## WELCOME

# Welcome to the Cider Solar Farm Virtual Informational Open House

Please join the Hecate Energy team on March 24th, 2021 for the discussion panel of the Open House.

There are 2 convenient sessions that will be covering the same topics, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Visit <u>www.CiderSolarFarm.com/OpenHouse</u> for the details.



CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM: CiderSolar@HecateEnergy.com | (833) 529-6597 | www.CiderSolarFarm.com



## ABOUT THE COMPANY

# Hecate Energy develops solar, wind and battery storage projects for our clean energy future.

- Hecate Energy develops clean energy power plants from planning and inception through construction and operation.
- Founded in 2012 by a team of energy industry veterans who have worked together for more than 25 years, Hecate Energy's team has developed thousands of megawatts of electricity generation projects across the United States.
- Hecate Energy has entered into over 2.1 gigawatts (powering approximately 1.35M homes) of renewable power purchase agreements since 2012 and has approximately 12 gigawatts of additional projects currently under development.

### "Solar energy can help meet the growing demands of today's increasingly electrified society in a local, sustainable way. Communities welcome solar projects because they are quiet neighbors, that use essentially no municipal resources yet significantly add to a community's revenue base."

Harrison Luna, Project Team

## Cider Solar Farm Project Team:



Blair Road Solar, Jacksonville, FL



**Harrison Luna** Development Manager

**Phillip Mooney** VP of Engineering & Development





### CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

# **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Cider Solar Farm will provide renewable energy to Genesee County while protecting and preserving our clean air, water quality, and soil resources.

## **Project Details**

- Up to 500-megawatt photovoltaic (PV) solar facility.
- The Project is planned in the towns of Elba and Oakfield, Genesee County. The Project is anticipated to be approximately 2,800 acres and utilize less than the total areas studied.
- Capable of safely supplying 920,000 megawatt-hours (MWh) of renewable electricity per year to power over 125,000 average New York households. More than enough energy to power the entire county.
- Delivers significant revenues to local governments, fire department, ambulance company, and library.
- Boosts the area's economy, creating full-time equivalent construction jobs, and creating an economic stimulus for local businesses.
- \$500-\$650 million privately funded infrastructure improvement.



Solar facilities are great neighbors.

They operate quietly without emissions or water discharges and help recharge farm soil for future generations.





## CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

## THE PROJECT





## Hecate Energy Cider Solar

CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

## **TECHNOLOGY**

## Engineering and Technology

- Cider Solar Farm will be configured as a groundmounted solar facility with photovoltaic (PV) panels on galvanized steel tracker structures.
- The Project will include rows of single-axis trackers, oriented in a north-south direction, that rotate the PV panels from east to west following the sun's daily path, optimizing the amount of power the solar facility can produce.
- The PV array is low-profile, approximately 10 feet high above grade at the tallest point in the mornings and evenings (about the height of field corn stalks).
- The solar panels planned for the Project are the crystalline type commonly used for residential rooftop systems. They contain the same materials (glass, aluminum, plastic) used in many household products such as windows.



Hecate Energy Morgan Solar Farm, Aragon, GA





### CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

## **HOW SOLAR WORKS**



## WHY DEVELOP SOLAR?

### AIR

- Solar energy generates emissionfree electricity.
- Energy from the Cider Solar Farm is projected to offset nearly 400,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year - that is equivalent to taking over 89,000 average cars off the road.

## SOIL

- Solar facilities do not damage or degrade soil resources, like conventional power facilities do.
- Solar facilities are increasingly co located with beneficial agricultural uses such as pollinator-friendly vegetation and livestock grazing.

## WATER

- Solar facilities are excellent protectors of watershed resources.
- Unlike conventional power plants, operating solar facilities use little to no water. The low impact design also maintains porous surface area for local groundwater recharge.

Solar is Good for the Earth

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Compared to other forms of electric generation, solar has the least impact on the environment.

### Why Do We Need More Solar?

 New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) mandates that 70% of the State's electricity comes from renewable energy sources by 2030. Currently, we only obtain about 28% from renewable energy, of which approximately 25% is hydroelectricity.

### Where Will the Electricity Go?

 The electricity produced by the Facility will be delivered to local distribution grid after interconnection into the existing Dysinger - N. Rochester 345kV transmission line owned by New York Power Authority (NYPA)

## How Will This Affect Reliability and Price?

- The Project will boost electric system reliability due to proximity to a vital section of the electric grid.
- Solar is one of the least expensive forms of electricity generation and its fuel, the sun is free. As the price of other power generation grows, solar energy will help to mitigate overall electricity price increases.





## CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

## **OVERVIEW OF PERMITTING**

## Overview of Siting & Permitting Law

 Section 94-c of the Executive Law of New York State governs the process for siting and permitting applicable to the Cider Solar Farm. It provides for the review of new or modified major electric generating facilities by the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), housed within the Department of State.



## Key Provisions of the Law Include:

- All new renewable energy projects larger than 25 megawatts will be required to seek an approved permit through the ORES prior to construction.
- Creates and oversees a review and approval process for large scale renewable energy projects.
- Regulations promulgated under the law will address environmental impacts and identify potential mitigation measures to address those impacts.
- Requires ORES to hold an adjudicatory hearing regarding any substantive and significant issues.

## **Intervenor Funding**

- For each project, municipalities and community members will have access to funds that will assist them in reviewing the project and aid in advising the ORES on the project's compliance with local laws with respect to the environment, public health and safety. The funds are provided by the assessment of fees on the applicant. Municipalities have a right established in Section 94-c to access funds in a special "local agency account" to ensure their ability to participate in the process.
- Eligible municipal parties include any county, city, town or village located in New York State that may be affected by the proposed major electric generating facility. At least 75 percent of the funds are reserved for municipalities. Other eligible community intervenors include persons residing in a community who may be affected by the proposed major electric generating facility.
- Any local agency or potential community intervenor must submit a request for initial funding within 30 days of the date of the project's application to the Office of Renewable Energy Siting, at the Albany, New York office, Attention: Request for Local Agency Account Funding.
- Further information regarding the availability and rules for intervenor funding can be found at https://ores.ny.gov/regulations, and in subpart 900-5 of the final ORES regulations.





## CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

## **APPROACH & SCHEDULE**

2021		2022		2023
April 26	3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Commence Facility Operation
Full Application Submitted to ORES	Full Application Deemed Compliant by ORES	Application Decision by ORES	Commence Construction	



We are actively engaging the public through project briefings, informational open houses, media stories, public notices, mailings, email, and other means.





## CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Communication

- Easy to access information and a place to provide feedback about the Project with our dedicated project website: <u>www.CiderSolarFarm.com</u>
- Regular project updates by the Hecate Energy team to Project stakeholders.
- Request a Project briefing for your group or organization with Harrison at: <u>HLuna@HecateEnergy.com</u>
- Please join the Hecate team every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. for weekly public Zoom calls at: <u>www.CiderSolarFarm.com/ZoomMeeting</u>
- Direct line to the project team with our toll free number (833) 529-6597.

## Collaboration

 Close coordination and specialized training for first responders who may encounter solar panels either on our project, or on residential and commercial structures.

## Long-Term Partnerships

- Revenue agreements that bring significant new funds to the community.
- When the Project stops functioning as a solar power generation facility, all the components are cleared and properly recycled or disposed of without impact to local taxpayers.

### Our Name & Logo:

Reflects the circular trust shared by communities, utilities and developers when a power project respects its people and their resources.





"This Informational Open House is an opportunity to inform the public, seek your feedback and engage your participation as we work to develop this project into a solar farm about which the entire community can be justifiably proud."

Harrison Luna, Project Team





## CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM: