



Elizabeth L. Partee, Town Supervisor  
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April 14, 2023

Dear Town of Tyre Residents, Friends & Neighbors,

As promised, in the interests of transparency and community involvement, there is a development in the town that the Town Board and I feel is important enough to send this letter. On April 12, 2023, Delaware River Solar (DRS) notified the Town via email that they are proposing a 128MWac solar project through application to NYSERDA under their renewable energy program called RESRFP22-1. The conceptual layout for this proposed project is enclosed. The proposed project is sited on approximately 675 acres of private land in Tyre, NY, with a substation also proposed in Seneca Falls, NY to connect the project to the regional utility grid.

DRS initially approached former Town Officials on April 28, 2021 to introduce their conceptual plan to build a large-scale solar energy system in the Town of Tyre. DRS also discussed their proposed project with the previous administration at the July 15, 2021 Tyre Town Board Meeting. Per the email received on April 12, 2023, the project appears to have been scaled back to 675 acres from the original proposal of 1,600 acres.

The first contact from DRS with the present town administration was in early February 2023 via a phone call to introduce themselves and notify the town of their intention to attend and present at our March or April Town Board meeting. As administrations changed in January 2022, it felt prudent to research the history of any communication associated with the proposed project. No contact was found between DRS and any former or present Town Official from July 2021 until February 2023. The email received on April 12<sup>th</sup> was the first communication since that phone call 2+ months ago.

The Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), created by the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act serves as the central forum for the siting and permitting of new large-scale renewable energy facilities. This effectively removed solar projects greater than 25MW from Town and Planning Board oversight.

DRS' Community Engagement Plan states that they are preparing to apply to ORES later this year (Fall 2023). ORES regulations require the applicant to consult with the host community and create opportunities for local input. We need your help and attendance to ensure that the needs of our Town are heard and become part of the public record, especially those community members who may be adversely impacted by the siting of a proposed major renewable energy facility.

The best interests of our residents have been and will continue to be at the forefront of the Tyre Town Board. For updates on this proposed project, please visit the Town website ([tyreny.com](http://tyreny.com)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/TyreNewYork](https://facebook.com/TyreNewYork)). We also encourage every interested person to attend our Town Board Meetings held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday every month at 6:30pm. At the beginning of every Town Board meeting, we offer Open Privilege of the Floor for residents to present their thoughts and ideas for consideration of the Town Board. Please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or any other Town Board member with your questions and/or comments. We genuinely want to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth L. Partee  
Town Supervisor  
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