

April 19th, 2021

Town Board and Planning Board
Town of Cortlandt
1 Heady Street
Cortlandt Manor, New York 10567

Attention: Chris Kehoe, AICP – chrisk@townofcortlandt.com

RE: Biodiversity Screening Assessment and Proposed Site Plan Approval Schedule for CVE North America to Construct and Operate a Solar Energy Production Facility on two (2) parcels of property: one parcel located west of Lexington Ave (Tax Parcel No. 13.18-2-2.4) and a second parcel located off Red Mill Road (Tax Parcel No. 13.14-5-25).

Dear Members of the Town Board and Planning Board:

By application dated June 23, 2020, and supplemental application dated March 23, 2021, CVE North America is seeking the necessary zoning approvals for a 4.98 MWdc / 5.0 MWac community solar facility in the Town of Cortlandt.

In furtherance to those applications, enclosed is a Biodiversity Screening Assessment. This document, drafted by TRC on behalf of CVE, reviews the project's biodiversity impacts in detail using a variety of data sources, such as a 2019 Wetland and Stream Delineation, a 2020 Tree Inventory, a 2005 Biodiversity Assessment, a 2021 Phase 1 Bog Turtle Habitat Survey, and publicly available databases from USGS, USDA, USFWS, and NYSDEC. This review shows that the project will have little impact on local biodiversity. Furthermore, the document outlines CVE's proposed mitigation, including a Tree Reforestation Plan, a Landscaping Plan and a Biodiversity Enhancement Plan – all in an effort to make the project as environmentally friendly and low impact as possible.

CVE suggests that this information is shared with the Town's Biodiversity Consultants to include in their review when drafting recommendations and comments on the project's biodiversity impacts.

Additionally, as the summer months are approaching and scheduling with the Town becomes more difficult, CVE would like to propose the following permitting schedule:

- 5/4/21 – Attend Planning Board Meeting to Discuss Biodiversity Next Steps
- 5/23/21 – Planning Board Site Inspection
- 6/1/21 – Hold Public Hearing
- 7/6/21 – Attend Planning Board Meeting to Discuss Biodiversity Recommendations and Comments, if needed



Sincerely,

Carson Weinand
Project Developer
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