

# COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC BENEFITS

**Cider Solar Farm will be a good neighbor supplying clean, affordable, renewable energy and an array of benefits for the community.**

## Community Benefits

- Cider Solar Farm will create a new revenue stream the community can use for services including the local fire department, ambulance company, and library.
- The Project will make minimal use of community services.
- Hundreds of acres of conservation easements and trails.



## Funds for Local Government & Schools

- The Project will generate long-term dedicated revenue for the town, county, and schools.
- Millions of dollars in payments and contributions.
- New revenues will be significantly higher than the current tax revenue generated by the land on which the Project will be sited.

## Economic Benefits

### Employment Opportunities

- Hundreds of construction jobs will be created during peak construction.
- Local businesses and workers will be contracted for engineering, surveying, site preparation, construction and ongoing operation and maintenance support.

### Regional Economic Impact

- Hecate Energy's investment will result in tens of millions of dollars in positive economic stimulus including jobs created during construction and operations that will benefit local and regional building trades, restaurants, lodging, gas stations, and stores.



# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

**Hecate Energy's environmental philosophy is based on protecting our air, earth and water with clean energy. We have a responsibility to the planet to limit environmental impacts.**

## Maintenance and Cleaning

- If solar panels are broken or damaged through acts of nature or otherwise, there are no materials that will leak out or pollute the air or ground. Hecate Energy will be responsible for any repairs or maintenance.
- Panels do not require washing with chemicals. To the extent washing is needed, which is expected to be infrequently due to regular rainfall, distilled water will be used.



## Decommissioning

- When the Project stops producing power, the site will be cleared of Project components and the panels will be properly disposed of.
- The majority of the materials used to build the Project will be steel, aluminum and glass, which allow for recycling by Hecate Energy. The land will be restored to its pre-existing condition.



# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

**Potential impacts are rigorously studied in the permitting process administered by New York State in conjunction with local stakeholders. Issues pertaining to community, wildlife or wetland impacts are addressed as part of this comprehensive process.**

## Visual

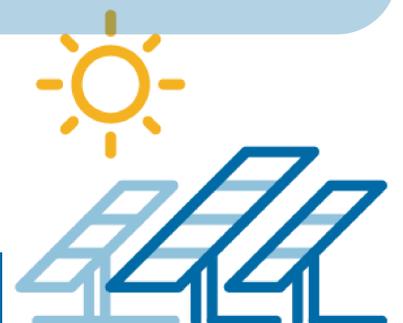
- A common misconception about solar photovoltaic (PV) panels is that they inherently cause or create glare. Light absorption rather than reflection is the central function of solar PV panels. By design, glare is minimized because any light reflected is no longer available to be converted into electricity.
- Solar PV panels are constructed of dark-colored (usually blue or black) materials and are covered with anti-reflective coatings. Modern PV panels reflect as little as 2% of incoming sunlight, about the same as water and less than soil or even wood shingles.
- Hecate Energy is committed to working with the adjacent landowners and the community to ensure minimal visual impact occurs. A vegetative landscape plan will be designed to screen the Project from adjacent areas.
- Glare impacts are not anticipated for the Project.

## Wildlife

- Hecate Energy is focused on preserving wildlife habitat.
- The Project will undertake environmental surveys to minimize adverse impacts to wildlife and will mitigate any adverse impacts of the Project.

## Additional Studies Conducted

- Land use, agriculture & water resources, wetlands, soils, cultural resources, noise, transportation and socioeconomics are all studies that will be conducted by professionals hired by Hecate Energy.
- These studies will be included in the Section 94-c application and the results will be made available to the public.



# WATER & SOIL

**Hecate Energy will implement best management practices (BMPs) during construction to minimize impacts to water and soil. It is vital to ongoing operations of the Project that drainage be maintained.**

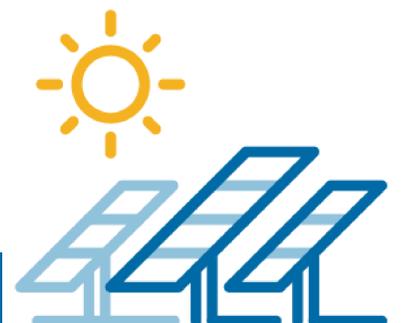
## Stormwater, Soil, and Crop Pollination

- The Project will not use fertilizers within the operations area of the site.
- By using the right seed mix, solar sites can provide significant benefits related to soil regeneration and crop pollination.
- Establishment of native plants and/or pollinator species improves the soil's organic matter over the 35- to 40-year life of the Project, allowing microorganisms and soil fauna to recover after years of regular farming.



### *Did you know?*

*As compared to conventional energy sources, solar energy does not deplete local water resources because solar photovoltaic cells do not rely on water to generate power.*



# CLIMATE CHANGE

## New York State has set some of the nation's most ambitious goals on fighting climate change.

- The new law requires electric utilities to procure 70% of the state's energy from renewable sources by 2030.



### New York's Emission Reduction Goals

New York generated about 206 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions in 2016

New York has considerable work to do to achieve the targets of the Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act (CLCPA)

#### CLCPA goals:

**40%** emission reduction by 2030

**85%** emission reduction by 2050

Remaining 15% of emissions would be offset to make the state carbon neutral

## Hecate Energy actively supports clean, renewable energy to meet the goals of the changing landscape of electricity markets in New York and beyond.

- The Cider Solar Farm will provide clean, renewable electricity that helps consumers save money on their utility bills as it offsets carbon emissions.
- The Project team is paying particular attention to the facility's design, balancing our society's clean energy goals with interest to the local community.
- The Project will offset over 400,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, equivalent to taking 89,000 average cars off the road.

*"We acknowledge these goals are extremely ambitious. They need to be in order to meet the level of greenhouse gas reduction scientists tell us is necessary to avert the worst impacts of climate change. And we acknowledge there is not a playbook we can pull off the shelf for how to decarbonize the world's 13th-largest economy. New York is committed to writing that playbook, to not only having a vision but backing it up with concrete plans."*

*Alicia Barton,  
former NYSERDA CEO  
(New York State Energy Research & Development Authority)*



# VISUALIZATIONS

Existing Conditions



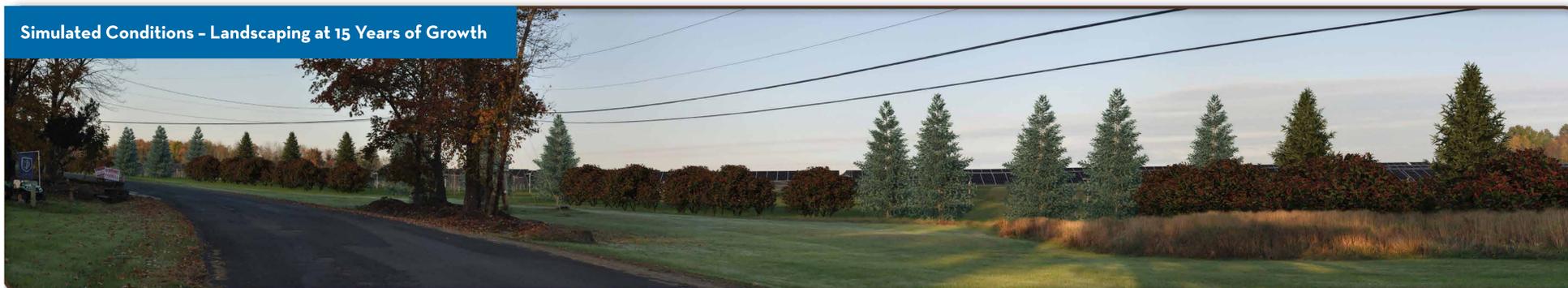
Simulated Conditions - No Landscaping



Simulated Conditions - Landscaping at 5 Years of Growth



Simulated Conditions - Landscaping at 15 Years of Growth



As a part of stakeholder engagement and permitting requirements, Hecate Energy will prepare visual simulations for the Cider Solar Farm from local vantage points.

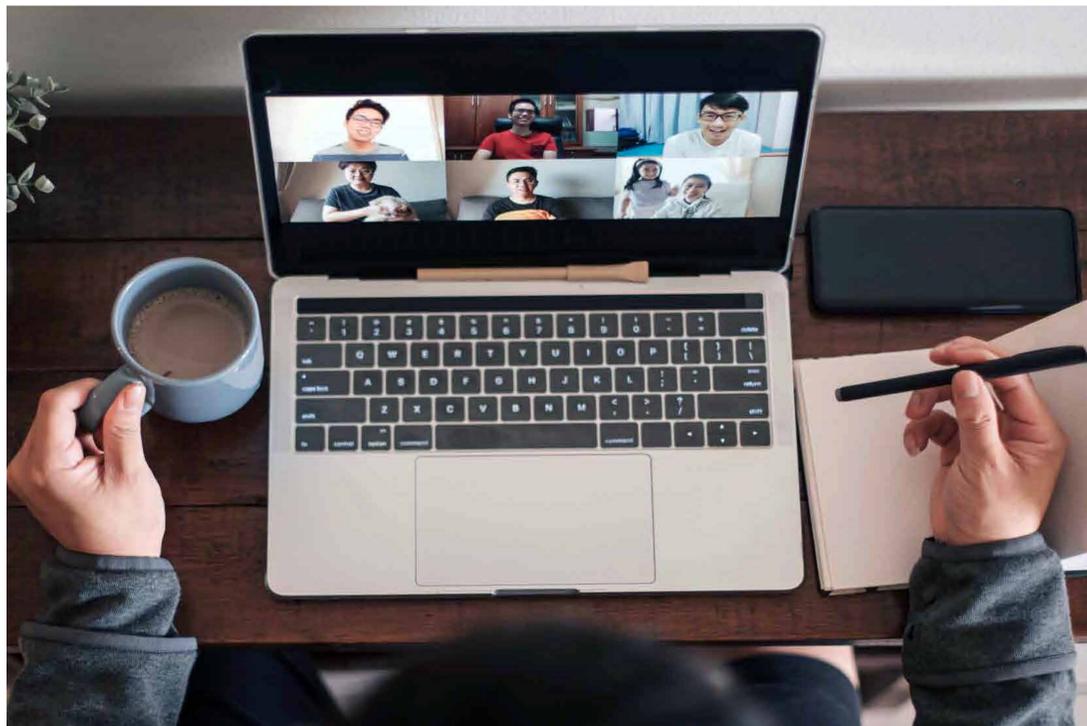
**Contact the Project team:**  
[CiderSolar@HecateEnergy.com](mailto:CiderSolar@HecateEnergy.com)  
(833) 529-6597  
[www.CiderSolarFarm.com](http://www.CiderSolarFarm.com)

← *Simulated images of another New York solar farm by Hecate Energy*



# VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

Given State restrictions on the number of people allowed together, we are hosting a **virtual Informational Open House** in lieu of the regular in-person event to provide the widest possible range of community access to the Hecate Energy project team and Cider Solar Farm information.



**Do you have additional questions about the Cider Solar Farm?**

***We would like to hear from you.***

Please join the Hecate Energy team

**Wednesday, December 16th**

at

**1:00 pm - 3:00 pm or 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

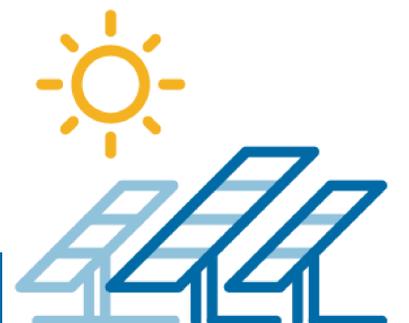
for the panel discussion portion of the Open House via **Zoom** to answer questions, provide updates and general discussion of the Facility.

Both sessions will cover the same topics.

We will be online to answer your questions, provide updates and generally discuss the Facility.

For the invitation, please visit

[www.CiderSolarFarm.com/OpenHouse](http://www.CiderSolarFarm.com/OpenHouse)



CIDER SOLAR FARM

**THANK YOU**

**Thank You for Your Interest in the  
Cider Solar Farm**

