

Kathleen Ramsay

From: Lincoln Lande <Lincoln.Lande@edf-re.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 9:07 AM
To: Kathleen Ramsay
Subject: Follow up talking points

Hi Kathleen,

Following up on our conversation a week or two ago, please see below for some key talking points as well as a draft email to a few folks at GMP and DPS. Happy to discuss further. This will be a big help and seeing that this project goes forward. Unfortunately, the regulators are starting to put the breaks on this type of renewables development so demonstrating local commitment is important. I suggest sending an email to the following folks under separate cover, if you agree:

1. Kristin Carlson [Kristin.Carlson@greenmountainpower.com] ; and Dorothy Schnure [Dorothy.Schnure@greenmountainpower.com] both at GMP
 - a. Kristin leads Communications related work and is involved in rate cases before the PUC while Dorothy is also on the Communications lead as well as being an account manager. Both are generally familiar with the project
2. Jim Porter [James.Porter@vermont.gov]
 - a. Director of Public Advocacy at the Department of Public Service

Key Talking Points:

1. Town of Middlebury has been working with EDF Renewables for over a year to arrive at a mutually beneficial solar project with clear benefits to the Town.
2. Middlebury is excited about the prospects of having one of the lowest cost solar resources in the State located within the Town; the Project advances the Town's goals for responsibly sited solar, in-state generation, and energy independence.
3. The Town Executed an MOU with the developer. This was a milestone for all involved and we hope to see it come to fruition.
4. This is a unique site, well hidden from public views, and one of the few left that we believe is consistent with the Town Plan.
5. Being so close to the center of Middlebury (i.e. close to load) and the Town's commercial areas contributes to the well-sited nature of the Project.
6. With a State goal of 90% of all our energy coming from renewables by 2050, this is the kind of project we need.
7. Town made aware of a possible road block to development and we would hope that folks recognize the value in having a supportive Town with all the vocal opposition that is occurring around the State.
8. We would hope that as opposed to shutting down solar in the State, folks look to responsible development in good locations; we believe this is one of those locations that should move forward.

Draft Email:

Dear [Kristen Carlson, Dotty, Jim Porter from DPS Public Advocacy],

On behalf of the Town of Middlebury, I am writing to express the Town's strong support for a proposed 5 MW solar project just south of the center of Middlebury and its commercial districts. This is a Project we are excited about and would like to see move forward. For over a year, the Town has been working with a developer, EDF Renewables, to

advance the Project. 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 fully support the Project by executing an MOU with the developer. The MOU provides clear benefits to the Town should the Project move forward, benefits we are excited about. 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 outline goals for well sited solar within the Town and we have reviewed the Project from that perspective. We believe the Project will go a long ways to advancing our goals of local generation, energy independence, and, larger picture, the State's goal of 90% renewables by 2050.

After much hard work and review by all those involved, the Town was recently made aware that the local utility may not be interested in purchasing more solar power, preventing the Project from moving forward. After learning of this, we wanted to help where possible because the Town sees this as a unique project with real benefits at the local and State levels. The Town of Middlebury recently revised it's Town Plan and, in working through that process, took into consideration the local pushback in nearby communities when revising its siting standards. With all the vocal opposition to poorly sited projects, we would hope that folks take note when a project is responsibly sited and seek to advance those projects. We would hope that as opposed to shutting down solar in the State, folks look to responsible development in good locations as the alternative; we believe this is one of those locations. To achieve our local and State goals and realize the benefits under the MOU, we would like to see this Project advance.

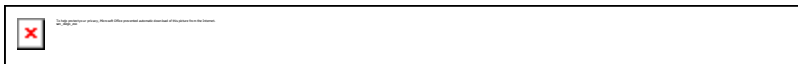
If you have any questions, please free to give me a call. The Project's developer is keeping us apprised of any developments and we hope this letter of support (in addition to the MOU) provides a basis for moving things forward.

Best regards,



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