

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor RICHARD L. KAUFFMAN Chair **DOREEN M. HARRIS** Acting President and CEO

January 13, 2021

Dear Supervisor John Thomas:

Today, as part of his 2021 State of the State, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo <u>announced</u> the nation's largest combined renewable energy awards by a state in the U.S., further cementing the state's leadership in combatting climate change and growing the clean energy economy. Building on our successful track record, the unprecedented procurements resulted in two offshore wind projects and 24 large-scale land-based clean energy projects between NYSERDA and NYPA, totaling more than 4,700 megawatts – enough new renewable capacity to power almost 2 million New York homes for at least 20 years.

NYSERDA's 22 large-scale renewable energy projects include 21 utility-scale solar farms, three of which are paired with energy storage, and one hydroelectric project. The state's investment is expected to spur nearly \$3 billion of direct private investment over the life of these new projects and create over 3,100 short and long-term jobs in predevelopment, construction, and operations and maintenance that will pay the prevailing wage for the region. It is anticipated that the projects, which are expected to be operational by 2025, will generate enough clean, renewable energy to power more than 530,000 homes each year. More information on these results can be found on NYSERDA's website, https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/ces/rfp.

We are pleased to share with you that Mill Point Solar located in the Town of Glen was among this year's awarded projects. We have made sustained, meaningful community engagement and responsible siting a priority throughout the process that has resulted in these awards. NYSERDA also provides direct assistance to local governments in their efforts to understand and accommodate renewable energy projects, and we expect the associated project developer to reach out to you in a consistent manner as this project advances.

We have also attached a Fact Sheet as well as a document with answers to "frequently-asked questions" that describe the competitive process through which NYSERDA makes renewable energy awards, the nature of the agreement between NYSERDA and the developer, and the role the community can play in the permitting and approval process. If you have questions related to the project or this announcement or would like to enlist NYSERDA's assistance with better understanding or accommodating renewable energy development, please do not hesitate to contact our Clean Energy Siting team at <u>cleanenergyhelp@nyserda.ny.gov</u>.

We hope you, your family and colleagues stay safe and healthy, and best wishes in the new year.

Sincerely,

Sover M. Harris

Doreen Harris Acting President & CEO

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

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