

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

New part 3

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

The Town of Farmington Planning Board, the lead agency for the three identified Actions, has given consideration to the new information discovered which involve changes-in circumstances to the original Actions. The changes are the result of the Town Zoning Board of Appeals, on August 26, 2019 denying the three requested area variances for setbacks associated with the previous preliminary subdivision plat and preliminary site plan Actions. On November 1, 2019 the Planning Board received revised preliminary subdivision plat and preliminary site plan drawings which were submitted by the Applicant, Delaware River Solar. The Planning Board, at their November 6, 2019 meeting re-opened the public hearings upon the revised preliminary subdivision plat, the revised preliminary site plan map and the continued Special Use Permit Applications. At that meeting the Planning Board accepted the revised Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) and continued the public hearings to December 4, 2019 to allow time for a re-submission of the revised applications to the Ontario County Planning Board for review at their November 13, 2019 meeting and a referral recommendation under the provisions of New York State General Municipal Law, Sections 239-l, -m & -n. At the December 4th meeting, it was determined that the applicant had failed to submit information in time for the Planning Board's review as required by the Board's adopted Rules of Procedure. The Board continued its deliberations upon the environmental record to the December 18, 2019 meeting to enable time to complete the Parts 2 and 3 of the FEAF for these Actions.

The Planning Board, on December 18, 2019 completed Part 2 of the FEAF and based upon the information contained in this Part 2 of the FEAF finds that there is adequate documentation for the Planning Board to amend its' original Determination of Non-Significance, made on August 7, 2019 based upon the following:

1. The Action still involves the construction of three (3) 2,388 megawatt AC solar facilities, for a total of 7 megawatts AC of electricity generation from a total of 21,000 solar panels to be located upon 43 acres of land involving three (3) proposed lots from the original tax map parcel number 010.00-01-037.110.
2. The total project acreage has decreased in size from 63 acres to 43 acres of land, thus resulting in less agricultural land being used for the proposed solar arrays and electric transfer system.
3. The anticipated disturbed area has increased from 1.1 acres to 2.6 acres. This is due to the following changes in design: a) the anticipated acreage of disturbance now included substantial vegetative screening. The proposed screening includes tree planting. Tree planting is recognized by the NYSDEC as a Green Infrastructure Practice; and b) the anticipated disturbance includes increases in access road area and construction staging area, and erosion and sediment controls such as silt fence. Proper planning of construction activities, such as designated staging areas and stabilized access roads, will reduce potential storm water pollution by keeping materials away from sensitive receptors, and ensuring that major traffic routes within the site are on a stabilized surface.

(Evaluation continues on Attachments to this Part 3 Form)

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: Type 1 Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: Part 1 Part 2 Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

The Action, following the Zoning Board of Appeals denials of requested area variances, was amended on November 1, 2019. Revised Preliminary Subdivision Plat and Preliminary Site Plan drawings are now under review by the Planning Board, the designated Lead Agency. All document received between November 1, 2019 and Thursday, December 12, 2019 have been considered as part of the amended SEQR Determination of Significance.

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the
Town of Farmington Planning Board _____ as lead agency that:

A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).


C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action: Delaware River Solar Project, southwest corner of Yellow Mills Road and Fox Road

Name of Lead Agency: Town of Farmington Planning Board

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Edward Hemminger

Title of Responsible Officer: Chairperson

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:  Date: 12/18/19

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer) _____ Date: _____

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Ronald L. Brand, Director of Planning & Development, Town of Farmington

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For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

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