designed to Encourage Stakeholder Participation

All of the activities described above, including the community meeting (see Section 5.3.2) and various forms of stakeholder outreach (see Section 5.1), have been designed to provide opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the Section 94-c certification and compliance process. Consultations will be considered successful if information about the Project and the Section 94-c process (including Application submittal milestones and document availability) was provided to stakeholders in an appropriate and timely manner (as described above), any relevant information provided to the Applicant was utilized to help advance the PIP Plan process and the preparation, submittal, and review of the Application, and follow-up meetings or consultations were scheduled or undertaken, if necessary.

#### 5.8 Document Repositories

While all information pertaining to the Project will be updated via the Project website as appropriate, Riverside Solar proposes to maintain hard copies of the PIP Plan and the Section 94-c Application (and any updated subsequent versions of these documents), subject to host ability or capacity, at the following locations for those stakeholders who may not have access to the website, or prefer to review hard copies:

- Town of Brownville Town Hall, 16431 Star School House Road, Dexter, NY 13634
- Dexter Free Library, 120 E. Kirby Street, Dexter, NY 13634Town of Lyme Town Hall, 12175 NYS Route 12E, Chaumont, NY 13622
- Lyme Free Library, 12165 Main Street, Chaumont, NY 13622

Stakeholder participation will be documented by Riverside Solar through the following activity:

<u>PIP Plan Meeting Log</u>: The log will document the event date, location, attendees (or category thereof), summary of topics discussed, and any follow-up steps to be taken following the event. The PIP Plan tracking report will be filed with ORES on approximately a quarterly basis.

# 6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AREAS

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) regulations describe the process for a Section 94-c applicant to determine whether a proposed project is likely to impact an environmental justice area, defined as "a minority or low-income community that may bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations" (6 NYCRR § 487.3(I).).

The ORES's Section 94-c (§900-2.20) provides guidance for the Environmental Justice Exhibit 19 and further provides criteria for an environmental justice area as follows:

- At least 51.1% of the population in an urban area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or
- At least 33.8% of the population in a rural area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or
- At least 23.59% of the population in an urban or rural area had household incomes below the federal poverty level.

The Environmental Justice guidance has limited applicability, applying only to applications for major projects and major modifications for permits relating to water pollution, air pollution, solid and hazardous waste management, and siting of industrial hazardous waste facilities. The Project will not require any such permits, the Applicant has considered whether the Project could have negative impacts on nearby environmental justice areas. Based on the EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJSCREEN), approximately 30% of the population in census block group 3 within the Town of Lyme, and census block group 1 within the Town of Brownville are considered to be low-income indicating the potential for an environmental justice areas. While the Applicant does not expect that the Project will have impacts on any environmental impacts to environmental justice areas Application for the Project. Because both the Towns of Lyme and Brownville are host communities and already included in the Master Stakeholder List (see Appendix A), Riverside Solar will continue to engage them as the Section 94-c process proceeds.

# 7.0 LANGUAGE ACCESS

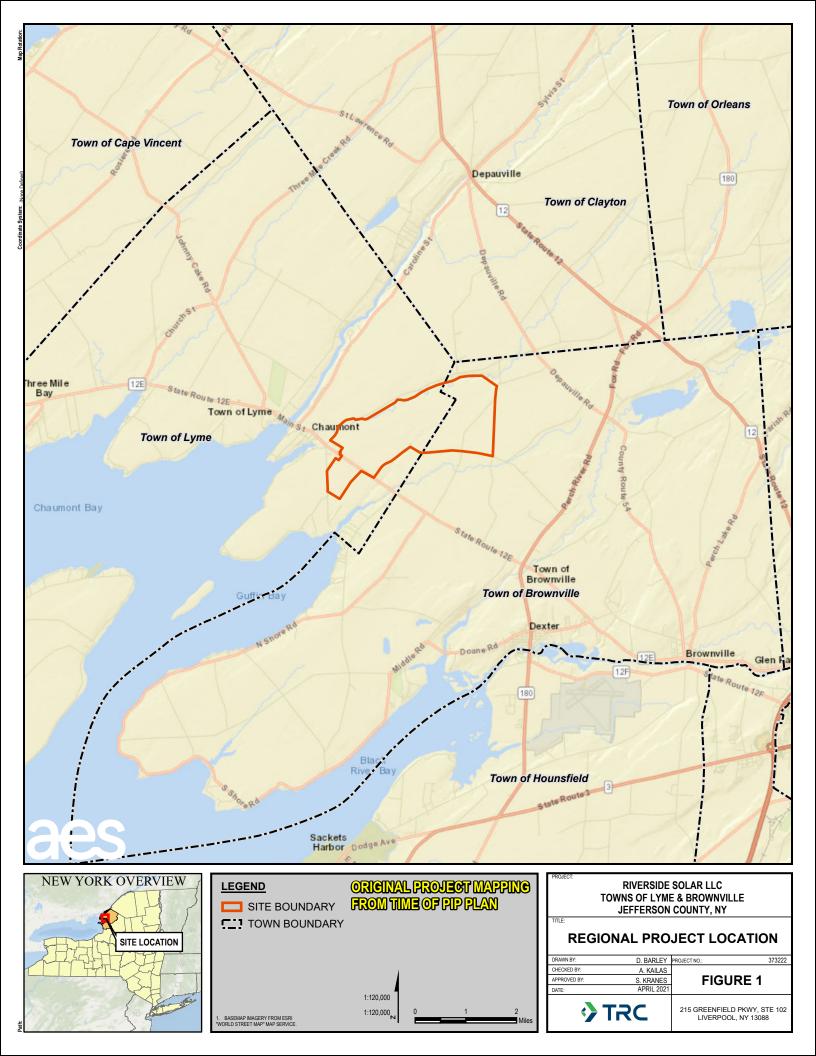
The Section 94-c regulations require an applicant to identify (1) any language other than English spoken according to United States Census data by 5,000 or more persons residing in any 5-digit zip code postal zone in which any portion of such zone is located within the Study Area for the facility; and (2) any language other than English spoken by a significant population of persons residing in close proximity to the proposed facility, alternative locations, or interconnections.

According to U.S. Census Bureau data, a total of 7,580 people within all of Jefferson County speak a language other than English at home. The Project Area falls within the 5 different zip code tabulation areas within two towns (Lyme and Brownville), as shown in Table 1 below. No language other than English is spoken by more than 5,000 people residing in any zip code within the Study Area (again, see Table 1 below). As there do not appear to be more than 5,000 persons within the Project's zip code speaking a non-English language, the Applicant does not propose any non-English public outreach for this Project. To the extent that there are Amish families within the Study Area, they will receive notifications via postal mail as previously identified in the PIP Plan (see Section 5.1.1.).

Table 1. Number of Residents of Study AreaZip Codes who speak a Language Other than English						
Zip	Post Office	Total	Percentage of Speak Only Population tha		Most Prevalent Non- English Language Spoken	
Code		Population	lation English speaks only English		Language	Number
13618	Cape Vincent	1,649	1,605	97	Chinese	12
13622	Chaumont	2,231	2,170	97	Spanish	24
13624	Clayton	5,430	5,138	94	Spanish	234
13634	Dexter	3,754	3,556	95	German	187
13693	Three Mile Bay	480	480	100	N/A	N/A

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimate, Table ID C16001: Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Over

# FIGURES



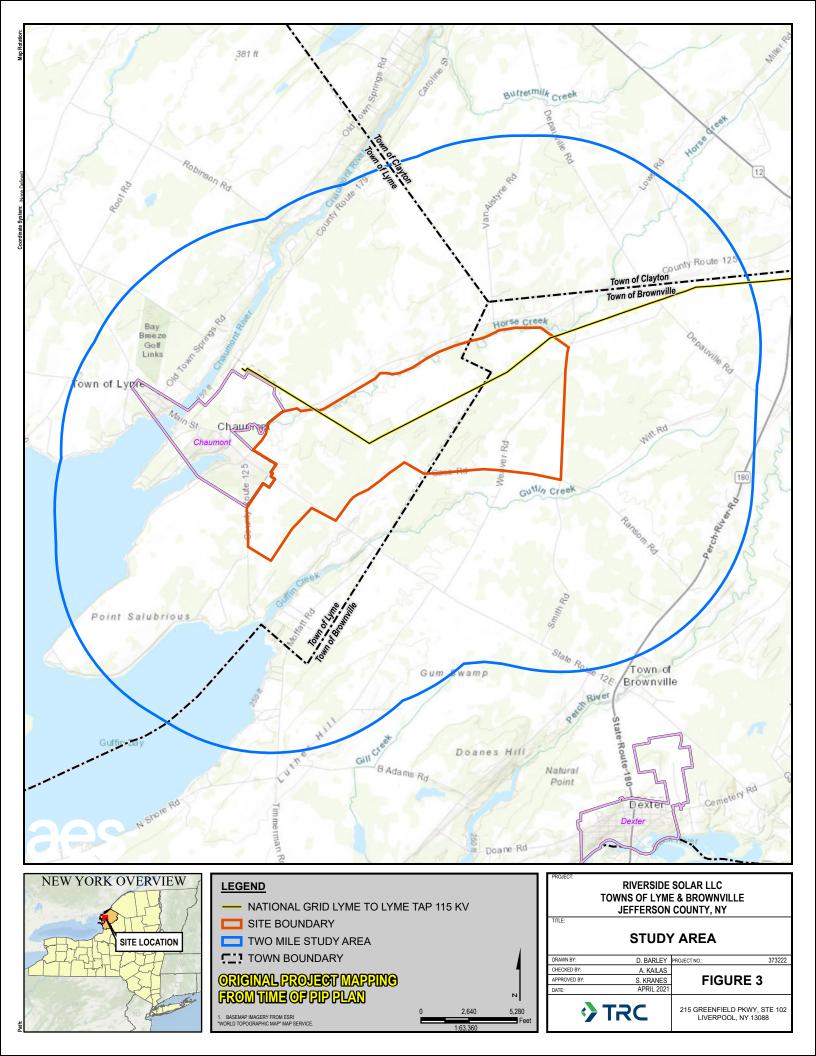


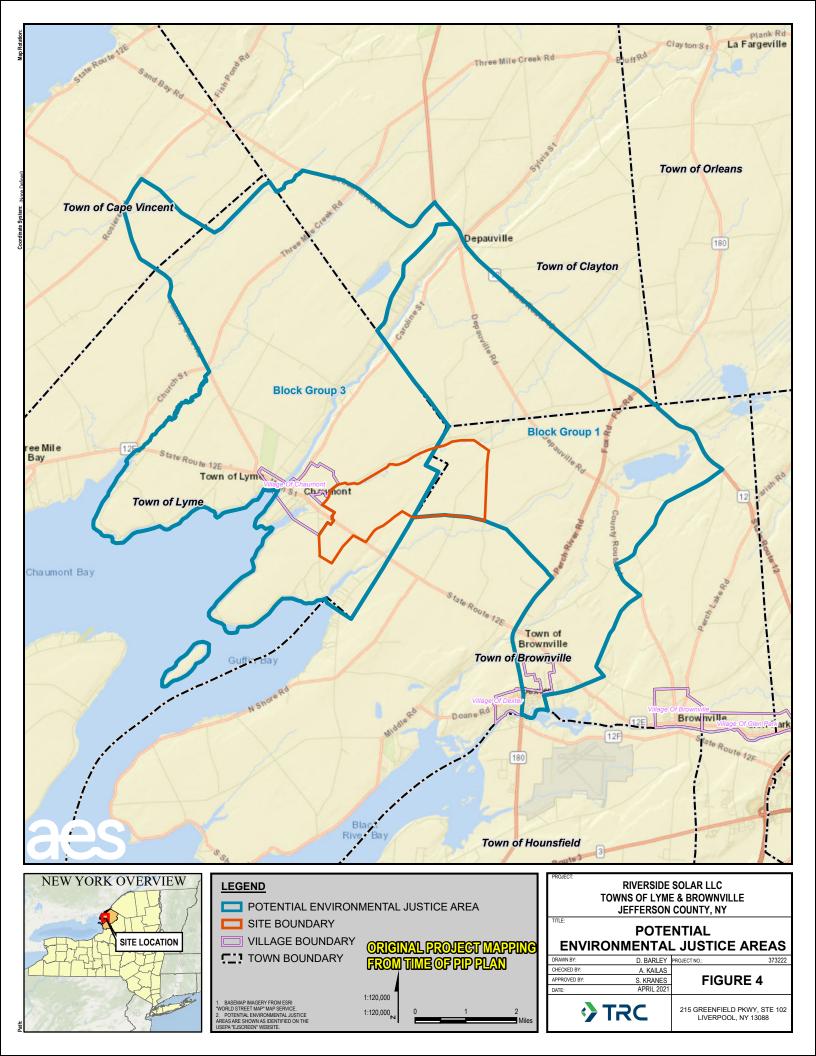




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# APPENDICES

#### Appendix A. Master Stakeholders List

#### **HOST COMMUNITIES & REPRESENTATIVES**

Town of Lyme

Scott Aubertine, Supervisor 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Don Bourquin, Deputy Supervisor 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Lyme Town Council

Julia Gosier 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Terry Countryman 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Daniel Villa 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

James Millington, Zoning Officer 12175 NYS Route 12E PO Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Lyme Town Board

Ariana Henderson, Town Clerk 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622

Tara VanAlstyne, Deputy Town Clerk 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622 Town of Brownville

Richard D. Lane, Supervisor 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Kenneth Bates, Councilman 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Ronald Tepfenhardt, Councilman 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Richard Dodge, Councilman 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Albert Roberts, Councilman 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

June McCartin, Town Clerk 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Kim Raymond, Deputy Clerk 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Roy Gilchrist, Highway Superintendent 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Justin Brotherton, Town Justice 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Kathy Quencer, Town Justice 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634 Brenda McConnell, Tax Collector 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634 Ron McGregor, Zoning 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Christina Thurston, Assessor 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

#### **COUNTY AGENCIES**

Jefferson County

Robert F. Hagemann III, County Administrator 195 Arsenal Street 2nd Floor Watertown, NY 13061

Sarah H. Baldwin, Deputy County Administrator 195 Arsenal Street 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Watertown, NY 13061

Gizelle Meeks, County Clerk 175 Arsenal Street 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Watertown, NY 13061

#### Jefferson County Department of Planning

Michael J. Bourcy, Director of Planning 175 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13601

Sara Freda, Community Development Coordinator 175 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13601

Jefferson County District Attorney Kristyna S. Mills 175 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13601 Jefferson County Farm Bureau

Shelmindine Devon, President 7413 County House Road Auburn, NY 13021

#### Jefferson County Legislature

Scott A. Gray, Chairman, Board of Legislators 195 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13061

William W. Johnson, District 2 Representative 195 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13061

Jefferson County Real Property Tax Services Roxanne M. Burns, Director 175 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13061

Jefferson County Attorney David J. Paulsen, County Attorney 175 Arsenal Street Watertown, NY 13061

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Coleen M. O'Neill, Sheriff 753 Waterman Drive Watertown, NY 13601

Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District Christine Watkins, Executive Director 25451 State Route 12 Watertown, NY 13601 Jefferson County Farm Service Agency Mary Jane Scotville, County Executive Director 21168 State Route 232 P.O. Box 838 Watertown, NY 13601 Cornell Cooperative Extension, Jefferson County Kevin Jordan, Executive Director 203 North Hamilton Street Watertown, NY 13601

Jefferson County Historical Society Jordan Walker, Executive Director 228 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601

#### STATE AGENCIES

Empire State Development Corporation Eric Gertler, Acting Commissioner 633 Third Avenue Floor 37 New York, NY 10017

Empire State Development Corporation Michael Reese, Mohawk Valley Regional Director 207 Genesee Street Utica, NY 13501

New York State Attorney General Letitia James Office of the Attorney General Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Richard Ball, Commissioner 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Basil Seggos, Commissioner 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Randy Young, Region 6 Acting Regional Director 207 Genesee Street Utica, NY 13501 New York State Department of Health Howard Zucker Commissioner Corning Tower Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12233

New York State Department of Public Service James Denn, Public Information Officer Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

New York State Department of Public Service Lorna Gillings, Outreach Contact Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

New York State Department of Public Service Noreena Chaudari, Assistant Counsel Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223 New York State Department of Public Service Andrew Davis Office of Electric, Gas, and Water Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

New York State Department of Public Service Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

New York State Department of State Rossana Rosado, Secretary of State One Commerce Plaza 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12231

New York State Department of Transportation Steven G. Kokkoris, Region 7 Regional Director Dulles State Office Building 317 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601

New York State Department of Transportation Matthew Driscoll, Commissioner 50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232

New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services John Mellville, Commissioner State Campus, Building 7A Suite 710 Albany, NY 12242

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Alicia Barton, President and CEO 17 Columbia Circle Albany, NY 12203 New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Richard Kaufmann, Board Chairman 17 Columbia Circle Albany, NY 12203

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Kelly Tyler, Director of Communities and Community Outreach 17 Columbia Circle Albany, NY 12203

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Region 10 Thousand Islands 45165 NYS Route 12 Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Facilities Management Bureau 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233

New York State Siting Board John Rhodes, Chair Agency Building 3 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) James Wright, Executive Director 317 Washington Street #414 Watertown, NY 13601

New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting Houtan Moaveni, Acting Executive Director Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242

#### FEDERAL AGENCIES

Federal Aviation Administration Carmine Gallo, Administrator 1 Aviation Plaza Jamaica, NY 11434

National Telecommunications and Information Administration Karl Nebbia Office of Spectrum Management 1401 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC 20230

US Army Corps of Engineers Steven Metivier, Chief New York Application Evaluation Section 1776 Niagara Street Buffalo, NY 14207

#### **LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES**

Governor of New York State Andrew Cuomo NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224

State Assembly Mark Walczyk District 116 317 Washington Street Dulles State Office Watertown, NY 13601

State Senate Patricia Ritchie, District 48 188 State Street, Legislative Office Building Room 302 Albany, NY 12247

#### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS**

Lyme Highway Department Pat Weston, Highway Superintendent 12175 NYS Route 12E P.O. Box 66 Chaumont, NY 13622 US Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Public Affairs Staff 1400 Independence Avenue, SW STOP 0506 Washington, DC 20250

US Department of Defense, Defense Siting Clearinghouse Steven Sample Mission Evaluation Branch 3400 Defense Pentagon Room 5C646 Washington, DC 20341

US Fish and Wildlife Service David Stilwell, Field Supervisor 3817 Luker Road Cortland, NY 13045

US House of Representatives Elise Stefanik, Representative, 21st Congressional District 318 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

US Senate Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator 100 South Clinton Street Room 1470 Syracuse, NY 13261

US Senate Charles Schumer, Senator 100 South Clinton Street Room 841 Syracuse, NY 13261

Jefferson County Highway Department James Lawrence, JR, Highway Superintendent 21897 County Rt 190 Watertown, NY 13601

#### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

General Brown Central School District Barbara J. Case, Superintendent 17643 Cemetery Rd Dexter, NY 13634 Lyme Central School District Cammy Morrison Superintendent 11868 Academy Street Chaumont, NY 13622

Thousand Islands School District Michael Bashaw, Superintendent 8481 St. Lawrence Road Clayton, NY 13624

#### **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Chaumont-Three Mile Bay Chamber of Commerce Terry Petrie, President P.O. Box 282 Chaumont, NY 13622

#### **EMERGENCY RESPONDERS**

Chaumont Fire Department Fred Jackson, Fire Chief 11385 St. Rt. 12E Chaumont, NY 13622

Three Mile Bay Fire Department William Woofter, Fire Chief 8581 NYS 12 E PO Box 419 Three Mile Bay, NY 13693

#### **ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES**

Village of Chaumont Valerie Rust, Mayor 12175 NYS Route 12E Chaumont,NY 13622

Village of Chaumont Karen Fitzgerald, Village Clerk/Treasurer 12175 NYS Route 12E Chaumont,NY 13622

#### **UTILITIES**

National Grid PO Box 11742 Newark, NJ 07101 Jefferson County Emergency Management Joseph D. Plummer, Director 753 Waterman Drive Watertown , NY 13601

State Police Troop D Headquarters Route 5 P.O. Box 30 Oneida, NY 13421

Town of Clayton Lance Peterson Sr., Deputy Supervisor 405 Riverside Dr. Clayton, NY 13624

New York State Independent System Operator 10 Krey Boulevard Rensselaer, NY 12144 New York Power Authority (NYPA) Corporate Communications 123 Mail Street Mail Stop 10 B White Plains, NY 10601 Norbut Solar Farms David Norbut, President 1241 University Avenue Rochester, NY 14607

#### ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

Barclay Damen Joe Russell, Partner 120 Washington Street, Suite 500 Watertown, NY 13601

#### **PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS**

Onondaga Audubon Society Alison Kocek, President P.O. Box 620 Syracuse, NY 13201

The Nature Conservancy David Klein, Senior Field Representative 4245 North Fairfax Drive Suite 100 Arlington, VA 22203

Adirondack North County Association Kate Fish, Executive Director 67 Main Street Suite 201 Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Lyme Heritage Center Historian P.O. Box 285 Chaumont, NY 13622

#### **AIRPORTS & HELIPORTS**

Watertown International Airport Manager's Office 22564 Airport Drive Dexter, NY 13634

Salubrious Point Airport Georgia Borden, Owner 1986 Cr 125 Chaumont, NY 13622 IBEW Local Union 910 John O'Driscoll, Business Manager 25001 Water Street Watertown, NY 13601

Great Lakes Seaway Trail Inc. Michael Bristol, President/CEO 401 W Main Street Glen Park, NY 13601

Fort Drum Garrison Director of Public Works 10000 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Fort Drum, NY 13602

John Gonzales Field Airport (NY69) 2345 Lake Ave/Sunset Island 3 Miami Beach, FL 33140

#### **PARTICIPATING LANDOWNERS**

To be identified at a later date

#### ADJACENT LANDOWNERS

To be identified at a later date

#### **AREA RESIDENTS**

To be identified at a later date

#### LOCAL DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Brownville Town Hall 16431 Star School House Road Dexter, NY 13634

Dexter Free Library 120 E. Kirby Street PO Box 544 Dexter, NY 13634 Lyme Town Hall 12175 NYS Route 12E Chaumont, NY 13622

Lyme Free Library Patricia Hughes, Director 12165 Main Street Chaumont, Ny 13622

# Appendix B. Riverside Solar Project PIP Plan Meeting Log

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
1-15-2020	Town of Lyme, NY Phone Call	Derek Hasek (Geronimo) to Scott Aubertine (Supervisor)	Discussed comments posted in DMM.	Mr. Hasek to send comments to Mr. Aubertine clarifying misrepresented DMM comments.
1-16-2020	Town of Lyme, NY Email	Derek Hasek (Geronimo) to Scott Aubertine (Supervisor)	Facts clarifying misrepresented DMM comments.	Complete.
1-27-2020	IBEW Local 910, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Mike Rhubart (Asst. Business Manager)	Introduced project.	None.
1-27-2020	Town of Brownville, NY Town Offices	Eric Will (Geronimo), Ron McGregor (Zoning Officer), Denny Lane (Supervisor), Christina Thurston (Assessor)	Introduced project and Article 10 process. Offered to present project at a Town Board Meeting.	None.
1-28-2020	National Grid, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Gerry Haenlin (Mgr., Community & Customer Mgmt., National Grid)	Introduced project and talked about community engagement.	None.
1-28-2020	US Dept of Agriculture - Farm Service Agency, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Receptionist (USDA)	Introduced project. They appreciated the update, but indicated it is something they only engage if approached by a landowner.	None.

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
1-28-2020	US Congresswoman, 21 <sup>st</sup> District, Elise Stefanik, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Mary Jo Richards (Regional Director)	Introduced project.	None.
1-28-2020	US Department of Agriculture Rural Development Agency, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Eric Johnson (Lead Loan Specialist)	Gave project overview. They are a provider of rural loan guarantees so this project is not something they will follow.	None.
1-29-2020	US Senator, Charles Schumer, Syracuse, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Emily Cole (Staff Assistant)	Notified staff of the project.	None.
1-29-2020	US Senator, Kirsten Gillibrand, Syracuse, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Kayla Anderson (CNY Regional Assistant)	Notified staff of the project.	None.
1-30-2020	NYS Assemblyman (District 116) Mark Walczyk	Eric Will (Geronimo), Mike Schenk (Chief of Staff)	Notified staff of the project.	None.
1-30-2020	NYS Senator (District 48) Patty Ritchie	Eric Will (Geronimo), Logan Eddy (District Director)	Notified staff of the project.	None.
1-30-2020	William Johnson, Jefferson County Legislator, Jefferson County Economic Development Office, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Bill Johnson (Jefferson County Legislator)	Discussed project and the county's position on PILOT agreements. He lives near the project in the Town of Lyme.	Nothing specific, but will stay in touch.
1-31-2020	Village of Chaumont, NY Village Offices	Eric Will (Geronimo), Karen Fitzgerald (Village Clerk)	Presented the project. Ms. Fitzgerald mentioned there's discussion to dissolve the village. Mr. Will offered to meet with the Mayor/Town Council. Ms. Fitzgerald is facilitating booking a venue for a public open house in March.	None.

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
1-31-2020	Chaumont-Three Mile Bay Chamber of Commerce, Chaumont, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Karen Fitzgerald (Member)	Provided project overview and asked that Terry Petrie, President, also be updated. Offered to also meet with Mr. Petrie.	Nothing specific.
1-31-2020	Town of Lyme, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Scott Aubertine (Lyme Supervisor)	Discussed the project specifics, Article 10, Charitable Fund, Open House, Decommissioning, RPTL Section 487. Offered to present project at a Town Board meeting.	Set up Open House and maintain open communication.
1-31-2020	Lyme Free Library, Lyme, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Patricia Hughes (Director)	Introduced the project and provided a fact sheet.	None.
2-4-2020	Phone Call	Eric Will (Geronimo), Heather Jackson (Chaumont Fire Dept.)	Discussion of using the Fire Hall for an open house in March.	Geronimo confirmed 3/26 from 5-8 PM.
2-5-2020	Email from Mary Jo Richards in Congresswoman Stefanik's Watertown office	Mary Jo Richards (Regional Director) to Eric Will (Geronimo)	Geronimo acknowledged transmittal of four project maps that Ms. Richards will forward to their legislative team in Washington, DC.	Send additional materials on projects as they become available.
2-6-2020	Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA)/Phone Call	Eric Will (Geronimo), Kate Fish (CEO)	Discussion of project and engagement with ANCA.	Sent information about the projects. Future plan to schedule a meeting.

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
2-6-2020	Development Authority of the North Country (DANC)/Phone Call	Eric Will (Geronimo), James Wright (CEO)	Introduced project.	Sent follow-up information about the project.
2-10-2020	Development Authority of the North Country (DANC)/Email	Eric Will (Geronimo) to James Wright (CEO)	Geronimo sent a follow-up email and offered to present the project in their offices on 2/13 or 2/14.	Present project in person if they accept offer to do so.
2-13-2020	Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) Offices – Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Hartley Bonisteel Schweitzer (Community Planner)	Reviewed the project, discussed renewables in general, PILOTs in Jefferson County, and the need to engage with Fort Drum.	None.
2-14-2020	Chaumont Volunteer Fire Dept., Chaumont, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Heather Jackson (Member), Will (?) (Assistant Chief)	Project overview and finalized details for Open House on March 26 at the Fire Hall.	None.
2-14-2020	Chaumont Volunteer Fire Dept. Meeting at Chief's office in Clayton	Eric Will Geronimo Fred Jackson (Chief)	Discussed project and upcoming Open House. Mr. Jackson was receptive to project.	None.
2-14-2020	Town of Lyme, NY Town Offices	Ariana Henderson, Town Clerk	Introduced project. Left message with receptionist.	None.
2-14-2020	Town of Lyme, NY Town Offices	Eric Will (Geronimo), Dick Wallace (Town Justice)	Introduced project.	None.
2-14-2020	Town of Lyme, NY Town Offices	Eric Will (Geronimo), Pat Weston (Highway Superintendent)	Introduced project.	None.
2-14-2020	Town of Brownville, NY Town Highway Dept.	Eric Will (Geronimo), Roy Gilchrist (Highway Superintendent)	Introduced project. Left message for Mr. Gilchrist.	None.

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
2-14-2020	Town of Clayton, NY Town Offices	Eric Will (Geronimo), Heather Valadez (Finance & HR Clerk)	Introduced project.	None.
2-14-2020	Town of Clayton, NY – Phone Call	Eric Will (Geronimo), Richard Ingerson (Zoning Enforcement Officer)	In receipt of project materials left previously, Mr. Ingerson called to discuss project. He also does code enforcement in the Town of Lyme and is familiar with the project area.	None.
2-19-2020	Dexter Free Library, Dexter, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Jennifer Thomas (Director)	Introduced project and associated materials. Ms. Thomas understands the library may be called upon to act as a document repository.	None.
2-19-2020	Watertown International Airport	Eric Will (Geronimo), Grant Sussey (Airport Manager)	Discussed project's location compared to the direction of their runways. Mr. Sussey inquired about a glint and glare study and Mr. Will assured him Geronimo is following FAA protocols. He wanted to assure airport safety isn't compromised.	None.
2-19-2020	Jefferson County EMS	Eric Will (Geronimo) and a member of Director Joseph Plummer's staff	Introduced project. Left materials for Mr. Plummer to review.	None.
2-19-2020	Cornell Cooperative Extension, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo) and the receptionist	Introduced project.	None.
2-19-2020	Jefferson County Historical Society, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Toni Engleman (Interim Director)	Introduced project.	None.

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
2-19-2020	Jefferson County Highway Department, Watertown, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo), Scott Whittaker (Field Engineer)	In absence of Jim Lawrence (Highway Superintendent), Mr. Will met with Mr. Whittaker, who planned to share project information accordingly.	None.
2-19-2020	Town of Clayton, NY Phone Call	Richard Ingerson (Town of Clayton Zoning Enforcement Officer) to Eric Will (Geronimo)	Mr. Ingerson called to say he'd reviewed the project materials with the Town Supervisor.	None.
2-19-2020	Phone Call Three Mile Bay Fire Department, Three Mile Bay, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Bill Woofter (Fire Chief)	Introduced project over voicemail; offered to meet or discuss any questions.	None – mailed information.
2-20-2020	Phone Call to Lyme Heritage Center, Chaumont, NY	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Julia Gosier (Historian)	Introduced project. (Center is typically closed in the winter.)	None.
2-20-2020	Phone Call to Norbut Solar Farms	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Jenelle Harriff (Norbut Solar Farms)	Introduced project.	None.
2-20-2020	Phone Call from Chaumont Volunteer Fire Department	Heather Jackson (Chaumont VFD) to Eric Will (Geronimo)	Ms. Jackson confirmed that their facility will be available from 5-8 PM on 3/26/2020 for the project Open House and that they will provide catering services for refreshments.	None.
		Above Filed 2-27-20		
3-2-2020	Email to Town of Brownville	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Town Supervisor (Denny Lane) and Town Clerk (June McCartin)	Sent Response Letter and Revised PIP Plan	Complete
3-2-2020	Email to Town of Lyme	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Scott Aubertine (Town Supervisor) and Ariana Henderson (Town Clerk)	Sent Response Letter and Revised PIP Plan	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
3-3-2020	Email to Town of Lyme	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Scott Aubertine (Town Supervisor)	Sent Solar FAQ pamphlet and Open House reminder	Complete
3-3-2020	Call with Jefferson County	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Robert Hagemann (County Manager)	Briefly introduced project and requested a personal meeting to discuss	Email him some suggested dates to meet - Done
3-5-2020	Email to Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Christine Watkins (Executive Director)	Sent project information	Complete
3-5-2020	Visit to Town of Brownville (as Article 10 Document Repository)	Eric Will (Geronimo) and Denny Lane (Town Supervisor)	Gave him the Response Letter and Revised PIP Plan for delivery to June McCartin (Town Clerk).	Complete
3-5-2020	Visit to Dexter Free Library (as Article 10 Document Repository)	Eric Will (Geronimo) and Jennifer Thomas (Director)	Gave her the Response Letter and Revised PIP Plan	Complete
3-5-2020	Town of Lyme	Eric Will (Geronimo) and Ariana Henderson (Town Clerk)	Gave her the Response Letter and Revised PIP for delivery to the Lyme Free Library (Patricia Hughes, Director) since library was closed	Complete
3-9-2020	Phone	Brett Hastings - Kevin Miluszusky	Returned call from voicemail left on Project Hotline. Was interested in us expanding our project onto his property, unfortunately this is not possible.	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
3-10-2020	Jefferson County Office Bldg.	Eric Will (Geronimo), Scott Gray (Chairman, Jefferson County Legislature), Robert Hagemann (County Administrator), and David Paulsen (County Attorney)	Introduce project, discuss NY CLCPA, and learn about the county's view on taxation of large renewable energy facilities. In Jefferson County any Article 10 project is subject to full taxation.	Nothing specific, but more discussion will be needed.
3-26-2020	Email to Fort Drum	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Sonja Draught (Chief, Plans, Analysis & Integration Office	Sent her project map and set up a call to discuss.	Review project with her on scheduled call.
3-30-2020	Email from Fort Drum	Sonja Draught (Chief, Plans, Analysis & Integration Office) to Eric Will (Geronimo)	She informed me that we didn't need to have the telephone call because they had studied the map and didn't foresee any impact to their operations.	Complete
4-28-20	Returned landowner call based on voice message left on public outreach line	Shawn Pulver – Landowner in Clayton & Brett Hastings	Interested in other land leasing options not associated with this project.	Complete
5-19-2020	Email to Great Lakes Seaway Trail	Eric Will (Geronimo) to their published email address	Sent them a cover letter along with project information and invited them to call or meet with me.	Complete
5-19-2020	Attempted call to Salubrious Point Airport	Eric Will (Geronimo) to their published phone number	The number is out of service and no website or email address could be found.	Complete
5-19-2020	Attempted call to John Gonzales Field Airport	Eric Will (Geronimo) to their published phone number	The number is out of service and no website or email address could be found.	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
5-19-2020	Email to The Nature Conservancy	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Bill Ulfelder (NY Executive Director)	Provided him with project name, location, and website and indicated I'd be happy to provide further information if there's interest.	Complete
5-19-2020	Email to the General Brown Central School District	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Barbara Case (Superintendent)	Sent her a link to the project's website and indicated I'd provide more information electronically or in person if she had interest.	Complete
5-19-2020	Email to the Lyme Central School District	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Cammy Morrison (Superintendent)	Sent her a link to the project's website and indicated I'd provide more information electronically or in person if she had interest.	Complete
5-19-2020	Email to the Thousand Islands Central School District	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Michael Bashaw (Superintendent)	Sent him a link to the project's website and indicated I'd provide more information electronically or in person if he had an interest.	Complete
5-28-2020	Email to Community Stakeholder	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Wendy Simmons	Noticed she had visited the project's website to listen to the recording of the online town meeting, so I invited her to contact me with any questions.	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
5-28-2020	Email to Community Stakeholder	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Brian Stacey	Noticed he had visited the project's website to listen to the recording of the online town meeting, so I invited him to contact me with any questions.	Complete
5-28-2020	Email to DPS	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Joseph White	Noticed he had visited the project's website to listen to the recording of the online town meeting, so I invited him to contact me with any questions. He replied and thanked me for reaching out.	Complete
5-28-2020	Email to Town of Lyme	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Jim Millington (Zoning Officer)	Introduced myself and the project and suggested he visit the project's website. I encouraged him to call or email me with questions.	Complete
5-28-2020	Email to Jefferson County	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Roxanne Burns, Director of Real Property Tax Services	Introduced myself and suggested she visit the project's website. I encouraged her to call or email me with questions.	Complete
6-30-2020	Email to Landowner	Eric Will (Geronimo) to Kevin Miluszusky	Kevin had sent an email expressing interest in joining the project, but I had to tell him his parcel isn't near our project area. I thanked him for his interest.	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
8-10-2020	Call from Landowner	Eric Peters to Eric Will (Geronimo)	He expressed interest in participating in the project. I thanked him and told him I'd get back to him.	Respond and let him know if there's an opportunity to join the project.
12-4-2020	Call to New York State Snowmobile Assn.	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Dominic Jacangaelo, Ex. Dir.	We discussed his organization's concerns and he said he'd send contact information for all clubs in the towns we're developing in so we can engage directly with them.	Meet in person the next time I'm in the Albany area.
12-4-2020	Email to the Town of Brownville	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Denny Lane (Town Supervisor) and June McCartin (Town Clerk)	Informed them that development efforts are continuing, especially with respect to required environmental studies, and that we'd give them an in- person briefing when the COVID problem permits.	Complete
12-4-2020	Email to Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Christine Watkins (Ex. Dir.)	Same as above	Complete
12-4-2020	Email to Lyme Central School District	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Cammy Morrison (Superintendent)	Same as above, but also mentioned wanting to discuss a solar PILOT	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
12-4-2020	Email to Town of Lyme	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Scott Aubertine (Town Supervisor)	Informed him that development efforts are continuing, especially with respect to required environmental studies, and that we'd give him an in- person briefing when the COVID problem permits.	Complete
12-4-2020	Email to Jefferson County Economic Development/IDA	Eric Will (NG Renewables) to Don Alexander (CEO)	Same as above	Complete
1-11-2021	Call from Landowner	Justin Day (Landowner) to Project toll-free number – spoke with Eric Will (AES)	Mr. Day was wondering about the status of his land payment for 2020 – Eric said he would investigate and let Mr. Day know	Complete
2-10-2021	Call from Project Neighbor	Gail Miller (Project Neighbor, Town of Lyme Planning Board Member) to Project toll-free number – spoke to Brett Hastings (AES)	Ms. Miller recommended that we add a more micro- descriptive location of the Project area to the Virtual Community Meeting postcards and re-send	Complete – Riverside postcards were edited and an updated (more descriptive) version was sent

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
2-14-2021	Email from Jefferson County Highway Dept. Right of Way Agent	Andy Makuch (Jefferson Co. Highway Dept. Right of Way Agent) to Riverside Solar email; Eric Will (AES)	Asked for a map of the properties involved in the Project which could have an impact on the Jefferson Co. Highway system. Eric spoke with Mr. Makuch by phone and it was determined that the Project is not on any County roads	Complete
2-16-2021; 2-17-2021; 4-1-2021	Call from Project Neighbor	Lawrence Ward (Project Neighbor) to Project toll-free number; Eric Will (AES)	Mr. Ward called to say that he had received a postcard about the Project, asked that someone call him back as he would like to learn more and is interested in potentially participating in the Project. Eric returned his call and spoke with him	Complete
3-22-2021	Email from Project Neighbor	Maureen Hilts (Project Neighbor) to Riverside Solar email; Eric Will (AES)	Ms. Hilts expressed a number of concerns related to the Project. Eric called her back and has been in continued conversations with her	Discussions will continue

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
2-26-2021	Zoom Call (Riverside Solar Local Agency Meeting)	Town (Lyme & Brownville) and County (Jefferson) Leadership; Michael Farrell, Brett Hastings, and Eric Will of AES; Samantha Kranes of TRC; Jim Muscato of Young Sommer	Purpose: To fulfill the local agency meeting requirement of Section 94-c, provide information on the new permitting process and Project updates, and answer questions and converse with local leadership	Complete
3-2-2021	Zoom Webinar (Riverside Solar Virtual Community Meeting)	41 webinar attendees (local stakeholders/individuals interested in the Project); 6 presenters (Michael Farrell, Brett Hastings, Eric Will and Neely Kelley of AES; Samantha Kranes of TRC; Jim Muscato of Young Sommer)	Purpose: To fulfill the community meeting requirement of Section 94-c, provide information on the new 94-c permitting process, provide Project info and updates, and answer questions from the community. Attendees submitted many questions and AES extended the meeting by 30 minutes to answer more questions	Complete – meeting recording, PPT slides, and transcript of Q&A have been posted on the Project website
3-4-2021	Email from Project Neighbors	Veronica and James Pecor to Riverside Solar email; Eric Will (AES)	The Pecors said that they were unable to attend the March 2nd Community Meeting but were interested in receiving more information about the project and how it will pertain to their farm. Eric Will spoke with them by phone	Complete

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
3-6-2021	Email from Project Neighbor	Ted Smith (Project Neighbor) to Riverside Solar email; Eric Will (AES)	Asked how to access the recording of the Virtual Community Meeting and expressed that he had more questions. Stephanie Hince (AES) responded by email, providing the link to the meeting recording, and asked that he call or email with any further questions. Following this correspondence, Eric has been in contact with Mr. Smith via email and phone	Complete
3-10-2021	In-Person Meeting with Project Neighbors	Veronica and James Pecor (Project Neighbors) and Eric Will (AES)	The Pecors expressed interest in participating in the Project but this won't be possible, as their land is not contiguous	Complete
3-22-2021	Call from Project Neighbor	Aubrey Cooke (Project Neighbor) to Project toll-free number; Eric Will (AES)	Asked that someone call her back, as she had some questions about the Project. Eric Will returned her call and spoke with her	Complete
3-29-2021	Call from Chaumont resident	Tom Carioti (Chaumont resident) and Neely Kelley (AES)	Mr. Carioti received a 60-day Notice for Riverside, although he lives more than a mile away from the Project, he wanted to know where exactly the Project is going to be located and why he received the Notice	Neely is investigating why/how Mr. Carioti received the Notice and will follow up with Mr. Carioti

Date	Location of Meeting/Method of Communication	Meeting Attendees/Communication Participants	Purpose of Meeting/Communication and Comments	Follow-Up Action Items
3-29-2021	Call from Project Neighbor	Gary Parker (Project Neighbor) and Neely Kelley (AES)	Mr. Parker received a 60-day Notice for Riverside	Eric is following up with Mr. Parker, discussions will continue
3-31-2021	In-Person Meeting with Landowner	Wayne Gaige (Landowner) and Eric Will (AES)	Reviewed proposed panel locations	Discussions will continue
3-31-2021	In-Person Meeting with Project Neighbor	Maureen Hilts (Project Neighbor) and Eric Will (AES)	Initial discussions of concerns	Discussions will continue
3-31-2021	In-Person Meeting with Project Neighbor	Aubrey Cooke (Project Neighbor) and Eric Will (AES)	Initial discussions of concerns	Discussions will continue
3-31-2021	Phone Conversation with Project Neighbor	Michael Matteson (Project Neighbor) and Eric Will (AES)	Initial discussions of concerns	Discussions will continue
3-31-2021	Phone Conversation with Project Neighbor	Jason Reichert (Project Neighbor) and Eric Will (AES)	Initial discussions of concerns	Discussions will continue

#### Appendix C

#### **Riverside Solar Project Preliminary Project Schedule**

\*Please note – all dates are estimated and subject to change; notification of major project milestones and public participation opportunities will be provided as information is available

December 2019 – File Preliminary Public Involvement Program Plan with NYSDPS

February 2020 – File Final Public Involvement Program Plan with NYSDPS

Spring 2020 – Article 10 Public Virtual Informational Meeting

**Winter 2020/Spring 2021** – Filed request to change to 94-c process; held virtual community meeting in May 2021

Spring 2021 – Submit Section 94-c Application

Spring 2022 – Final Determination on Section 94-c Application

Fall 2023 – Commercial Operation Date