

**PUBLIC HEARING  
FREDONIA TECHNOLOGY INCUBATOR  
201 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 115  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
Via Zoom Video and Teleconference  
October 7, 2020  
11:30 a.m.**

**HANOVER PV, LLC**

Attendance:

Rosemarie Strandburg, CCIDA Executive Assistant

Kristine Morabito, CCIDA Business Development Manager and Hearing Officer

Milan Tyler, Phillips Lytle/CCIDA Counsel

Lisa Rohloff, Silver Creek Central School, Director of Business Administration

Cynthia Sheedy, Hanover Resident

Carol DePasquale, Hanover Resident

Karen Engstrom, Mayville Resident

MS. MORABITO: Good morning. My name is Kristine Morabito and I am a Business Development Manager and duly authorized hearing officer of the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") and I have been authorized to hold a public hearing. Today is October 7, 2020 and the time is now 11:33 a.m. This is a public hearing pursuant to Section 859-a of the New York General Municipal Law, as amended (the "Act"), and is being held from the offices of the Agency, 201 West Third Street, Suite 115, City of Jamestown, County of Chautauqua, New York. Because of the restrictions on meetings and gatherings in effect pursuant to Executive Orders issued by the Governor of the State of New York as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this public hearing is being held via Zoom meeting and telephone conference call rather than a public hearing open for the public to attend in person.

The Agency has received an application for financial assistance in connection with the following matter:

HANOVER PV, LLC, a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and qualified to do business in the State of New York as a foreign limited liability company (the "Company"), presented an application for financial assistance (the "Application") to the Agency, which Application requested that the Agency consider undertaking a project (the "Project") consisting of the following: (A)(1) the acquisition of an interest in an approximately 31.14 acre parcel of land located at 1321 Route 5 & 20, Silver Creek, Town of Hanover, Chautauqua County, New York (collectively, the "Land"), (2) the acquisition, construction, installation, and equipping on the Land of: (i) approximately 17,082 solar photovoltaic modules mounted on a 1-axis tracking steel structure, (ii) four (4) inverters, (iii) a dual-winding transformer, (iv) underground and overhead electrical lines, (v) fencing, and (vi) a system of access roads, parking, landscaping and related improvements to the Land (collectively, the "Improvements"), and (3) the acquisition and installation of certain furniture, fixtures, machinery and equipment necessary for the completion thereof (the "Equipment" and together with the Land and the Improvements, collectively, the "Project Facility"), all of the foregoing for use by the Company and/or its affiliates as an approximately 5 megawatt solar-powered electrical generation facility; (B) the granting of certain "financial assistance" (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the General Municipal Law) with respect to the foregoing in the form of potential exemptions or partial exemptions from real property taxes, mortgage recording taxes and sales and use taxes; and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase), license or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other entity(ies) as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency.

The Company (or such other designated entity(ies)) would receive financial assistance from the Agency in the form of potential exemptions or partial exemptions from real property taxes, mortgage recording taxes and sales and use taxes (collectively, the "Financial Assistance").

Notice of this public hearing was published in *The Observer* on September 26, 2020 and provided to the Chief Executive Officer of each affected tax jurisdiction within which the Project Facility is or will be located by letter dated September 25, 2020.

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide an opportunity for all interested parties to present their views, both orally and in writing, with respect to the granting of the Financial Assistance contemplated by the Agency or the location or nature of the Project. The notice of this public hearing stated that members of the public may view or listen to this public hearing and provide their comments during the public hearing by logging into the Zoom meeting and/or using the dial-in information set forth in the notice of this public hearing. As set forth in the notice of this public hearing, comments may also be submitted to the Agency in writing or electronically at the following email address: [morabitk@co.chautauqua.ny.us](mailto:morabitk@co.chautauqua.ny.us). I'll spell that out. M-o-r-a-as in apple-b-as in boy-i-t-k-at-c-o-dot-chautauqua-c-h-a-u-t-a-u-q-u-a-dot-n-y-dot-u-s. Subject to applicable law, copies of the Application, including an analysis of the costs and benefits of the Project, are available for review by the public online at [www.ccida.com](http://www.ccida.com).

This public hearing is being streamed on the Agency's website in real-time and a recording of this public hearing is being made and will be posted on the Agency's website, all in accordance with Section 857 of the New York General Municipal Law, as amended. In addition, a transcript or summary of this hearing will be made and posted on the Agency's website and such transcript or summary of all comments received by the Agency shall be provided to the Agency's members. Comments received in writing will be also be included in the transcript and any summary of this public hearing.

If any member of the public wishes to make comments via the Zoom meeting or the conference call, I would ask that such person identify themselves and provide their address. I request the patience and cooperation of all participants in allowing each person to finish their comments before anyone else identifies themselves and begins speaking.

Is there anyone wishing to be heard with respect to the Project or the Financial Assistance?

MS. STRANDBURG: Requested identification of additional participant

KAREN ENGSTROM: Karen Engstrom, resident of Mayville, NY

MS. MORABITO: Thank you Rosie. Is there anyone wishing to be heard with respect to the Project or the Financial Assistance?

CYNTHIA SHEEDY: Said she is curious about the financial assistance being requested.

MS. MORABITO: Advised that the application with full details regarding tax abatements being requested is available at [www.ccida.com](http://www.ccida.com).

KAREN ENGSTROM: Requested name of the parent company of operation proposing project.

MS. MORABITO: It is Hanover PV, LLC

KAREN ENGSTROM: Clarified requesting name of parent company- did not see it listed in the announcement.

MS. MORABITO: Responded that this company information is included in the Application posted at [www.ccida.com](http://www.ccida.com), and the name of the parent entity is RIC Development, LLC.

KAREN ENGSTROM: Stated on behalf of a number of people that the IDA has a purpose of provide long-range local jobs for local companies. Said this is a large "out of the area" company, and jobs will be very few. They do not think it is a good idea to give financial incentives from a county as poor as Chautauqua County that do not provide jobs and long term economic and environmental benefit to our region. Given the IDA's purpose they do not think it is justified in this case. They would like to remind CCIDA that the European Energy Commission has stated that any base load power generation above the 35<sup>th</sup> parallel that includes solar ends up with a net energy loss. At the 42<sup>nd</sup> parallel there is not enough sun and the ultimate result is a net loss. There is more energy put into building this project than there will ever be realized as an output.

MILAN TYLER: Asked Karen Engstrom to clarify if she had referenced the 42<sup>nd</sup> parallel. Informed all participants that notes are being taken and will be transcribed and provided to the Board.

KAREN ENGSTROM: Will send links. Referenced Michael Moore film "Planet of the Humans" in which they show how solar panels are made, what it does to the countries where they come from, and how much material is very hazardous. Quoted industrial engineers statements about solar.

MS. MORABITO: Is there anyone else wishing to be heard with respect to the Project or the Financial Assistance?

MS. MORABITO: Hearing none, it is now 11:47 a.m. Let the record show that, other than comments submitted in writing, no other members of the public have indicated a desire to comment with respect to the Project or the Financial Assistance. I therefore call this hearing to a close.

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Respectfully submitted by: Kristine Morabito, CCIDA Business Development Manager

## **Strandburg, Rosemarie**

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**From:** Morabito, Kristine  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2020 2:02 PM  
**To:** Strandburg, Rosemarie  
**Subject:** FW: Hanover PV LLC Public Hearing Script  
**Attachments:** Public Hearing Transcript Hanover PV LLC 10-7-20.doc

Rosie,

Could you please scan this updated doc with the attached email comment and send back to me?

Kristine

**From:** Chautauqua Updates <kengstrom138@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 7, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** Morabito, Kristine <morabitk@co.chautauqua.ny.us>  
**Subject:** comment re Hanover solar- please forward to IDA board

Dear IDA staff,

Thank you for taking my comment in the public hearing OCT 7 2020, regarding the proposed Hanover utility scale solar project.

Below is a letter from members of the community who are concerned that the IDA is considering providing tax incentives to an out-of-the-region corporation that will provide few, if any, local jobs and will have negative environmental and economic impacts. Please see below the data with links to information not given by the solar proponents. Please forward this letter to members of the IDA Board.

Thank You.

Sincerely, Karen Engstrom

## **Regarding Future Utility Scale Solar Project Concerns**

October 6, 2020

Dear Chautauqua County Planning Board,

As residents of Chautauqua County we wish to express our concern and opposition to plans for any industrial scale solar facility in our region. A video that explains the impact of industrial solar on our communities and on where the components originate is Michal Moore/Jeff Gibbs' "**Planet of the Humans**" a critical look at the environmental and economic devastation caused by wind, solar and biofuel. <https://www.bitchute.com/video/4yexf7R06KWC/>

According to Ozzie Zehner (UCLA energy policy engineer), industrial solar "Relies on the most toxic industrial processes ever created. You use more energy to create a solar

facility than you get back – Better off burning fossil fuels in the first place rather than playing pretend. Producing symbolic power has seduced well-meaning environmentalists into making bad decisions.”

-----**Commissioner Phillip Moeller, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** said, “You must back up solar power with base load gas, coal, nuclear so the grid system won’t collapse. It is not efficient and ramping up back up causes wear and tear on those systems.”

-----**European Energy Commission:** “Any attempt to adopt an Energy Transition strategy by substitution of intermittent for base load power generation above the 35th parallel or further north will result in unavoidable net energy loss. This applies both to the technologies considered, to the available data from the original study and to newer data from recent studies.”

-----**Ferroni and Hopkirk solar study:** Above the 35th parallel industrial solar will produce 78% of the power it took to build the project over the life of the solar project – a net loss of 12%. (New York is located at the 42nd parallel.)

-----**EPA data:** “Solar panels are considered “*hazardous*” waste by the Environmental Protection Agency... Currently the only way for solar panels to be considered universal waste, a less onerous classification, is for individual panels to undergo expensive and time-consuming testing costing as much as \$1000 per panel.”

----**What’s Wrong with Wind and Solar?** <https://www.prageru.com/video/whats-wrong-with-wind-and-solar/>

**California’s Green Blackouts** If you eliminate fossil fuels, power shortages are inevitable.

By The Editorial Board Wall Street Journal Aug. 19, 2020

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/californias-green-blackouts-11597879215>

-----**Forbes (May 23, 2018)** If Solar Panels Are so Clean, Why Do They Produce So Much Toxic Waste? <https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/05/23/if-solar-panels-are-so-clean-why-do-they-produce-so-much-toxic-waste/#6f0671bc121c>

“Contrary to previous assumptions, pollutants such as lead or carcinogenic cadmium can be almost completely washed out of the fragments of solar modules over a period of several months by rainwater.”

----**California Independent System Operator (CAISO) August 17, 2020** -CEO Steve Berber: “For those of you who think we can just use our reserves, you are wrong. You are trading the loss of 3000 megawatts for the collapse of the entire system of



California and perhaps the entire West. [...] “ (-re consequences of having intermittent solar and wind.)

Issues inherent in large solar operations also include: wetland, wildlife impacts; battery explosions; toxic fires; glare/glint; noise from inverters and transformers; EMF, sterilization/ destruction of vital soil microbes; soil compaction; leaching of chemicals and heavy metals; herbicide use; heat island effect; property devaluation, fragmentation of essential habitat corridors, and lack of viable recycling/toxic waste are valid concerns with utility- scale solar.

New York state Agriculture and Markets considers both solar and wind projects a permanent conversion from agricultural to industrial land. Upstate will soon experience an unprecedented loss of green spaces, wetlands and farmland due to the mandated, massive sprawl of low power density, wind and solar projects.

Cuomo and the Public Service Commission must use common sense and place solar projects in brownfields, landfills, on commercial buildings, abandoned parking lots etc., in downstate demand centers; namely New York City and Long Island, which also consume the most fossil fuel. Why foolishly sacrifice rural Upstate when we already utilize 90 percent emissions-free energy and have significant bottle-neck transmission constraints?

Please don't allow our beautiful western New York to become a blighted dead zone.

Karen Engstrom, Roy Harvey, Mayville; Joni Riggle, Sinclairville; Lynne Bedford, Arkwright Town Board member; Dr. Mark Twichell, Fredonia; Patti Greenstien, Cassadaga; Shelly Spacht, chair planning board 716 498-3369 [shelspacht@aol.com](mailto:shelspacht@aol.com)

Jim Spacht assistant fire chief 716 269-4754 [spacht@fairpoint.net](mailto:spacht@fairpoint.net)

Mark Smith, fire chief 716 736-9297 [firechief@hotmail.com](mailto:firechief@hotmail.com)

Rob Galbraith, president of fire district 412 657-1144 [robb43@yahoo.com](mailto:robb43@yahoo.com)

Julie Rice, aeronautical engineer 814 460-6151 [yolliebb44@gmail.com](mailto:yolliebb44@gmail.com)

Shirley and Chuck Dunlop 716 223-0171 [shirleydunlop@hotmail.com](mailto:shirleydunlop@hotmail.com)

For information on industrial solar and protective solar laws [wiseenergy.org](http://wiseenergy.org)

