

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD  
TOWN OF RICHLAND  
1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY 13142**

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 7, 2021

**PLACE:** H Douglas Barclay Courthouse, Grand Jury Room

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ronald Novak, Joe McGrath, David Scott, and Alternate Craig Sternberg

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Julie Peterson

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Novak at 10 a.m.

**Amended SEQR for Application #20-39 & 40 submitted by Tim & Cindy Atkinson 1313-1388 County Route 41. Amended SEQR form. Change from 3.75 & 3.85 MW to 2 - 5 MW commercial solar farms.** The approval for this amendment could not wait until the regularly scheduled board meeting as it is part of a program where the developers are receiving grant money for this project and the program will likely end soon and they risk losing out on energy credits and funding by waiting. The footprint and size of the panels will remain the same, the only difference is the wattage of production the newer technology panels will create. ***A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Dave Scott to put Craig Sternberg on the board for today's meeting. All members were in favor with a vote of 'AYE.'*** ***A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Craig Sternberg to amend the site plan for application 20-39 from a 3.75 MW to a 5.0 MW. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes, based on the information provided to the board he feels the board under obligation and legal responsibility to amend the site plan; Scott, yes; Sternberg, yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Dave Scott to amend the site plan for application 20-40 from a 3.85 MW to a 5.0 MW. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes, based on the information provided to the board he feels the board under obligation and legal responsibility to amend the site plan; Scott, yes; Sternberg, yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Craig Sternberg that for application 20-39 to declare the increase from 3.75 MW to 5.0 MW as having no significant environmental impact and ask the chairman to sign this as a negative declaration for an amended SEQR. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes, based on the information provided to the board indicates that there is no significant environmental impact; Scott, yes; Sternberg,***

***yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Dave Scott that for application 20-40 to declare the increase from 3.85 MW to 5.0 MW as having no significant environmental impact and ask the chairman to sign this as a negative declaration for an amended SEQR. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes, based on the information provided to the board indicates that there is no significant environmental impact; Scott, yes; Sternberg, yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Craig Sternberg to have the letter that was submitted read into the record and be part of the minutes. The letter is attached to these minutes. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes; Scott, yes; Sternberg, yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Craig Sternberg to authorize the chairman to sign such letter as per the requirements of NYSERDA. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows: McGrath, yes; Scott, yes; Sternberg, yes; Novak, yes. A motion was made by Joe McGrath and seconded by Dave Scott to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. All members were in favor with a vote of "AYE."***

Respectfully submitted by:  
Julie Peterson  
Clerk



March 31, 2021

Town of Richland  
1 Bridge Street  
Pulaski, NY 13142

Re: Special Permit Output Modifications

Town of Richland Planning Board,

On September 21, 2020 the Town of Richland Planning Board approved a special permit and site plan for application #20-39 & 20-40 for the approval of a 3.75 & 3.85 MW commercial solar farm. At the time of the application and approval of the project, the electrical generation of the projects were 3.75 and 3.85 MW respectively. Since the approvals, the applicant has increased the wattage of the panels to increase the output to equal 5MW or below per project. The wattage per panels has been increased to 450 watts per panels to allow for this increase in output. No modifications have been made to the site plan and no panels have been added. If the board could please acknowledge that this increase in electricity output is acceptable and the special use permit and SEQR document applies to two, 5MW projects instead of 3.75 and 3.85, that would be great.

Thanks,

Dan Csaplar  
Project Manager  
Omni Navitas  
617-803-5717

Acknowledgement:

Town of Richland Planning Board