

## Project Review Committee December 3, 2024 at 4:00 pm

29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

To join Zoom meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88924334270?pwd=MUFmK0RiYmVHek9HOUUraVNURHY3QT09

Meeting ID: 889 2433 4270 Passcode: 074400 One tap mobile <sup>1</sup> 1 (929) 436-2866

Download the app at least 5 minutes prior to the meeting start: <u>www.zoom.com</u>

## AGENDA

4:00 pm <sup>2</sup>	Adjustments to the Agenda
	Public Comment
4:05 pm	Approval of Minutes <sup>3</sup>
4:10 pm	Summary of updates to PUC rules and proposed internal Section 248/Section 248a review procedure
4:25 pm	Review Proposed Solar Energy and Telecommunications Projects <sup>3</sup>
	Solar – actions: discuss preferred site letter of support requests and instruct staff whether to issue preferred site letters of support.
	Telecommunications – actions: discuss necessity of
	commenting on project and instruct staff to submit comments
	as proposed.
5:30 pm	Adjourn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dial-in telephone numbers are "Toll" numbers. Fees may be charged to the person calling in dependent on their phone service.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All times are approximate unless otherwise advertised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Anticipated action item(s).

#### CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION Project Review Committee July 25, 2024 4:00pm Remote Participation via Zoom

#### **Draft Minutes**

#### **Project Review Committee Members**

1		
	Х	Lee Cattaneo, Orange Commissioner 1
	Х	John Brabant, Calais Commissioner 2
	Х	Bill Arrand, Worcester Commissioner 3
		Peter Carbee, Washington Commissioner 4
	х	Robert Wernecke, Berlin Commissioner 5
	х	Alice Peal, Waitsfield Alternate Commissioner 6
7		
8		Staff: Christian Meyer, Sam Lash, Will Pitkin (in person)
9		
10		L. Cattaneo called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.
11		
12		Public comment
13		No public comments
14		
15		Adjustments to the Agenda
16		None
17		
18		Public Comment
19		No members of the public
20		
21		Approval of Minutes
22		R. Wernecke moved to approve the March 25, 2024 meeting's draft minutes, W. Arrand seconded, all in
23		favor, motion carried.
24		
25		Election of Officers
26		R. Wernecke nominated L. Cattaneo as chair, A. Peal seconded, all in favor, motion carried. R. Wernecke
27		nominated W. Arrand as vice-chair, L. Cattaneo seconded, all in favor, motion carried.
28		
29		Review Proposed Solar Energy Projects: Scott Hill Road, Berlin and Comstock Road, Berlin
30		
31		W. Pitkin provided background on Section 248 application process, RPCs' roles, and when RPCs do and
32		do not need to comment. Because both of the projects under review are applying to participate in net
33		metering, both projects need preferred site letters of support from CVRPC. CVRPC previously provided a
34		preferred site letter of support in January 2024 for Comstock Road; Scott Hill Road will need to request a
35		preferred site letter of support from CVRPC but has not done so yet.
36		C lack summarized the proposed projects and whether there were any state regional enlaged
37		S. Lash summarized the proposed projects and whether there were any state, regional, or local constraints present on the project sites. She discussed preferred site types as identified in the Regional
38 39		Plan.
22		r Ian.

- 1
- 2 W. Pitkin provided further analysis of whether projects conformed to the Berlin Town Plan then
- summarized characteristics of the project sites' land use area (Rural as identified in the Regional Plan's
   Future Land Use Map).
- 5
- 6 R. Wernecke summarized the history of the project sites and whether they faced local opposition from
- 7 residents or the Town of Berlin. C. Meyer noted that the Comstock Road project had also previously
- 8 received a preferred site letter of support from the town government prior to CVRPC issuing its letter. J.
- 9 Brabant joined the meeting at 4:27pm. Committee discussed whether projects would involve tree
- 10 clearing, disturbing prime agricultural soils or wetlands, and visual screening.
- 11

12 Committee discussed whether to comment on the projects – C. Meyer reiterated that CVRPC is not

- required to comment on either. J. Brabant suggested that if CVRPC were to comment, we should wait until the end of the advance notice comment period and that this is good protocol for CVRPC when
- 15 reviewing future projects.
- 16
- 17 J. Brabant asked whether the applicants provided information on the proposed offtaker(s) of the energy
- 18 the projects would generate and whether the energy would count toward renewable energy credits and
- 19 renewable energy targets in Vermont. Staff will follow up with Green Mountain Power to answer these
- 20 questions. 21

23

#### 22 Updates on Recent Act 250 / Section 248 Applications & Projects of Substantial Regional Impact

- 24 Staff provided updates on recent applications.
- Committee discussed when they would like to review Section 248 and Act 250 applications and possible
   procedures for review. Staff will continue drafting a possible procedure and discuss with the committee
- procedures for review. Staff will continue drafting a possible procedure and discuss with the committeein future meetings.
- 29
- 30 Adjournment
- 31
- 32 J. Brabant moved to adjourn, A. Peal seconded, all in favor, motion carried.



## MEMO

Date: December 3, 2024
To: Project Review Committee
From: Will Pitkin, Planner
Re: PUC Rule Updates, Proposed Section 248 and 248a Review Procedures, Review of Two
Requests for Preferred Site Letters of Support and Proposed Telecom Tower

To start next week's meeting, Sam will present a summary of recent updates to Public Utility Commission (PUC) rules and how these changes will affect the Project Review Committee. Additionally, Sam has prepared a draft Section 248 application review procedure to help ensure review is consistent from project to project and hopefully make our work much easier as reviewers. She will present that proposed review procedure, then I'll present a proposed Section 248a review procedure, which is basically a simplified adaptation of the first proposed procedure. (Reminder that Section 248 is for energy projects, which often involve preferred site letters of support requests from RPCs, whereas Section 248a is for telecommunications projects and does not involve preferred site letters.)

After discussing the proposed review procedures, we can try them out on several projects that have come in recently. Two are solar projects that we've previously discussed – one where CVRPC already issued a preferred site letter of support in January but, as we will hear in the summary of recent updates to PUC rules, the applicant will need a new letter from us dated to after the 45-day advanced notice. The third project is a proposed cell tower in Washington which residents have raised objections to. The Washington Selectboard has requested a public hearing with the developer, which will likely be in the second week of December.

Please find summaries of the projects below.

- ACTION REQUESTED: Review Project transfer (Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC) and provide updated (date) preferred siting letter
- ACTION REQUESTED: Determine telecom project's conformance to the Regional Plan and possibly instruct staff to submit comments ahead of the filing of the petition for a Certificate of Public Good.

Project: Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC
Net-Metered Project Action: Update Preferred Site Letter

-	a Project Action:		
<u>24-1849-</u>	Comstock Road	Berlin	Norwich Solar has assumed responsibility for developing
<u>AN</u>	GLS VT Solar, LLC		Green Lantern's Solar project at 212 Comstock Rd. Under
<u>24-2504-</u>			the new Rule 5.103 (7) the preferred site letter must
<u>NM</u>			reflect signing AFTER the 45-day advance notice was
			issued. The Berlin Planning Commission has already
			provided an updated letter. The 500kW layout is
			unchanged, however they did reevaluate some of the
			planting and broke up the previously proposed "wall"
			into two segments (old and new plans provided).
			6/14/2024: 45-Day advance submission of Comstock
			Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8010, for
			a 500kW group net-metered solar array in Berlin,
			Vermont. CVRPC previously provided a preferred site
			letter of support on 1/12/2024.
			7/30/2024: net metering petition filed. 7/31/2024:
			petition deemed incomplete because preferred site
			letters of support from CVRPC and Town of Berlin were
			provided prior to filing 45-day advance notice; petitioner
			requested that the PUC alter the ruling that the petition
			was incomplete. 8/12/2024: PUC denied motion to alter
			incomplete ruling. 8/19/2024: petitioner filed motion to
			alter the order from 8/12/2024 on the basis that the rule
			requiring preferred site letters of support be issued after
			the filing of the 45-day advance notice came into effect
			on $3/1/2024$ and that the preferred site letters of
			support were issued prior to that rule coming into effect.
			8/29/2024: PUC denied motion to alter.
			Petitioner will need to request another preferred site
			letter of support from CVRPC.
			Packet & Minutes from 1-04-2024 meeting can be found
			here: https://centralvtplanning.org/about/minutes-
			agendas-staff-reports/project-review-committee/

#### Project: Berlin Williams Solar LLC No Action Required

nu Atu	No Action Acquired					
<u>24-</u> <u>2862-</u> <u>AN</u>	Berlin Williams Solar LLC	Berlin	11/22/2024 Petition filed for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §248 for a 2.5MW solar array			
			9/6/2024: 45-day advance submission of Berlin Williams Solar LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, to file			

	a petition for a 2.50 MW solar array in Berlin, Vermont. (Located on a portion of the same site proposed on 9/27/2023 in 23-
	<u>3361-AN</u> ).

#### Project: Verizon Washington Cell Tower

24-3108-	Bell Atlantic	Washington	10/9/2024: 60-day advance submission of Bell Atlantic
<u>AN</u>	Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership, each d/b/a Verizon Wireless The	Washington	Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership and The Towers, LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a(e), proposing to request a certificate of public good authorizing the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment at 97 Hart Hollow Road in Washington, Vermont.
	Towers, LLC		

# Vermont Public Utility Commission Rule Updates

Potential Impacts- Project Review Committee

## Act 179 & PUC Rule Updates- potential impacts of RES

Project Review Committee- the following changes will likely impact the type, number, and potentially scale of projects being proposed and in some cases may change how certain aspects are considered:

- Changes to tiers, including:
  - Tier II ("local generation") doubled (5MW or less)
  - New Tiers: New Renewable Energy (Regional aka capable of being delivered to New England) and Load Growth Renewable Energy
- New language requires that the energy generated from all future NM projects be used on the same parcel as, or a parcel adjacent to, the parcel where the project is located
  - definitions of "group net metering" and "net metering system" (30 V.S.A. § 8002(10) and (16))
  - Reduces flexibility re siting as it eliminates offsite or virtual net metering

## Act 179 & PUC Rule Updates- potential impacts of PUC Rules Updates

Project Review Committee- the following changes will likely impact the type, number, and potentially scale of projects being proposed and in some cases may change how certain aspects are considered:

- 5.103(7) preferred site letter must reflect signing AFTER the 45-day advance notice was issued
- Instead of special interconnection process in net metering rule 5.100, 5.100 defers to this interconnection rule, 5.500 (5.105(E))- addresses capacity concerns

## Act 179 & PUC Rule Updates- potential impacts of PUC Rules Updates

5.402 Pre-filing Advance Submission:

- 45-Day Advanced Notice Recipients Entitled to Advance Submission have expanded to also include:
  - The municipal legislative bodies and municipal and regional planning commissions in the communities where the project will be located
  - All adjoining landowners
  - The host land owner(s)
  - Department of Public Service
  - Agency of Natural Resources
  - Natural Resources Board
  - Division for Historic Preservation
  - Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
  - Interconnecting utility

#### Section 248 Workflow DRAFT

#### **High-level Reminders:**

- Preferred Siting Letters are required for 150kW-500kW projects to participate in the netmetering program (under rule 5.100); RPCs are review these projects upon request and provide determinations accordingly.
- ACCD Contract includes that the RPC *Review Section 248 applications with hearings (or potential applications) in relation to the regional plan*
- Staff monitor and provide updates on projects more broadly than those requesting a preferred siting letter, detailed in 30 V.S.A. § 248 and in Rule 5.400, regional planning commissions:
  - Are recipients entitled to advance submission (45-days),
  - Have the right to convene a public hearing on a proposed petition (V.S.A. § 248(f)(1)(A))
  - Have the right to submit recommendations to the petitioner within 40 days of the petitioner's submittal to the planning commission (30 V.S.A. § 248(f)(1)(C) t)
  - Have a right to make recommendations after a petition is filed (30 V.S.A. § 248(f)(1)(D))
  - Have a right to appear as a party pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(a)(4)(G)-(I)
  - Have new renewable energy generation targets and other energy goals to meet and to which projects may be relevant to.

#### Resources:

- Project Review Committee Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
- Rule 5.100 (rule-5.100-clean-final-11-12-2024.pdf Net-Metering Systems)
- Rule 5.400 (5400-petitions-to-construct-electric-and-gas-facilities-pursuant-to-section-248.pdf)
- Act 250 and Section 248 Guidance Documents | Agency of Natural Resources
- <u>A Citizen's Guide to the Public Utility Commission</u> (note explicit references to RPC page 6)

#### **Overall Workflow**

- 1. Receive 45-Day Advanced Notice at least 45 days before applicant files Section 248 petition with the Public Utility Commission (PUC) for a Certificate of Public Good (CPG)
  - a. Staff prepare summary table and monthly updates
    - i. Catalog (track proposed projects including type & capacity)
  - b. Staff discuss noteworthy projects with committee chair to determine whether to include for discussion at the next meeting
    - i. All projects to request preferred site (150kW-500kW net-metered projects)
    - ii. based on preliminary review of rubric below projects that may have Substantial Regional Impact, will or will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region, is compliant/not compliant with provisions of the current regional plan (especially future land uses)
- 2. Make any recommendations to PUC and petitioner w/in 40 days of submission of advanced notice
  - a. Project Review Committee Meeting

- *i.* Preferred site letter or other recommendations- prepared by staff, recommendation from committee to full board and signed by Executive Director with approval
- b. Preferred site letter must be signed after the 45-day advance notice was issued (update 5.100)
- 3. File Petition for CPG, follow project for updates and further actions

#### CVRPC INTERNAL WORKFLOW Section 248

- 1. Weekly check: update advanced notices and petitions for Certificates of Public Good (CPGs)
  - a. Pull name and basic info (location, technical specifications, company, etc.) into a table (Will)
  - b. Table to be embedded on landing page and updated weekly/biweekly (Will)
  - c. Pre-screening new advanced notices (project details: Will, rubric: Sam)
    - i. Check against Regional and Municipal Plan Maps (specifically State, Regional, and Local Constraints and Preferred Sites/Project Characteristics)
      - 1. Multiple flags or benefits should be noted
      - 2. Inquiries either based on mapping or otherwise pursued
- 2. Requested and Anticipated Action
  - a. Contact commissioner, chair of municipal Selectboard & chair of Planning Commission
    - i. we receive 45-day advance notice and reach out: this will be discussed at next project review committee meeting (email, phone call)
    - ii. Sent an email, follow up with phone calls, invite commissioner as de facto representative if no town input on this project?
  - b. Review for conformance with regional plan (Rubric)
    - i. Landuse, Energy, and other relevant chapters both regional and municipal plans (Sam or Will draft and Sam review)
    - ii. Memo re proposed facility:
      - 1. does or does not unduly interfere with orderly development of region
      - contribution towards regional goals (including but not limited to energy goals e.g. incremental renewable energy generation target; part of affordable housing or other housing program; addresses energy equity or infrastructure issue, etc)
      - 3. Preliminary conformance status and recommendations to mitigate concerns if present
- 3. Preparation of Project Review Committee Packet:
  - a. Rubric
  - b. Substantial Regional Impact
  - c. Screen shots Maps (regional); Local
  - d. Memo
  - e. Drafted letter (aka memo conclusions)
- 4. Preferred Siting Letter (if required)
  - a. Review previous rubric/memo and if feedback was provided if changes were made
  - b. Drafted letter with necessary updates for approval

#### CVRPC Project Review Committee Project Template/Rubric

Project Summary:

- Address
- Developers/Owner
- Type&Scale
- Context (proximate land use); major impacts and/or benefits

#### Snapshot (map)

Town letter (Y/N; relevant notes):

#### Constraints & Preferred Siting (*Staff provide Y/N with map illustration*)

CONSTRAINTS	Y/N	NOTES			
KNOWN STATE CONSTRAINTS					
Confirmed Vernal Pools					
DEC River Corridors					
FEMA Floodways					
Significant Natural Communities & Rare,					
Threatened, & Endangered Species					
National Wilderness Areas					
Class 1 & 2 Wetlands					
Locally or Regionally Identified Critical Resources					
POSSIBLE STA	ATE CO	NSTRAINTS			
Potential & Probable Vernal Pools					
(Prime) Agricultural Soils					
FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas					
Protected Lands (State fee lands and private					
conservation lands)					
Act 250 Agricultural Soil Mitigation Areas					
Deer Wintering Areas (DWA)					
Highest Priority Interior Forest Blocks,					
Connectivity Blocks, Physical Landscape Blocks,					
Surface & Riparian Areas (ANR)					
Hydric Soils					
Regionally or Locally Identified Resources					
POSSIBLE REGI	ONAL C	ONSTRAINTS			
Elevations above 2500ft					
Slopes greater than 25% (excludes rooftop and					
associated with existing development- unless					
presents new concerns for landslides)					
Municipal Owned lands (excludes rooftop and					
associated with existing development)					
250ft Lake Shore Protection Buffers (excludes					
rooftop and hydroelectric facilities)					
LOCAL CONSTRAINTS					

Inserted for each relevant town		
TOTAL POSSIBLE CONSTRAINTS		
PREFERRED SITE TYPES	Y/N	NOTES
STATE PREFE	RRED S	ITES (types)
Rooftops & Impervious Surfaces (e.g. Parking Lots)		
Gravel Pit, Quarry, or similar mineral resource		
extraction site (lawful and reclaimed)		
Brownfield sites		
Sanitary Landfills		
National Priorities List (e.g. Superfund Sites)		
On the same parcel or directly adjacent to		
customer allocated more than 50% of the net-		
metering system's electrical output		
Identified in municipal plan or joint letter of		
support from municipality & RPC		
REGIONAL SIT	ING PR	REFERENCES
Proximity to Use: density centers including		
designated downtowns, village centers, new		
town centers, growth centers, and neighborhood		
development areas; commercial & industrial		
areas; adjacent to large farms		
Schools, Libraries, Municipal buildings &		
facilities, and critical community spaces		
Solar Carports		
Location served by existing roads and energy		
infrastructure (e.g. 3-phase power) OR addresses		
existing infrastructure gap		
Designated a preferred site in a Town Plan or by		
Town Leadership (as consistent with broader		
planning)		
ADDITIONAL PREFERRED REG	IONAL	PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS
Minimize vegetation impact especially forest		
clearing and fragmentation; plan screen trees &		
pollinator habitats		
Combined with storage; micro-grid potential or		
functions		
Creates dual land use opportunities (e.g.		
agrivoltaics)		
Includes design/build techniques that reduce		
embedded carbon of project (e.g. alternatives to		
concrete pylons)		
Engage community in development process		
(early)		

Local off-taker and/or community benefit agreement		
LOCAL PR	EFERRE	D SITES
Inserted for each relevant town		
TOTAL		

Narrative:

- does or does not unduly interfere with orderly development of region; Substantial Regional Impact (2017 or 2018 version; update?)
- Regional plan (Energy Chapter, Enhanced Energy Plan Appendix, Infrastructure, as well as Housing, Natural Resources, Transportation, depending on project specifics, etc.)
  - Pull to speak to above Y/N
  - o Scale
  - contribution towards regional goals:
    - energy goals e.g. incremental renewable energy generation target; part of affordable housing or other housing program; addresses energy equity or infrastructure issue, etc.
- Outcome of rubric above

Local Town Plan

- Energy Chapter, Enhanced Energy Plan, search for "preferred sites", "local constraints", etc.
- Other Chapters as relevant
- Letter (if preferred site), comments or other actions as relevant

#### Section 248a Application Review Procedure - Draft

#### Workflow

- 1. Receive 60-Day Advance Notice at least 60 days before applicant files Section 248a petition with the Public Utility Commission (PUC) for a Certificate of Public Good (CPG)
  - a. Staff prepare summary table and monthly updates on noteworthy projects memo
    - i. Staff discuss noteworthy projects with committee chair to determine whether to call meeting
    - ii. Committee members review monthly summary table and memo, request meeting as needed
    - iii. Future land use map are there uses that should trigger review???
- 2. Make any recommendations to PUC and petitioner within 55 days of submission of advance notice
  - a. Project Review Committee Meeting discuss whether to contact applicant with concerns

*i.* Briefing will be provided at forthcoming Board of Commissioners meeting (FYI)

- 3. Receive Petition for CPG
  - a. Staff and chair review petition to ensure that applicant addressed any concerns that CVRPC may have raised; staff include analysis in monthly updates on noteworthy projects memo
    - i. If concerns are not addressed, Project Review Committee meets again to discuss whether to file comments and/or request hearing before the PUC

#### CVRPC INTERNAL WORKFLOW - Section 248a

- 1. Weekly check: updates advance notices and petitions for CPGs
  - a. Pull name and basic info (location, technical specifications, company, etc.) into a table (Will)
  - b. Table to be embedded on Project Review Committee page on CVRPC website and updated weekly/biweekly (Will)
  - c. Pre-screening new advanced notices (top part of Rubric Will): (Sam)
    - i. Check against Regional and Municipal Plan Maps (specifically State, Regional, and Local Constraints and Preferred Sites/Project Characteristics)
      - 1. Multiple flags or benefits should be noted
      - 2. Inquiries either based on mapping or otherwise pursued
- 2. Requested and Anticipated Action
  - a. Contact commissioner from municipality where project is located, chair of municipal Selectboard & chair of municipal Planning Commission
    - i. We receive 60-day advance notice and reach out: this will be discussed at next project review committee meeting (email, phone call)
    - ii. Send an email, follow up with phone calls, invite commissioner as de facto representative if no town input on this project?
  - b. Review for conformance with regional plan (Rubric)
    - i. Infrastructure, Land Use, Energy, and other relevant chapters in both regional and municipal plans (Sam or Will draft and Sam review)
    - ii. Memo re proposed facility:
      - 1. Does or does not unduly interfere with orderly development of region

- 2. Contribution towards regional goals (including but not limited to infrastructure goals)
- 3. Preliminary conformance status and recommendations to mitigate concerns if present
- 3. Preparation of Project Review Committee Packet:
  - a. Rubric
  - b. Screenshots of maps (regional); local
  - c. Memo
  - d. Draft external communications as needed (letter to applicant, official comments to PUC, request for hearing to PUC, etc.)



December 27, 2023

Ms. Holly R. Anderson, Clerk Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC - Designation as "Preferred Site" under Rule 5.103

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Green Lantern Solar, on behalf of Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC, is proposing to build a 500 kW AC net-metered, ground-mount solar array to be installed on Parcel ID: 00SA5-004.100 along Comstock Road in Berlin ("Project"). The applicant has requested that the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) provide a letter identifying the Project site as a Preferred Site in accordance with the Vermont Public Utility Commission's Net Metering Rule 5.103.

The definition of a "Preferred Site" under PUC Rule 5.103 (7) includes "a specific location that is identified in a joint letter of support from the municipal legislative body and municipal and regional planning commissions in the community where the net-metering system will be located."

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Project Review Committee met on January 4, 2024 and considered the request. The committee reviewed the information provided by the applicant. Based on this review, the CVRPC provides an affirmative designation identifying the Project site as a "Preferred Site" under Net Metering Rule 5.103.

In making this determination the CVRPC does not take a position certifying or approving the Project's compliance with any other applicable provisions of the Central Vermont Regional Plan and reserves the right to review and comment on this project's conformance with the Central Vermont Regional Plan and policies that have been adopted by the CVRPC Board of Commissioners when the full petition is submitted.

Please feel free to contact the CVRPC if you need additional information or clarification on any of the above information.

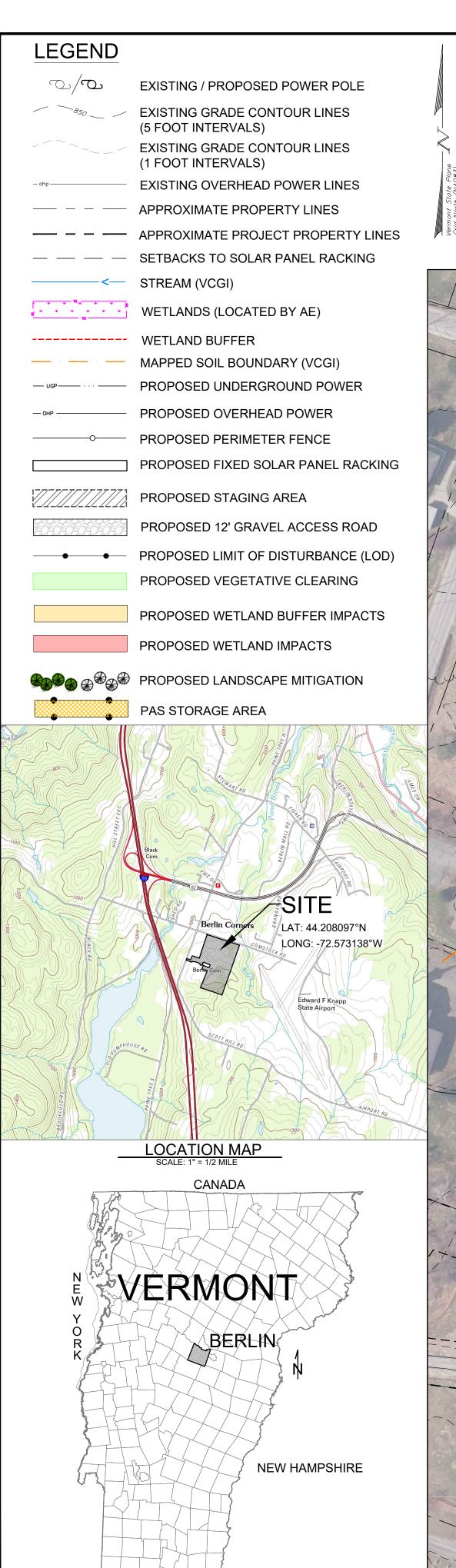
Sincerely,

**Christian Meyer** 

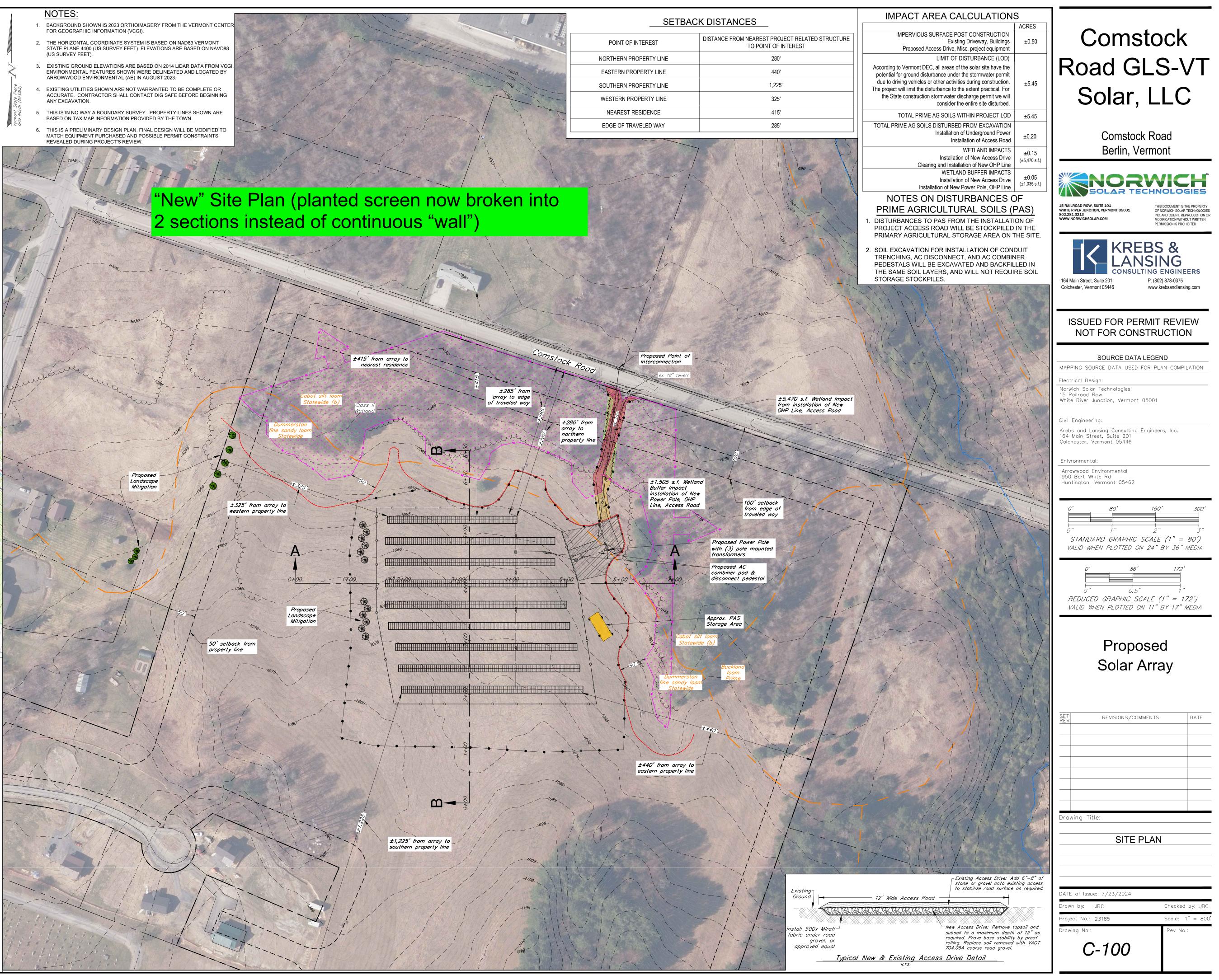
**Executive Director** 

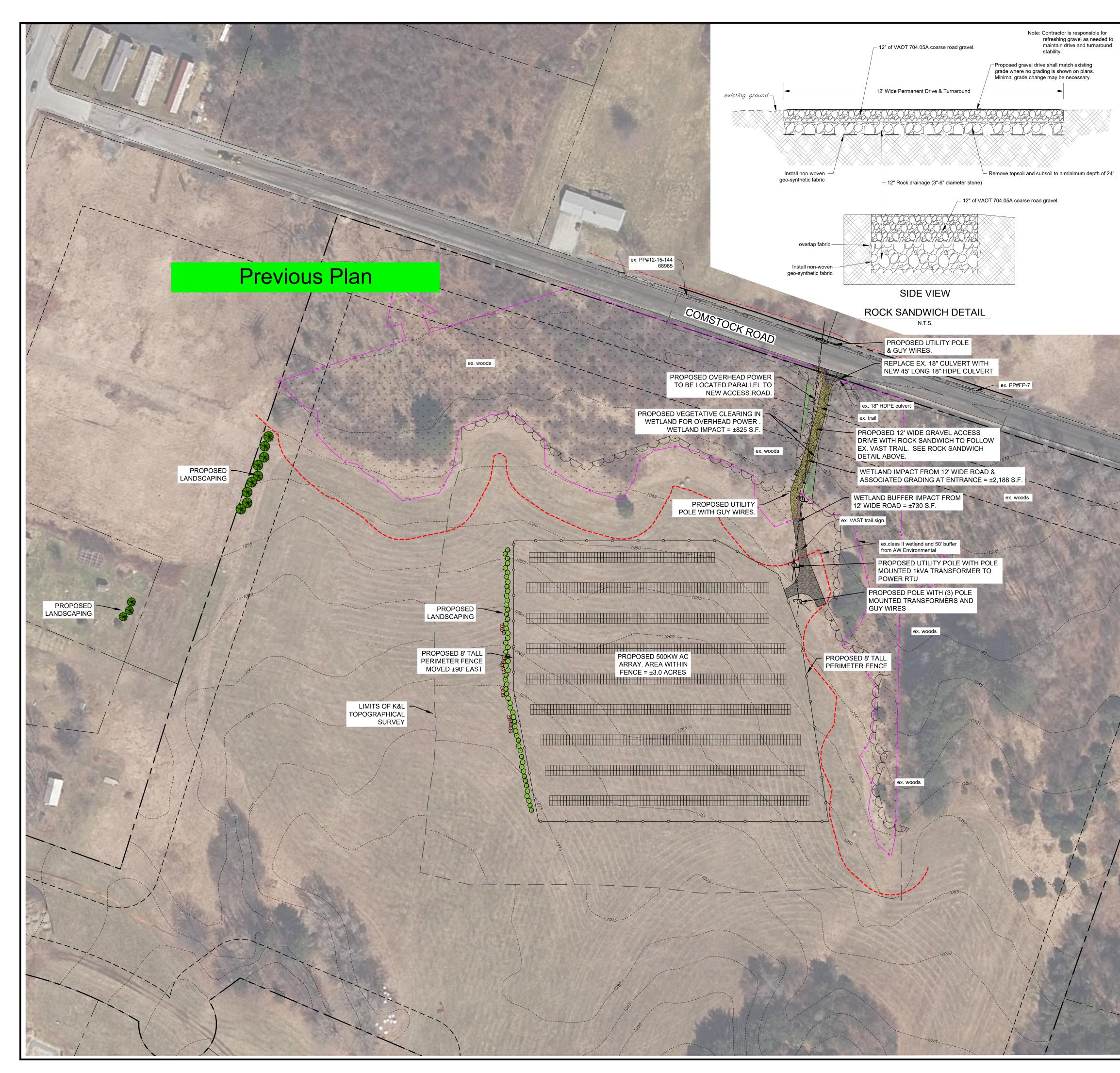
Cc: Sam Carlson, Green Lantern Solar / Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC

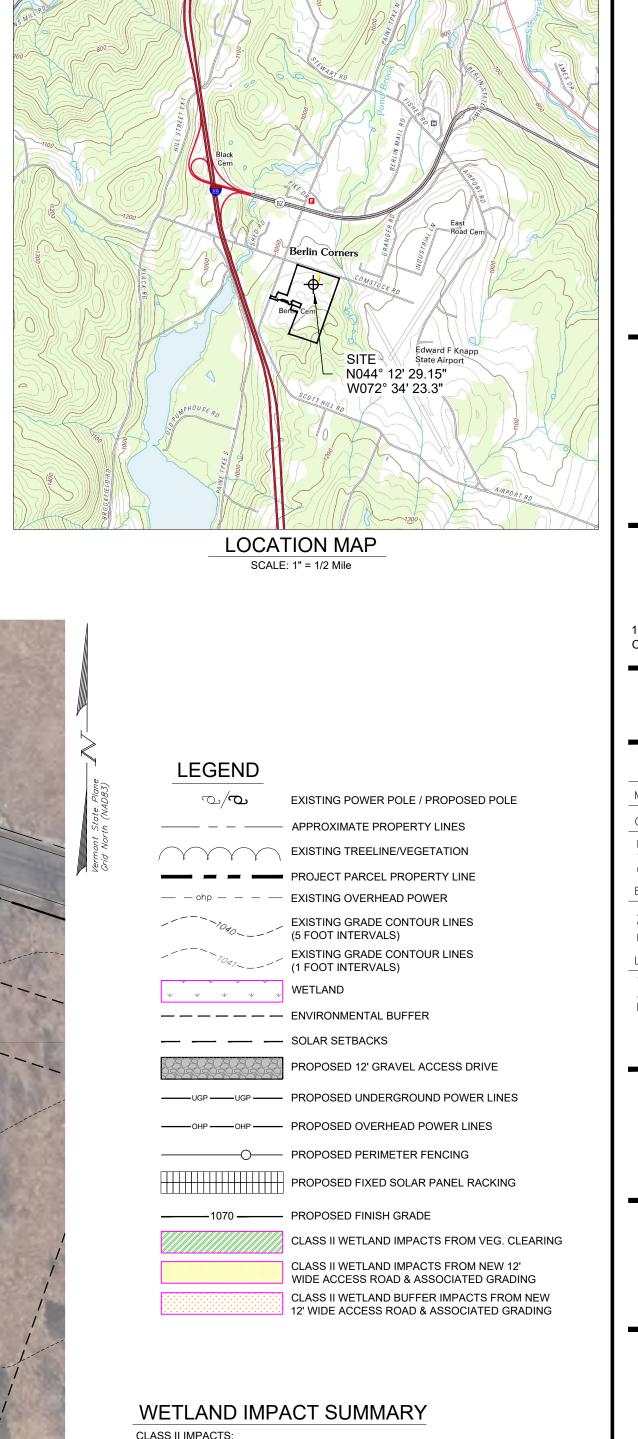
29 Main Street Suite 4 Montpelier Vermont 05602 802-229-0389 E Mail: CVRPC@CVRegion.com



MASSACHUSETTS







CLASS II IMPACTS: VEGETATIVE CLEARING =  $\pm 825$  S.F. NEW ACCESS ROAD & ASSOCIATED GRADING & UTILITY POLE =  $\pm 2,108$  S.F. TOTAL =  $\pm 2,933$  S.F. CLASS II BUFFER IMPACTS:

NEW ACCESS ROAD = ±700 S.F.

## NOTES:

- 1. ASPECTS OF PLAN ARE APPROXIMATE AND DERIVED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY.
- 2. THE HORIZONTAL COORDINATE SYSTEM IS BASED ON NAD83 VERMONT STATE PLANE 4400 (US SURVEY FEET). ELEVATIONS ARE BASED ON THE NAVD88 (US SURVEY FEET).
- 3. EXISTING GROUND CONTOUR ELEVATIONS ARE BASED ON A TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY BY K&L ON 09/06/23 & VERMONT STATE LIDAR.
- UTILITIES ARE NOT WARRANTED TO BE COMPLETE OR ACCURATE, CONTRACTOR SHALL CONTACT DIG SAFE BEFORE BEGINNING ANY EXCAVATION.
- 5. THIS IS IN NO WAY A BOUNDARY SURVEY. PROPERTY LINES ARE BASED ON TAX MAPPING PROVIDED BY THE STATE OF VERMONT AND BOUNDARY MONUMENTATION LOCATED IN THE FIELD.
- 6. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLAN. FINAL DESIGN WILL BE MODIFIED TO MATCH EQUIPMENT PURCHASED AND POSSIBLE PERMIT CONSTRAINTS REVEALED DURING PROJECT'S REVIEW.
- 7. PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL SOILS (PAS) ON THE PROJECT SITE SHALL BE PRESERVED IN A MANNER THAT ALLOWS FOR COMPLETE RESTORATION DURING PROJECT DECOMMISSIONING. CONTRACTOR STORE EXCAVATED PAS SOIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH AAFM GUIDELINES, "ACT 250 PROCEDURE: RECLAMATION OF VERMONT AGRICULTURAL SOILS".
- 8. SOIL EXCAVATION FOR CONDUIT TRENCHING IN PAS WILL BE REMOVED AND THEN BACKFILLED IN THE SAME SOIL LAYERS. SOIL DISPLACED BY INSTALLATION OF CONDUIT IS NEGLIGIBLE.
- 9. SOIL EXCAVATION FOR THE ACCESS ROAD IN PAS WILL BE REMOVED AND THEN STOCKPILED ON SITE UNTIL PROJECT DECOMMISSIONING.

COMSTO ROAD GLS SOLAR, L	S-V	
212 Comstock R Berlin, Vermor		
P.O. Box 658 Waterbury, Vermont 05676 www.greenlan		
Colchester, Vermont 05446 www.k	NG NGINEI 2) 878-0379 rebsandlar REVIE	5 nsing.com
NOT FOR CONSTRU SOURCE DATA LEGEN MAPPING SOURCE DATA USED FOR PM Civil Engineering: Krebs and Lansing Consulting Engine 164 Main Street, Suite. 201 Colchester, Vermont 05446 Environmental: Arrowwood Environmental 950 Bert White Road Huntington, Vermont 05462 Landscape Architect: T.J. Boyle Associates, LLC 301 College Street Burlington, Vermont 05401	<b>ND</b> Lan comf	
0' 30' 60' 120' 0" 1" 2" STANDARD GRAPHIC SCALE VALID WHEN PLOTTED ON 24" E	•	IEDIA
REDUCED GRAPHIC SCALE ( VALID WHEN PLOTTED ON 11" E Proposed 500kW A Solar Arra	d C	
REV. REVISIONS/COMMENTS		DATE
Drawing Title:		
SKETCH #4		
DATE of Issue: 10/30/23 Drawn by: SDG	Charling	hv. CTD
Drawn by: SDG Project No.: 23185	Checked Scale: 1	
Drawing No.: <b>C-100</b>	Rev No.:	



### PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE SUMMARY SHEET

November 1 – November 26, 2024

The following is a list of projects received by staff since the last Project Review Committee meeting. Staff will provide a general overview of the projects if necessary to determine if additional discussion is warranted at a future meeting.

APF	PLICATION	APPLICANT	MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
Act	250 - New	L		
1	<u>JO 5-150</u>	Youl Hill (Federal National Mortgage Association)	Waterbury	Request for jurisdictional opinion as to whether construction of a pond required an Act 250 permit amendment and whether reclamation of the pond site to previous conditions requires and Act 250 permit amendment. <b>11/1/2024: Act 250 permit required.</b>
2	<u>5W0944-1</u>	Airport Rd LLC	Williamstown	Building self storage units on property. <b>11/13/2024:</b> application received. <b>11/26/2024:</b> application incomplete.
Act	250 - Ongoing			
1	<u>500023-24</u> Major	Vermont Agency of Transportation	Berlin	Six hangars (3 - 120' x 120'; 1 - 60' x 80'; 2 60' x 60') are proposed at 3 separate sites on the property at 1979 Airport Road. Partial Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Issued 11/9/23. Current status: findings; applicant will need to apply for an administrative
				amendment before beginning any construction.
2	<u>5W0139-1</u>	Farshad Pourmousa (McGee US-302 Barre LLC)	Berlin	Redevelopment of existing commercial site, (Hyundai of Barre at 1391-1397 US 302 and 1411-1417 US-302). Existing site consists of two adjacent parcels, Lot 21 and Lot 20 of Map U4, (Site) with access from US Route 302 (Barre-Montpelier Road), which total 1.9± acres. The Site is currently owned by McGee with a total of four (4) buildings with minimal landscaping, stormwater drainage, and three (3) access driveways to US Route 302. Project would consolidate two (2) parcels into one (1) site for proposed development of a single standalone dealership and service center building with enhanced parking, site access, landscaping, and stormwater drainage. Improved site would reduce access driveways to US Route 302 to single access/egress driveway in line with the existing Vermont Shopping Center driveway across the street. Revised application submitted 10/30/23. <b>11/15/2024</b> :

29 Main Street Suite 4 Montpelier Vermont 05602 802-229-0389 E Mail: CVRPC@CVRegion.com

APF	APPLICATION APPLICANT		MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
				additional information provided. 11/15/2024: VTrans stated that VTrans Section 1111 State Highway Access and Work permit will expire 12/01/2024, so applicant will need to obtain new one before project can advance. Current status: pending (awaiting information).
3	5W0914-2 Major	Green Mountain Dog Camp	Roxbury	Dog training facility and doggie daycare located in Roxbury at 2545 Winch Hill Road. Schedule G 7/29/22, Incomplete Letter 8/24/22, additional documentation 9/26/22, party status petition 10/6/2022, incomplete application letter 11/3/22, additional documentation requested 12/12/22, additional information submitted 12/19/22 and 1/3/23. Project deemed complete 1/28/23. Hearing 6/28/23, post hearing motions 7/5/23, additional documentation provided 7/7/23. Hearing Recess Order issued 7/26/23 – deadline extended to 9/15/23. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Submitted 12/28/23 – Application Dismissed. Neighbors Casimir Vaicaitis and Jean Henry submitted motion to alter party status 1/10/2024. Applicant submitted appeal to NRB 1/23/2024. On 1/23/2024, NRB informed applicant that the deadline to file a Motion to Alter before the NRB (1/12/2024) had already passed. On 1/24/2024, applicant filed an appeal before the Environmental Division of the Vermont Superior Court. Appeal is ongoing, motion for summary judgment filed by applicant/appellant 6/23/2024. 10/2/2024: case disposed. 10/29/2024: notice of appeal to [Vermont] Supreme Court. Current status: ongoing.
4	<u>5R0891-23</u>	Laurence Hebert	Williamstown	Creation of 41 new lots and reconfiguration of two existing house lots. The two existing lots are connected to Williamstown municipal water and wastewater system. 4 of the new lots will be connected to the Williamstown municipal water and wastewater systems. Schedule G 6/28/2022, Incomplete Letter 8/1/2022. Current status: incomplete.
5	<u>5W0431-6A</u>	Kamdon Thompson (State of Vermont Buildings and General Services)	Waterbury	Subdivision of 2.28-acre parcel. There are no buildings or structures on the subdivided parcel. There is a parking lot with access to Park Row. The parcel to be subdivided is the former site of Stanley Hall and Wasson Hall which were demolished. The subdivided parcel is to be conveyed to the Town of Waterbury. There is no proposed development for the parcel at this time. 2/13/2024: application incomplete. <b>Current status:</b> <b>incomplete.</b>
6	<u>5W0134-2</u>	Stephen Gavosto (MRV Holdings LLC)	Waitsfield	The project will consist of constructing 2 self storage buildings on an existing 3.5+/- acre parcel. The parcel already has one 12,000sqft commercial building on it.

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				One self storage structure will be approximately 3000sqft and the other will be 6800 sqft. The total footprint will be less than a 1/4 acre. The buildings will be standard mini storage constructed of steel—(or timber framed depending upon material costs at the time of construction; this was submitted with the Town Application) The buildings will be built along an existing road already on the property. There will be no utilities ran to the buildings. 3/25/2024: application received. Additional information/clarification requested 4/9/2024. Minor notice and draft Act 250 permit issued 5/9/2024. Comment period until 6/4/2024. 6/6/2024: comment period extended until 6/25/2024. 6/25/2024: ANR requested additional information from applicants regarding wetlands. <b>Current status: pending (awaiting information).</b>
7	<u>5R0891-24</u>	Pierre Gilbert (Industry Street Properties, LLC) / Adam Stone (Adam Stone Trucking, LLC)	Williamstown	The Town of Williamstown applied for federal funding for the dredging removal of 900' of accumulated sediment from within three sections of the stream that feeds the Stevens Branch. One 400' section runs adjacent to Lot 6 (Stone Lot) and the other 400' section runs adjacent to Lot 7 (Gilbert Lot). The project also involves sediment removal from within an additional 100' of the stream located at the intersection where the stream T's into the stream bordering Lot 7. The project is located in the Williamstown Industrial Park on Industry Street. The sediment was deposited as a result of the flooding events during July and December of 2023. The sediment removed would be piled up within the 25' riparian buffer to drain for 24 hours before being hauled off-site. Once the sediment is removed from the riparian buffer, new vegetation will be planted. Stone may also plant trees in the impacted area on his parcel. 7/29/2024: application received. 8/7/2024: application incomplete. <b>Current status: pending (in review).</b>
8	<u>5W1489-1</u>	Lisa Estler (Harwood Union Middle and High School)	Duxbury	Construction of subsurface infiltration chambers with a proprietary pre-treatment Isolator Row for stormwater management and an irrigation storage tank beneath the southern parking lot. The infiltration chamber system will convey treated outflow to a proposed stone channel with sand filtration that discharges to Lozelle Brook. Project involves 1.62 acres of disturbance. 8/6/2024: application received. 8/8/2024: application incomplete. 8/15/2024: declared minor and proposed Act 250 permit issued. Comment period until 9/4/2024. 9/4/2024: ANR requested extension of comment period; extension granted. 9/6/2024: ANR submitted comments.

APPLICATION API		APPLICANT	MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
				Current status: pending (awaiting information)
9	<u>5W1609-1</u>	Bizhan Yahyazadeh (Norwich University)	Northfield	The construction of a 12,831 square foot academic building to house the proposed Cyber Fusion Center which will provide classroom and research space "to facilitate fusion of innovation and collaboration in multiple cyber security and allied areas of cyber security." The new building will be located on the Norwich campus, fronting Park Avenue west of the Norwich Green. The site currently includes the Norwich Communications Building and Hassett House. Removal of the existing buildings will be necessary to construct the proposed facility. The facility will gain vehicle access from South Main Street via University Drive, and pedestrian access using the existing campus pedestrian system. 6/19/2024: application received. 8/8/2024: declared minor and draft Act 250 permit issued. Comment period until 9/3/2024. <b>11/20/2024: Act 250</b> <b>permit issued.</b>
10	<u>5W0564-5</u>	Lisa Perreault (Barre Town Elementary and Middle School)	Barre Town	Construction of a bioretention system with a forebay and grass swale for stormwater management. Treated outflow flows north, under Websterville Road, to a Class II wetland. The project involves approximately 37,000 square feet of earth disturbance, including disturbance in or near the Class II wetland. Project plans show customary erosion prevention and sediment control measures, including silt fence, inlet protection, and a stabilized construction entrance. One row of apple trees and all but two trees in a row of evergreens would be removed for the project. 8/13/2024: application received. 8/20/2024: application incomplete. 10/29/2024: draft Act 250 permit issued. Comment period until 11/18/2024. <b>11/18/2024: ANR commented</b> <b>that project will require ANR Stormwater Permit.</b>
11	<u>5W0491-1C</u>	Brian Degen	Fayston	To incorporate recently issued WW permit (WW-5- 9385-1) which approves home office space in the detached garage on Lot 1, and to approve the subdivision into Lot 1 of 9.1+/- acres and Lot 2 of 2.8+/- acres as approved in WW-5-4260, and shown on the Town of Fayston approved survey attached with this application. Currently there is no plan to develop Lot 2, and this application is not intended to to seek approval for construction of the driveway or building on Lot 2. It is understood that a subsequent application is required to approve construction on Lot 2. 8/19/2024: application received. 8/27/2024: application deemed complete. Administrative amendment not the appropriate application type for the project;

APF	APPLICATION APPLICANT		MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
				applicants will need to submit full Act 250 permit application. Current status: pending (awaiting information)
12	<u>5W0721-18</u>	(Lawson's Finest Liquids, LLC)	Waitsfield	Construction of a Dog Park with supporting fence and an elevated 25' x 30' hub platform on helical piers. Excavation of the upper soil profile of the existing lawn area to provide clearance for the supporting structural members. 9/30/2024: application received. 10/10/2024: application incomplete. <b>11/4/2024:</b> <b>additional information requested then provided.</b> <b>Current status: pending (major/minor determination)</b>
13	<u>5W1625</u>	Denise Lavallee (Milestone Nature Center, LLC)	Barre Town	Design a trail system with 6-8 on existing lanes with mobile kiosks that provides a Nature Center that offers sensory experiences for people with Neurodiverse conditions. The lanes will be wheelchair accessible. Temporary/seasonal accommodations for restrooms will be utilized until potentially feasible permanent structures can be designed and built according to ADA compliance. <b>10/4/2024: application received.</b> <b>10/10/2024: application incomplete.</b>
14	<u>5W1595-1</u>	Greg Western (Cross Vermont Trail Association)	East Montpelier	This is a construction term extension request. The project description is unchanged from the original application. The major contractor built portions of the project, including bridge over Winooski, trailhead parking and significant sections of new trail are complete. The remaining work is smaller sections of trail that will be built primarily with hand labor and small equipment and involving volunteers. That method means the work will be spread out over time. Delay in completion is because the repeated flooding of 2023 and 2024 has diverted our time from this project, but we are continuing to progress steadily though incrementally despite these hardships. The new time frame requested is through the fall of 2026. 10/9/2024: application received. <b>11/1/2024: Act 250 administrative amendment issued.</b>
15	<u>5W0680-7</u>	Patrick Crowl (LJBC Associates, LLC)	Waterbury	The project involves construction of lighting poles within the existing parking area. The existing parking area will also be paved. 10/14/2024: application received. 10/21/2024: declared minor and proposed Act 250 permit amendment issued. Comment period until 11/11/2024. <b>11/20/2024: Act 250 permit amendment</b> <b>issued.</b>
16	<u>5W0150-7</u>	(The Battleground Condominium	Fayston	Applicant seeks approval for improvements to an existing non-municipal water supply treatment system, including construction of new 982 sf control building atop an existing structure to house mew chemical feed

APF	PLICATION	APPLICANT	MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
		Owners' Association, Inc.)		pumps, controls, water meters, ion exchange system, plumbing and electrical equipment. 10/31/2024: application received. 11/4/2024: application incomplete. 11/11/2024: additional information provided.
Sec	tion 248 - New			
1	<u>24-3078-AN</u>	Novus Websterville Solar LLC	Barre Town	10/4/2024: 45-Day advance submission of Novus Websterville Solar LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8010, for a 500kW group net-metered solar array in Barre [Town], Vermont.
2	<u>24-3108-AN</u>	Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership, each d/b/a Verizon Wireless The Towers, LLC	Washington	10/9/2024: 60-day advance submission of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership and The Towers, LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a(e), proposing to request a certificate of public good authorizing the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment at 97 Hart Hollow Road in Washington, Vermont.
3	<u>24-3295-AN</u>	Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. Vermont Transco LLC	Waterbury	10/29/2024: 45-day advance submission of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A.§ 248, for approval to replace one structure and remove one structure on the VELCO K24-5 transmission line in Waterbury, VT.
4	<u>24-3498-AN</u>	Town of Berlin and SunCommon	Berlin	11/25/2024: 45-day notice in advance of filing an Application for a Certificate of Public Good (CPG) for the construction of a 150.0 kWAC net-metered solar parking canopy array ("The Project") to be located at 108 Shed Rd. Berlin, VT 05602.
Sec	tion 248 – Ongoin	g		
1	<u>23-3361-AN</u>	Berlin Williams Solar Project	Berlin	9/27/2023: 45-day advance notice of Berlin Williams Solar LLC for an up to 4.99 MW solar photovoltaic ("PV") electric generating facility proposed off the end of Williams Road. <b>Petition not filed. Advance notice for</b> <b>modified version of project filed 9/6/2024 (see</b> <u>24-</u> <u>2862-AN</u> ).
2	23-2539-AN 23-4036-NMP	Duxbury 100 Solar LLC	Duxbury	Petition filed 11/22/23 for a certificate of public good under 30 V.S.A. § 248 and 8010 for a 500-kW AC group net-metered, ground mounted solar electric system to be installed at 5421 VT Route 100. Advance Notice filed 7/31/2023, preferred siting letter of support provided 9/5/23. Comments due 1/3/2024. On 1/3/2024 and 1/17/2024, neighbors filed requests for hearing. Evidentiary hearing held 6/27/2024. Petitioner and neighbors filed briefs on 7/19/2024 and reply briefs on 7/26/2024 related to neighbors' aesthetic concerns.

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3	<u>24-0838-AN</u>	Green Mountain Power	Waitsfield and Fayston	3/22/2024: 45-day advance submission of Green Mountain Power, pursuant to 30 V.S.A.§ 248, for approval to upgrade Irasville #39 substation in Waitsfield and Fayston, VT. <b>Petition not yet filed.</b>
4	24-0907-AN 24-2975-PET	Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership, each DBA Verizon Wireless	Waterbury	3/28/2024: 60-day advance submission of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a(e), proposing to request a certificate of public good authorizing the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment at 91 State Drive in Waterbury, Vermont. <b>9/20/2024:</b> <b>petition filed</b> .
5	24-1849-AN 24-2504-NM	Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC	Berlin	<ul> <li>6/14/2024: 45-Day advance submission of Comstock Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8010, for a 500kW group net-metered solar array in Berlin, Vermont. CVRPC previously provided a preferred site letter of support on 1/12/2024.</li> <li>7/30/2024: net metering petition filed. 7/31/2024: petition deemed incomplete because preferred site letters of support from CVRPC and Town of Berlin were provided prior to filing 45-day advance notice; petitioner requested that the PUC alter the ruling that the petition was incomplete. 8/12/2024: PUC denied motion to alter incomplete ruling. 8/19/2024: petitioner filed motion to alter the order from 8/12/2024 on the basis that the rule requiring preferred site letters of support be issued after the filing of the 45-day advance notice came into effect on 3/1/2024 and that the preferred site letters of support were issued prior to that rule coming into effect. 8/29/2024: PUC denied motion to alter.</li> <li>Petitioner will need to request another preferred site letter of support from CVRPC.</li> </ul>
6	<u>24-1850-AN</u>	Scott Hill Road GLS-VT Solar, LLC	Berlin	6/14/2024: 45-Day advance submission of Scott Hill Road, GLS-VT Solar, LLC, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8010, for a 500kW group net-metered solar array in Berlin, Vermont. <b>Petition not yet filed.</b>
7	TBD	AEGIS Renewable Energy	Middlesex	On 6/19/2024, solar developer AEGIS Renewable Energy contacted CVRPC to request a preferred site letter of support. AEGIS has not yet submitted any documents to the PUC or the Town of Middlesex. AEGIS will CC CVRPC on any material submissions to Middlesex Planning Commission's Energy Committee. AEGIS plans to request a Preferred Site Letter of Support from the Middlesex Planning Commission at the commission's

APF	PLICATION	APPLICANT	MUNICIPALITY	PROJECT SUMMARY
				6/17/2024 meeting then from CVRPC following that meeting. Preferred site letter of support request not yet received.
8	<u>24-2807-AN</u>	Encore Renewable Energy	Barre City	8/28/2024: 45-day-advance submission of Encore Renewable Energy, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, to file a petition for a 5 MW battery storage facility in Barre, Vermont. <b>Petition not yet filed.</b>
9	<u>24-2862-AN</u>	Berlin Williams Solar LLC	Berlin	9/6/2024: 45-day advance submission of Berlin Williams Solar LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, to file a petition for a 2.50 MW solar array in Berlin, Vermont. (Located on a portion of the same site proposed on 9/27/2023 in 23-3361-AN).
10	<u>24-2988-AN</u>	Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems of Allentown, Inc. and Cellco Partnership, each d/b/a Verizon Wireless	Marshfield	9/23/2024: 60-day advance notice of upcoming application for Certificate of Public Good to construct a telecommunications facility at an existing 78.73-acre parcel of land owned by Bradley Pilette and Lynn Sue Pilette at 2264 U.S. Route 2, Marshfield, VT.