

Town of Middlebury 77 Main Street Middlebury, VT 05753

November 13, 2018

Jim Porter, Director of Public Advocacy at the Department of Public Service <u>James.Porter@vermont.gov</u>

Dear Mr. Porter:

We are writing to express the Town's support for a proposed 5 MW solar project just south of the center of Middlebury and its commercials districts.

The developer first approached us back in October, 2017 as it was considering a solar project on a relatively isolated piece of property within the Town off Halladay Road and was looking for our feedback prior to advancing the Project.

Following multiple Town meetings with the Selectboard, Planning Commission, and adjoining landowners, including community organized site visits, the Town chose to support the Project by executing an MOU with the developer.

From the Town's perspective, the site is well hidden from public vantage points, one of the few left within Town that could support the Project and is consistent with the Town Plan. Our Town plan outlines goal for well sited solar within the Town and we have reviewed the Project from that perspective. We believe the Project will advance our goals of local generation, energy independence, and, larger picture, the State's goal of 90% renewables by 2050.

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Thank you for your consideration our input on this project. Please do not hesitate to contact Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, 802-458-8000 or kramsay@townofmiddlebury.org, if you have any questions or need any additional information about our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Middlebury Selectboard

Brian Carpenter, Chair Nick Artim, Vice Chair Laura Asermily

Heather Seeley Victor Nuovo Farhad Khan Lindsey Fuentes-George