



Albany Office

100 Great Oaks Boulevard | Suite 114 | Albany, New York 12203

P: 518.382.1774

May 18, 2022

Mr. JD Downing, Chairperson
Town of Glen Planning Board
7 Erie Street
Fultonville, NY 12072

Re: Town of Glen
NYS Route 5S Borrego Solar Project
Our Project No. 67-1901

Dear Mr. Downing:

We are in receipt of the revised SWPPP dated May 2022, Comment Response Letter dated 5/9/2022, and Site Use Permit Plans dated 4/13/2022, all as prepared by Borrego Solar. The project involves the construction of a large-scale, ground mounted, solar photovoltaic system that consists of 5 MW AC system with 12,688+/- panels on approximately 19.17 +/- acres of the total 47.64 +/- acres (tax map id 53.3-1-13). Based on a review of the new and revised documents, we have the following comments:

1. The new tree clearing plan (sheet C-2.0) shows 1.11 acres less of tree stumping and cutting than the 2/7/22 set, which is a reduced impact, and therefore acceptable.
2. A revised SWPPP has been submitted to reflect the revisions to the plans and design.
 - a. The originally designed Storm Dissipation Area can no longer be executed due to the presence of a stream where it was expected to flow to and has been removed from the latest drawings. The SWPPP, dated June 2021, will need to be updated with the new information regarding wetlands in the text and maps, as well as any changes to the stormwater management design and reissued with a revision date.
 - b. The Pre and Post Development landcover break down on page 6 shows a decrease of 8.657 acres of wooded areas. C-2 shows a total change of wooded area by 6.66 acres. Plans and SWPPP should show consistent revisions. Furthermore, this breakdown does not include any of the proposed equipment pads and impervious surfaces constructed by new work.
 - c. SWPPP body explicitly says buffers, filter strips, level spreaders, and grass swales will be used to reduce runoff. But Appendix I calculations show runoff reduction is solely being addressed by riparian buffers. The body of the SWPPP and its appendices should be consistent.
 - i. Additionally, if using a riparian buffer for all of the contributing area, all runoff from 51.55 acres would have to flow through an acceptable riparian zone meeting NYSDEC's requirements. There appears to only be one riparian zone identified on the plans at the south side of the site. If there are additional areas of riparian buffer, they should be shown on the plans or another practice selected.
 - d. Contributing impervious area in calculations amount to 1.06 acres. What is the applicant defining as impervious area here? The proposed access road will be 1.65 acres and equipment pads are 0.02 acres according to plans. The total of these features is 1.67 acres. The applicant should clarify what makes up their 1.06-acre figure.



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- e. Why isn't the flow of the site through the cattle guard shown on W-2.0? We note that a separate drawing was provided indicating W-2.1 was submitted showing the flow pattern to that area of the site. But all flow should be easily identified on one sheet.
- f. The cattle crossing sizing does not show any of the impervious surfaces associated with new equipment pads. Percent impervious is shown as 0.00%, which does not agree with the plans. Applicant should revise.
- ~~3. We note the revision to some of the details including retaining wall, pavement section, and riparian buffer profile, which do not affect the previous approvals.~~
- ~~4. We note the inclusion of detail Saw-cut Cross Section and Sheet C-5.2 which provides additional site protection details. We find these to be acceptable.~~
5. The applicant has provided a detail on the foundation preparation for the precast concrete sill associated with the cattle guard crossing.
6. We note that the wetland disturbance includes disturbances for temporary installation. The limits of disturbance shall not be exceeded.
- ~~7. The cattleguard and sill details provided are the standard product details per the Big R Bridge company. The applicant should provide a detail on the foundation preparation for the precast concrete sill.~~
8. The applicant has included the permanent disturbance figure for cattle guard crossing on the plans.
9. Detail leaders on sheet C-4.0 indicate gravel diaphragm details can be found in detail 6/C-5.2. It appears this is meant to show 7/C-5.2.
10. It should be noted that the Army Corps of Engineers has approved the proposed increased wetland disturbances and therefore, there will not be a change to the Planning Boards previous finding of no significant adverse environmental impacts from the project.

Original Conditions of Approval

Below are the conditions of approval that PRIME AE originally recommended for this project.

1. Prior to the issuance of site development and/or building permits by the Town of Glen, the applicant shall obtain a SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC GP-0-15-002).
2. Decommissioning surety to be agreed upon by all parties and provided by owner. Surety to be provided under written agreement with the Town.
3. Decommissioning Cost Estimate shall be updated every 5 years by a N.Y.S. Licensed P.E. and be provided to the Town for review and approval.
4. An approximate fifteen-foot wide vegetative buffer must be retained between the Auriesville Cemetery and the proposed access road and solar panel installation per NYS OPRHP requirements.
5. Completion of SWPPP inspections and reporting during construction shall be performed by a Qualified Inspector and submitted to the Town.
6. The applicant shall consult with Cornell Cooperative Extension to have an appropriate number of soil samples taken within the project disturbance area to properly define the existing soil conditions through testing, so that such pre-construction conditions of prime agricultural land can be reestablished by the project owner at the time of decommissioning. Test results shall be provided to the Town.
7. The existing vegetative buffer must be retained in the easterly fifty-foot setback between the subject parcel and the neighboring Friends of Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Inc. property.



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Proposed Additional Conditions of Approval

We have prepared the following additional conditions of approval to be considered by the Planning Board:

1. Applicant shall revise the SWPPP to address all comments and receive final approval from the TDE prior to commencement of work.
2. The applicant shall state the permanent disturbance figures for the stone fill, rip-rap, and cattle guard crossing on the final plans.
3. The stated disturbances, impervious surfaces, tree clearings shall be revised on the final plans to correlate with the revised SWPPP contents.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

KB Group of NY, Inc. dba PRIME AE Group of NY



Douglas P. Cole, P.E.
Senior Director of Engineering

cc: Gregory Gibbons, Borrego Solar

