

June 24, 2019

Dear Governor Cuomo, Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, and Speaker Heastie:

Cypress Creek Renewables applauds New York State's vision for making public involvement the basis of the Article 10 Electric Generating Siting Process. Article 10 specifically calls for local governments to serve as a critical voice in the state's ambitious approach to supporting its clean energy economy and perform an important role in evaluating and advancing power siting in their communities.

Last year, we partnered with local residents in the Town of Cambria and the Town of Pendleton in Niagara County, where we are proposing to build Bear Ridge Solar, a 100 MW solar project. While only at the beginning of the Article 10 process, we have already held six open houses and public informational meetings to hear from the communities. Engaging with residents is a priority for the Bear Ridge team, as is being a local presence, which is why we are excited to open a community office space this summer where residents can stop by and meet with us.

Through Article 10, New York State is facilitating a collaborative approach to renewable energy planning to meet the needs of New Yorkers and generate energy independence, job growth, and economic development. The Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Siting Board), which reviews local applications, calls for two members of the board to be "ad hoc public members, both of whom shall reside within the municipality in which the facility is proposed to be located."

We take feedback from our stakeholders seriously as we work together to build a relationship and a project that reflects the character and needs of the communities. It is with our community-first approach in mind that we respectfully encourage New York State to appoint two ad hoc public members from the Cambria and Pendleton communities in Niagara County to the Siting Board presiding over our proposed project. Both Cambria and Pendleton have already proposed candidates for consideration, providing opportunity for expedited appointments.

We are committed to developing Bear Ridge Solar in a thoughtful and transparent manner and feel this is an important next step in the process.

Thank you for your consideration.



Kevin Kohlstedt

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cc: NYS Senator Robert G. Ort
cc: NYS Assemblyman Angelo J. Morinello
cc: NYS Assemblywoman Karen McMahon
cc: Keith McNall, Chairman, Niagara County Legislature
cc: Mary Jo Tamburlin, Clerk of Legislature, Niagara County Legislature
cc: Wright Ellis, Town Supervisor, Cambria
cc: Tamara Cooper, Town Clerk, Cambria
cc: Joel Maerten, Town Supervisor, Pendleton
cc: Deborah Maurer, Town Clerk, Pendleton
cc: Board Members of Niagara County Legislature, Town of Cambria, and Town of Pendleton