

MILL POINT SOLAR 2 PROJECT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

August 2021

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

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Project Office:

ConnectGen is in the process of establishing a Project office at 3773 NY-30A, Fultonville, NY 12072 in the Project Area. To date, COVID-19 and associated travel restrictions have limited the ability to advance this process, but ConnectGen is moving forward with some necessary renovations and will open the office as soon as possible. ConnectGen will continue to seek public involvement throughout the Section 94-c process and facilitate communication with interested or affected stakeholders, and to encourage engagement in the public process.

Local Document Repositories:

The Plan and other Project documents and outreach materials will be made available at the document repositories listed below:

Glen Town Hall
7 Erie Street
Fultonville, NY 12072
Mon – Fri
8am – 2pm

Frothingham Free Library
28 West Main Street
Fonda, NY 12068
Mon & Fri: 3pm-7pm
Tues & Wed: 11am – 3pm

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MILL POINT SOLAR 2 PROJECT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

ConnectGen Montgomery County LLC (“ConnectGen”) is committed to building and implementing a robust Community Engagement Plan (“Plan”) that is responsive to the needs of the local community and to maintaining a transparent and responsive relationship with local stakeholders throughout the pre-award, development, construction, and operation of the Mill Point Solar 2 Project (“Project”). This Plan describes how ConnectGen will seek to engage the local community, host municipalities (Town of Glen and County of Montgomery), stakeholders (including interested state agencies), and interested parties and solicit their involvement throughout the various phases of the Project. It is ConnectGen’s intent to facilitate communication with interested or affected stakeholders, solicit public comments, provide timely notice of Project milestones and events, and encourage the public and interested parties to provide input. A robust Plan will ensure that ConnectGen engages the local community and receives stakeholder support and input throughout the life of the Project.

The Plan is organized to reflect the outreach activities to date and the intended steps to be taken when engaging stakeholders and interested parties going forward and at a minimum will address the following:

- (1) Identification of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and taxing School District, including elected local officials’ names, contact information, and tenure;
- (2) Detail outreach strategies and activities ConnectGen has implemented to date and will use to engage stakeholders and interested parties, including affected agencies, and to encourage public involvement throughout the pre-award, development, construction, and operation phases (consistent with the Project Milestone Schedule), including methods of communication and specific channels ConnectGen intends to use to disseminate Bid Facility information;
- (3) Frequency of planned public events and the anticipated duration, in years, of the public engagement events of community outreach, and strategies to ensure that public engagement events are widely attended by a representative cross section of host community residents;
- (4) Details of the direct benefits to the community the ConnectGen will advance;
- (5) Details on past/planned engagements regarding payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreements or host community agreements (HCAs);

- (6) Applicability of the CLCPA goals regarding benefits to Disadvantaged Communities that would be realized with the development and construction of the Bid Facility;
- (7) A description of local interests and concerns, including identifying plans to thoughtfully build support for and respectfully responding to any opposition to the Bid Facility;
- (8) Strategies that will be used to mitigate concerns raised by the public regarding the Bid Facility, and if applicable, Energy Storage. This may include visibility and viewshed impact mitigation efforts, accommodations to co-locate agricultural activities, or other issues of importance to the host communities;
- (9) Method for soliciting feedback and input from the public and affected agencies and the process for sharing feedback and responses publicly; and
- (10) Any changes to the community and public engagement requirements and standards of the state siting permit approval process resulting from the implementation of final 94-c regulations and USCs by ORES.

1. Authorities Having Jurisdiction

Early in the stakeholder identification process, ConnectGen identified the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and the taxing School District. As the primary beneficiaries of the Project benefits, ConnectGen will ensure these stakeholders are kept up to date on Project development, included in community engagement activities, and encouraged to provide feedback throughout the development, construction, and operation of the Project.

AHJ: Town of Glen

- Town Hall
 - Address: 7 Erie Street, Fultonville, NY 12072
 - Town Phone: 518-853-3633
 - Regular office hours: Monday–Friday 8am-2pm

- Town Supervisor
 - John Thomas
 - Address: 7 Erie Street, Fultonville, NY 12072
 - Phone: 518-853-3865
 - Email: glensupervisor@gmail.com

- Town Board

- Councilperson - Russell Kelly, Jr.
Address: 3259 State Highway 30A, Fultonville, NY 12072
Phone: 518-853-3584
- Councilperson – Larry Coddington
Address: 3020 State Highway 5S, Fultonville, NY 12072
Phone: 518-853-4169
- Councilperson - Thomas J. Murray, Jr.
Address: 795 Argersinger Road, Fultonville, NY 12072
Phone: 518-922-7391
- Councilperson - Ronald Crewell
Address: 213 Hyney Hill Road, Fultonville, NY 12072
Phone: 518-922-5872

Taxing School District: Fonda-Fultonville Central School District

- School District Office Address: 112 Old Johnstown Road, Fonda, NY 12068
- School Superintendent: Thomas Ciaccio
 - Address: 112 Old Johnstown Road, PO Box 1501, Fonda, NY 12068
 - Phone: (518) 853-4415
- Board of Education:
 - Matt Sullivan, President
Phone: 518-853-1920
 - Bonnie Couture, Vice President
Phone: 518-853-4219
 - Domenic DiNatale
Phone: 518-227-0405
 - Dennis Egelston
Phone: 518-922-8615
 - Michelle Isabella
Phone: 518-853-2015
 - Michael Lewis
Phone: 518-583-1411
 - John Wiltey
Phone: 518-224-5257

2. Community Outreach Strategy

A robust Plan must include: consultation with the affected agencies and other stakeholders, pre-application activities to encourage stakeholders to participate at the earliest opportunity, activities designed to educate the public as to the specific proposal and the Section 94-c review process, including the availability of funding for municipal and local parties, the establishment of a website to disseminate information to the public, notifications, and activities designed to encourage participation by stakeholders in the certification and compliance process. The Plan is ongoing and may evolve throughout all phases of the Section 94-c review process (pre-application phase, application phase, hearing and decision phase, and post-certification phase). ConnectGen intends to disseminate information regarding the Project to stakeholders, solicit information from those stakeholders during public outreach events, and generally foster participation in the Section 94-c review.

Given that the Project is an expansion of the Mill Point Solar Project, ConnectGen will leverage the existing user-friendly website (www.millpointsolar.com) established in plain English to describe the Project and ConnectGen, answer frequently asked questions, and provide updates throughout the development and construction phases of the Project to keep the community informed of the Project's status (see Section 2.4.4 below for additional detail). The website also provides several avenues to contact ConnectGen regarding the Project. Further, due to the high population of Amish families in the area, ConnectGen will make sure that all documents and information available on the Project website are printed and left in the Town Office or are otherwise made available in printed form to that portion of the community.

Additionally, as part of the state permitting process, the New York State Department of Public Service maintains a website (<http://documents.dps.ny.gov>) where all materials associated with the Project review will be published. The DPS website also provides an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the Project or request to be a party in the state permitting process. Should there be any changes to the location where Project materials will be published as the 94-c draft regulations are finalized and adopted, ConnectGen will ensure that the public directed to the relevant website.

2.1. Stakeholder Identification

A fundamental first step in the community outreach process is identifying the stakeholders that may be affected by construction and operation of the Project. ConnectGen maintains a development approach that places transparency, safety, accountability, and respect for local communities as its core values. ConnectGen's approach is to proactively engage interested community members, agencies, municipalities, utilities, host landowners, and other potential stakeholders by being transparent always and provide timely information to consistently educate and involve all stakeholders. Further, ConnectGen understands that stakeholders may change during the development cycle of a project; therefore, ConnectGen intends to review and assess stakeholder involvement throughout the Project development process to ensure new stakeholders that may have interests in the Project are identified and informed at the earliest opportunity.

The process by which ConnectGen identifies specific stakeholders for this Project is informed by prior experience both generally and as part of a New York specific permitting and community engagement regime. Current and ongoing stakeholder identification efforts for the Project include, but are not limited to, reviewing County GIS records, tax records, personal visits, word-of-mouth, public meeting attendee lists, discussions with local community members, public outreach, and internet research. With the Project website in place, community members can request inclusion to ConnectGen's stakeholder list via the web portal or contact information publicly available.

ConnectGen maintains a master list of stakeholders (the "Notification List"), which includes all known potentially interested stakeholders and parties, based upon the combination of efforts described above. This Notification list includes, but is not limited to, local municipal officials, state agencies, host landowners, adjacent landowners, and local emergency response. ConnectGen will continue to update the Notification List based on information and requests from interested stakeholders received during engagement activities.

2.2. Outreach Activities To-Date

ConnectGen's Plan focuses on early and frequent communication with landowners and host communities, including the Town of Glen. Given that the Project is an expansion of the Mill Point Solar Project ("Mill Point Solar 1 Project"), ConnectGen will build on outreach activities completed to date for the Mill Point Solar 1 Project and supplement those activities with additional outreach specifically tailored to the Project. In early 2020, representatives of the Project introduced the Mill

Point Solar 1 Project to the Glen Town Supervisor, Mr. John Thomas, and provided him with general information about ConnectGen and its approach to utility-scale solar development. The Project Team held subsequent meetings with Mr. Thomas to provide updates and details related to the development of the Mill Point Solar 1 Project and request feedback regarding the same. A ConnectGen representative also directly introduced the Mill Point Solar 1 Project to other members of the Town Board, including Mr. Thomas Murray and Mr. Russell Kelly, and attended all monthly Town Board meetings held in 2020 and 2021 to date with solar-related agenda items. In June of 2020, Project representatives submitted comments and recommendations regarding the Town of Glen's draft solar zoning law to Mr. Thomas and shared ConnectGen's perspective on current industry standards and practical considerations for the development and construction of utility-scale solar projects. The Town Board was receptive to ConnectGen's feedback regarding the draft law and passed a final solar law in November 2020. ConnectGen also informally introduced the Mill Point Solar 1 Project to Kenneth Rose, Director of the Montgomery County Business Development Center in 2019 and communicated with Mr. Rose on several occasions in 2020 regarding the status of the Project.

Since January 2020, ConnectGen has engaged in frequent discussions with both participating landowners and adjoining landowners in the Mill Point Solar 2 Project Area. To readily provide Project information and land agreements to landowners, ConnectGen engaged the services of a New York-based land firm and land agent, who continue to support the Project at present. As the Project advanced over the last 12 months, ConnectGen regularly extended the opportunity to participate in the project via letter of intent or lease and easement agreement to key landowners with suitable acreage in the general Project Area. ConnectGen's broad-sweeping approach to landowner outreach helps to create a general awareness of the Project in the immediate vicinity. As the Project continues to advance, ConnectGen will continue in-person outreach efforts with all landowners immediately adjoining the Project Area to ensure they are aware of the Project and the resources available to monitor the Project's progress. As part of this outreach, ConnectGen will approach potentially impacted landowners whose land will not host Project facilities and offer them the opportunity to participate in the Project through neighbor agreements.

In January 2021, ConnectGen presented an overview of the Mill Point Solar 1 Project to the Glen Town Board, provided an update on development efforts, and answered questions regarding the Mill Point Solar Project posed by the Board and other stakeholders. In April 2021, ConnectGen held pre-application consultations with the Glen Town Supervisor, the Glen Highway

Superintendent, and the Montgomery County Executive. Following those consultations, ConnectGen held a virtual public information session via Zoom regarding the Mill Point 1 Solar Project and answered over 150 questions posed by local community members and stakeholders. A video recording and transcript of the meeting, as well as written responses to questions that were unable to be answered in the meeting's allotted time frame are available on the project website for community members who were unable to attend. On August 10, 2021, ConnectGen held a second pre-application consultation with the Glen Town Supervisor regarding the Mill Point Solar 1 Project. On August 11, 2021, ConnectGen hosted two in-person Community Meetings for the Mill Point Solar 1 Project in the vicinity of the Project Area, offering two different sessions to facilitate participation by members of the community and stakeholders. Project representatives and consultants were on hand to discuss project updates and the 94-c permitting process, as well as answer questions posed by attendees. ConnectGen will leverage the engagement and feedback gathered through this public engagement for the Mill Point Solar 1 Project in conducting future outreach for the Mill Point Solar 2 Project. More broadly and as outlined in this Plan, ConnectGen will continue to communicate with local municipalities and stakeholders throughout the development process to ensure they are aware of the Project and their interests are identified and inputs collected.

2.3. Consultation with the Affected Agencies and Stakeholders

As described above, ConnectGen has engaged the Town of Glen on a number of occasions regarding its intentions to develop a solar project in the Town, providing details about the Mill Point Solar 1 Project and information about the Section 94-c process to keep Town Officials apprised of development efforts and progress. ConnectGen has notified the Town of Glen of its plans to develop the Mill Point Solar 2 Project and will continue to communicate with local municipalities and other stakeholders throughout the consultation process to ensure they are aware of the Project and their interests or concerns are identified.

ConnectGen will consult with affected state and federal agencies including, but not limited to, the New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM), New York State Historic Preservation Office (NYSHPO), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) as necessary throughout the development of the Project. This consultation includes incorporation of agency officials to the

Notification list and relevant mailings, periodic meetings regarding Project development, and coordination on environmental studies and surveys.

Additionally, ConnectGen will consult with various local utilities within the Project Area with the goals of identifying and avoiding impacts to utility infrastructure and minimizing any impacts to local service providers and utility customers during Project construction and operation

Additional potentially affected agencies will be identified through review of the Section 94-c regulations and affected municipalities are identified above. Consultation with affected agencies and municipalities will include the following general steps:

1. ConnectGen will contact each agency or municipality to make certain they are aware of the Project, obtain information on sensitive resources and planning initiatives, inform them of the Section 94-c process (including steps for intervenor funding), and provide contact information for company representatives to direct any questions or comments about the Project and/or about the Section 94-c process;
2. Subsequent interaction with each agency or municipality will occur as needed to answer specific questions or interests about the Project and to identify the applicable studies and impact analyses to be performed and how they pertain to the Project;
3. Regular consultation with ORES Staff will occur during early development of the Project during the pre-Application stage and throughout the Section 94-c process; and
4. Other specific consultations as required by the Section 94-c regulations, or as needed to inform the process.

ConnectGen will be required to deposit funds for intervenor participation. Funds are deposited with ORES at the time an Application is filed, in an amount equal to \$1,000 for each 1,000 kilowatts (i.e. 1 MW) of generating capacity of the Facility. Under Section 94-c, intervenor funds are expected to be held in a Local Agency Account managed and dispersed by NYSERDA to qualifying parties to aid in their participation in the scoping phase of the Section 94-c proceeding. Each request for pre-application intervenor or local agency funds is anticipated to be submitted to ORES within thirty (30) days after the date on which a siting permit application has been filed, and at least 75% of the local agency funds are expected to be reserved for potential awards to local agencies under Section 94-c.

The goals of the initial consultation with each municipality or agency will be to establish contact and consult with representatives, disseminate information, request information, and schedule follow-up meetings and/or consultations, as appropriate. Specific information provided to the affected agencies and municipalities will include a description of the Project and location; explanation of the phases of the Section 94-c process and how the agency or municipality can participate in each step; description of the available local agency/intervenor funds and the process for obtaining funding; description of the ad hoc committee process and local municipal responsibility; information about other planned consultations; and sources of additional information about the Project and Section 94-c (e.g., the Project and Siting Board websites).

Information to be requested from affected municipalities and agencies will vary by the involvement of each, but may include topics such as local laws, emergency response, environmental impact review, and determination of news sources to be used for official notices. ConnectGen will engage municipalities, agencies, and stakeholders throughout Project development through a variety of methods, including open house meetings, direct correspondence, review of comments submitted through the Project and ORES websites, and targeted meetings with some of the individual stakeholders identified herein. All stakeholder consultation meetings will be documented, and all presentation materials and meeting transcripts, if any, along with a summary of questions raised and responses provided will be included in the Project's Section 94-c Application.

2.4. Pre-Application Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation

ConnectGen staff have engaged affected and interested agencies, municipalities, utilities, host landowners, and other potential stakeholders on solar, wind and other energy-related projects throughout North America. ConnectGen will use this prior experience to facilitate meaningful stakeholder interaction during the Section 94-c review process for the Project.

In addition to the engagement activities that have already taken place, ConnectGen will continue pre-application activities to encourage stakeholder participation as set forth in this Plan. ConnectGen will regularly document consultations, stakeholder participation activities, and update engagement plans as additional means of engagement are identified (as necessary). In addition, concerns and questions raised by the public, and ConnectGen's response to these issues will be documented and provided as part of the 94-c Application.

2.4.1. Public Education Activities

ConnectGen will continue to attend Town meetings and will conduct ConnectGen-sponsored public information sessions. ConnectGen will be distributing educational materials and will provide information about the Project website, which will describe the proposed Project and provide links to information on the Section 94-c process, local agency/intervenor funding, and other important stakeholder issues. These efforts will allow ConnectGen to engage with stakeholders regarding the proposed Project and will offer multiple avenues of information distribution so that stakeholders and the public have multiple, varied opportunities to obtain information on the Project and participate in the proceedings. These efforts are discussed in further detail below:

Table 1. Schedule of Key Engagement Activities

Key Milestone	Date/Time	Milestone Details, Including Notification Summary
Pre-Application Public Information Sessions	Spring/Summer 2022 (no fewer than 60 days prior to Application filing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be held in the local municipalities. - Two sessions will be held at different times of the day to provide more opportunities for public participation. - Notice of the sessions will be published in the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, and Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald. - Host and adjacent landowners located within one mile (or other specified distance of the Project as stated in the final 94-c regulations), as well as parties on the notification list will be contacted prior to the sessions.
Pre-Application Consultation with Town Supervisor and Local Agencies	Spring/Summer 2022 (no fewer than 60 days prior to Application filing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with Supervisor for Town of Glen and other local agencies. - Provide overview of Project, demonstrate compliance with local applicable laws, address potential impacts of facilities, review local agency funds and timeline for requesting same.

Key Milestone	Date/Time	Milestone Details, Including Notification Summary
Filing of Siting Application	Fall of 2022 (no fewer than 3 days before filing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notice of the ConnectGen’s Application filing will be published in the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, and Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald and posted on the Project website. - Notice will be provided via mail and email (if available) to all parties on the Notification List Notice will also be served on all parties identified in 94-c regulations.
	October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper and electronic of the Application will be served on all parties identified in and as required by 94-c regulations, including but not limited to ORES, NYSDEC, the Town of Glen, NYSAGM, NYSDOH, NYSDOT, OPRHP, Attorney General for State of New York. - Paper copies will be provided to the local repositories identified on page 2. -Electronic copies of all documents will be posted on the Project website.
Additional Public Information Session	After Application Filing / Prior to Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be held in local municipalities. - Two sessions will be held at different times of the day to provide more opportunities for public participation. - Notice of the sessions will be published in the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, and Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald. Host and adjacent landowners as well as, parties on the notification list will be contacted prior to the sessions.

2.4.2. Public Meetings

ConnectGen intends to hold at least two open house-style meetings at various stages of the Project development process. Currently, ConnectGen anticipates holding at least one meeting prior to the submission of the State Siting Application and one meeting during the State’s review of the Project. These meetings may be held at different times during the day, based on stakeholder feedback, to provide more opportunities for public participation. Representatives for ConnectGen will be present to provide Project information and answer questions. It is anticipated that these meetings will be held at a public meeting space in reasonable proximity to the Project

Area. To provide early outreach to adjacent landowners, ConnectGen will contact residences and businesses within the Project area and parties on the Notification List, notifying them of the date and time of the public meetings.

ConnectGen will conduct a mass mailing to the Notification List to announce each open house style public meeting and will properly notice these meetings in local newspapers, which could include the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald, and the Busy Beaver at least 14 days prior to the scheduled event. Information regarding public meetings will also be posted at the local document repositories and in the Glen Town Hall or other appropriate locations based on the pending public meeting(s). In addition, ConnectGen will maintain a copy of the mailing and an affidavit of service as a record of what was mailed and to whom. The first meeting will be scheduled approximately no later than 60 days prior to filing of the Application, to present detailed information regarding the anticipated content of the Application and to solicit public input. The second meeting will be scheduled immediately before or after filing of the Application to present an overview of the Applications content. Notification of all public meetings held by ConnectGen will also be mailed or emailed to the Notification List. In addition, ConnectGen anticipates maintaining the mailings and the affidavits of mailing for inclusion in the Application.

Additional stakeholders will be added to this list as they are identified through the initial public meetings and the Project website. The updated list will then be used for future mail and email notifications, and the list will be further updated based on additional requests. In addition, all meetings will be posted on the Project website www.millpointsolar.com. ConnectGen will provide ORES with informal notice of all scheduled public meetings.

2.4.3. Educational Materials

ConnectGen will develop outreach materials – including educational materials – that contain contact information, case number, and document repository information, detail where additional Project information can be obtained, and outline the process for becoming a party to these proceedings or for joining the Notification List. This information will be included in a notice mailed to residences and businesses in the Project area as well as additional groups included in the Notification List. Educational handouts will be made available at public meetings that include information on intervenor funding, the Section 94-c process, and general information about solar farms, as well as specific information about this Project. Additionally, the Project website will offer

information on the proposed Project, links to (and information regarding) solar energy, the Section 94-c process, Intervenor Funding, and other important stakeholder issues. Further, due to the high population of Amish families in the area, ConnectGen will make sure that all documents and information available on the Project website are printed and left in the Town Office or are otherwise made available in printed form to that portion of the community. These efforts will allow ConnectGen to engage with applicable stakeholders and will offer multiple avenues of information exchange, so stakeholders and the public have the best chance to obtain the right information and participate in the process.

2.4.4. Project Website

ConnectGen has established a live, user-friendly website with up to date Project and company information in plain English (www.millpointsolar.com). ConnectGen will provide Project updates throughout the development and construction phases of the Project to keep the community informed of the Project's status. For example, maps will be added to the website as the Project layout evolves, and notices will be posted to the website prior to various milestones and public meetings/outreach events.

The Project website includes or will include:

- Project description;
- Project benefits and need;
- Summary of permitting requirements;
- Information on the Section 94-c process;
- Instructions on how to become a party to these proceedings or join the Notification List, with a link to the appropriate webpage;
- Summary of the Local Agency Account/Intervenor Funding process and how to apply;
- Project 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;
- Information on ConnectGen;
- News and announcements; and
- Frequently asked questions about the Project, ConnectGen, and solar energy.

As indicated above, the website will include the Project Contact Information (see page 2). Interested parties may request stakeholder status through the website. ConnectGen will make efforts to respond directly to all substantive inquiries and comments submitted to the Project contact (by email, telephone or mail) within 2-3 business days of receiving the inquiry and/or comment. ConnectGen's normal business hours are from 9 AM to 5 PM Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays and between Christmas and New Year's. Where the inquiry and comments may take longer to respond, the initial response will indicate a timeframe anticipated for the full response. Correspondence will be documented in a database. In addition, where an in-person meeting is requested, efforts will be made to accommodate such meetings within 15 business days. Email inquiries will receive an automated response acknowledging receipt of an interested party's question or comment.

2.4.5. Notifications

The Section 94-c regulations establish the notification requirements for serving documents. Pursuant to the rules, ConnectGen shall publish all required notices in the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, and Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald, as well as provide notice in accordance with Section 94-c standard notice requirements for actions of the Town of Glen.

No less than three days before filing of the Application, ConnectGen will publish a notice of the Application in the newspapers listed above; serve each member of the State Legislature in whose district any portion of the proposed Project is to be located; provide written notice to those persons who have filed a statement with the secretary that wish to receive such notices; and provide mail and email (if available) notification to all parties on the Notification List. In addition, notifications will be posted on the Project website.

ConnectGen will publish any other notices required by the Presiding Examiner or other section of Section 94-c in the manner prescribed by the Presiding Examiner or under the procedures contained in Section 94-c.

An updated stakeholder list will be provided with all filings, which will include host and adjacent landowners and parties identified through ConnectGen's outreach efforts, as well as proof that a mailing has occurred.

2.4.6. Soliciting Feedback and Input from the Public

To ensure that the local community stakeholders and host municipalities are engaged before, during, and after the Section 94-c Application processes, ConnectGen will employ the following methods to foster a dialogue and solicit feedback and input:

1. Comment cards will be available at all public meetings hosted by ConnectGen. This will allow ConnectGen to gather feedback on and questions about the Project and document and respond to stakeholder questions and comments.
2. The information contained in the comment cards will be entered into a database, and members of the Project team will use the database to follow up with individuals and inform the content used in educational materials, as necessary.
3. The Project website will include Project contact information, including an email address, a toll-free phone number, a contact form for members of the public to submit comments or questions to the Project team, as well as a page through which visitors can request to be added to the Notification List.
4. The Project website will include information on the Section 94-c Application process, so that stakeholders can monitor and/or become involved in that process, including information regarding any planned open houses.
5. ConnectGen will conduct a mass mailing to the Notification List to announce each public open house meeting and will properly notice these meetings and public hearings in local newspapers, which could include the Amsterdam Recorder, Schenectady Daily Gazette, Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald, and the Busy Beaver prior to the scheduled event.
6. Information regarding public meetings and public hearings will be posted in the Glen Town Hall or other appropriate locations based on the where the pending public meeting(s)/hearing(s) will be held.

3. Project Benefits

With a planned nameplate capacity of up to 100MWac, the electricity generated by the Mill Point Solar 2 Project will deliver a material amount of greenhouse gas-free energy to the New York electricity grid. Solar energy is particularly beneficial during the summer months, as consumer demand increases to meet peak demand events, such as residential air conditioning loads. Because it uses no traditional fuel source, solar energy avoids the air pollution that would result

from meeting this increased demand solely from fossil fuels, and it dampens the cost of power at this time of peak conventional power cost.

The proposed Project is expected to have positive socioeconomic impacts in the area related to employment opportunities, specifically by generating temporary construction employment, a significant portion of which will likely be drawn from the regional labor market. Local construction employment will primarily benefit those participants in the construction trades, including equipment operators, truck drivers, laborers, and electricians, and is anticipated to potentially generate up to 60 short term full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs during project installation. In addition, Project operation will generate employment and contracting service opportunities for electricians, operations managers, laborers and fencing contractors, and landscaping maintenance crews.

3.1. Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Host Community Agreement

Over the life of the Project, ConnectGen is expected to contribute millions of dollars in additional revenue to the Town of Glen, Montgomery County, and the Fonda-Fultonville Central School District in the form of a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement and host community agreement (HCA). Preliminary discussions have been held with staff from the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency and the Town of Glen; however, the specific terms of a PILOT agreement or HCA are still to be negotiated and approved. The Project will bring other socioeconomic benefits to the local community including the purchase of goods and services from local shops, hotels, restaurants, and construction material suppliers, as well as direct lease payments to participating landowners.

Through very deliberate site selection, followed by careful planning and design, and by the benign nature of the technology, the operating Project is expected to have minimal impacts on the surrounding community. Solar facilities are quiet and produce no vibration. The solar PV panels proposed to be used for the Project have a low height profile, while setbacks, fencing and landscape buffering contribute to minimizing visual impacts on the community and natural setting of the area.

Although the Project will result in a change to the current land use practices in the locations where panel arrays are sited, this land use change is temporary. The Project is not a permanent structure and will be decommissioned at the end of its operational life, at which time the land can be

returned to its former use. Therefore, the land is not permanently lost to development but is temporarily converted to another productive and beneficial use.

In agricultural areas, responsibly sited and operated solar facilities may provide long term preservation of agricultural land, as the facility prevents other forms of development during the operational term. It can also serve to improve soil quality by allowing the land to lay fallow with appropriate ground cover planting. It is expected that the Project would take approximately one year for construction and, once completed, would have an operational life of up to 40 years. ConnectGen will develop and provide a detailed decommissioning plan in the State Siting Application. In accordance with the Section 94-c regulations, the plan will ensure proper removal of the Project and restoration of the land at the end of the Project's useful life.

Impacts associated with the construction of a solar project are generally short-term and temporary, occurring briefly during the construction period. Construction-related noise may be associated with site preparation activities and increased traffic associated with equipment and parts deliveries. Limited ground disturbance in the form of clearing and grading may be needed; however, best management practices and stormwater protection measures will be implemented to avoid or minimize impacts to water quality. Potential impacts to wildlife could involve the short-term displacement of resident and migratory species associated with the conversion of habitat, although the Project would implement conservation practices to avoid and minimize adverse effects to sensitive species during construction in consultation with NYSDEC and other relevant stakeholders. Following completion of construction of the facility, post-construction reclamation activities would be performed to revegetate disturbed areas, reclaim temporary work zones, and remove construction materials debris.

A robust analysis of the potential Project impacts associated with the operation, construction, and decommissioning of the solar facility will be performed as part of the Section 94-c process.

3.2. Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act includes several environmental justice provisions, including setting a target for disadvantaged communities to receive 40 percent of the overall benefits from the state's climate programs and at a minimum, to receive no less than 35 percent of those benefits. The Project Study Area is not within a Potential Environmental Justice Area; therefore, no direct or indirect effects are anticipated. ConnectGen applies a

community-focused approach to development, with the intent to ensure the community is informed of the Project and aware of potential socioeconomic benefits associated with the long-term operation of the Project. Although no negative impacts to disadvantaged communities are expected, ConnectGen expects the local communities, including nearby disadvantaged communities, may benefit from jobs and economic opportunities associated with the construction and operation of the Project.

4. Local Interests and Concerns

ConnectGen is in contact with members of a local group known as Glen Families Allied for Responsible Management of Land (Glen FARMLand), who are concerned about the development of the Mill Point Solar 1 Project in the Town of Glen. To date, ConnectGen has addressed a variety of questions and concerns raised by Glen FARMLand regarding the Mill Point Solar 1 Project. The primary concerns raised by the group relate to viewshed impacts and impacts to aesthetic resources, the use of agricultural land for the Project, and impacts to the Amish community residing in the Project Area. As development efforts for the Mill Point Solar 2 Project advance, ConnectGen will maintain an open line of communication with Glen FARMLand and the broader community and take all feedback into consideration as we advance the siting, development, and design of both the Mill Point Solar 1 and Mill Point Solar 2 Projects. Given the Project's low impact construction and operation, ConnectGen's commitment to transparent and thorough public outreach and responsible siting practices, and the Project's numerous benefits to the host and local community, ConnectGen feels that most concerns raised by Glen FARMLand about the Project will be addressed.

5. Strategies to Mitigate Concerns

Like the current Article 10 siting process, the Section 94-c siting process will require the study of the environmental, public health, and public safety impacts of the development, design, and construction of solar energy projects, as well as any proposed mitigation measures and reasonable alternatives to the Project. ConnectGen will work with the relevant local, state, and federal agencies and stakeholders to ensure that potential impacts are fully considered.

ConnectGen anticipates that the Section 94-c siting process will require the Project to comply with applicable local laws and regulations, unless such law is unreasonably burdensome in the view of New York State renewable targets and environmental benefits. As previously detailed, the

Project team has provided comments and recommendations to the Town Supervisor regarding the Draft Solar Law for the Town of Glen. The Town Board took ConnectGen's input under advisement and adopted a local solar law in November 2020. ConnectGen will endeavor to design the Mill Point Solar 2 Project in accordance with the local solar law to the greatest extent practicable and thereby reduce the likelihood of an adjudicatory or public statement hearing for non-compliance in the Section 94-c siting process.

6. Method for Public Feedback

Substantive comments and questions on social and economic factors raised by the stakeholders and host communities and ConnectGen's responses will be documented in the educational materials that are distributed to the public and posted on the Project website. For example, a common concern often associated with the development of a new solar farm is the potential visual impact it will have on the surrounding area. ConnectGen is committed to taking steps to minimize and mitigate visual impacts of the Project by adhering to industry standard setbacks and using vegetative buffers, as necessary. Common concerns are addressed in ConnectGen's solar FAQ handout, which will be included in the educational materials to be distributed to the public and posted on the Project website.

7. Activities to Encourage Stakeholder Participation

Beyond the activities described above in Section 2.4, ConnectGen will seek to identify additional, practical measures to encourage stakeholder participation during the certification process. It is anticipated that this will be an ongoing, evolving process throughout all phases of the Section 94-c review process (pre-application phase, application phase, hearing and decision phase, and post-certification phase). These efforts are outlined in Table 1.

As previously stated, ConnectGen intends to hold at least two open-house style public meetings at various stages of the project development process. These meetings may be held at different times of the day to accommodate workers' schedules and provide the best opportunity for interested persons to attend. In addition, the Project website will be updated continuously with Project developments, meetings, and announcements to keep stakeholders and the public informed.

Following Project certification, ConnectGen will conduct additional public outreach and notifications as the Project enters the construction phase. These efforts will include notification of the start of construction to various parties and implementation of a Complaint Resolution Plan (a draft of which will be included with the Section 94-c Application). This plan will address public complaints and resolution procedures during Project construction and operation per the Section 94-c regulations.