



Appendix 2-A

Community Engagement Plan

Chateaugay Wind Repowering Project
Matter No. 23-03031



Community Engagement Plan (CEP)

Valcour Chateaugay
Windpark

NYSERDA Tier 1 RFP
2022 Bid Proposal

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List of Acronyms and Glossary Terms

Acronym	Definition
AHJ	Authority Having Jurisdiction
CES	Clean Energy Standard
CLCPA	Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act
GWh	Gigawatt hours
HCA	Host Community Agreements
MW	Megawatt
NYISO	New York Independent System Operator
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSERDA	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
NYSDOT	New York State Department of Transportation
NYS DPS	New York State Department of Public Service
NYS DPS DMM	NYS DPS Document Matter Master
OPRHP	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
PILOT	Payments in Lieu of Taxes
POC	Point(s) of Contact
RECs	Renewable Energy Credits
RES	Renewable Energy Standard
RFP	Request for Proposal
SEP	New York State Energy Plan
SEQR(A)	State Environmental Quality Review (Act)
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office(r)
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service

Glossary Term	Definition
Proposer	Chateaugay Windpark, LLC, a subsidiary of The AES Corporation, Inc. (AES).
Bid Facility	The limit of disturbance (LOD) that will be utilized for construction and operation of the Facility, which totals about 267 acres on the Project Parcels in the Town of Chateaugay, New York.
Project Area	The acreage of the Project Parcels under agreement between the Proposer and the Landowner, in which the Proposer has performed diligence, surveys, and assessments in support of Facility design and layout.
Town	Town of Chateaugay, Franklin County, New York.
Chateaugay Windpark	The currently operating Chateaugay Windpark, as it has existed since 2009. ¹
Repower	The full process of realizing the Bid Facility, beginning with Pre-Award and Development, ending with commercial operation date (commencement) of post-repower Operations.
Retrofit	The retrofit process of the Bid Facility will include removal of the existing rotor, hub, drivetrain, and generator, and installation of the new components and refurbished generator. Minor improvements to roads and turbine pads will be completed on a case-by-case basis. Existing components will be transported off of participating landowner's property and recycled or disposed.

¹ Within this Community Engagement Plan, wherever the 'AHJs', 'School Districts', 'area', 'local office', '1-mile radius', 'participating landowners', 'neighbors' etc. are mentioned, it should be understood that these entities and stakeholders are the same for the proposed Bid Facility as for the existing Chateaugay Windpark.

1. Key Contacts

Valcour Chateaugay Windpark, LLC (“the Proposer”) has identified the following key contacts as of Q1 2023. The Proposer is working with ORES to determine the applicability of Section 94-c regulations for repowering projects. Should the Bid Facility proceed through the 94-c permit process, the Permitting Authority is the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES). The Town of Chateaugay is the local agency with whom the Proposer must consult. Should the Bid Facility proceed through the SEQR process, the Permitting Authority is the Town of Chateaugay. The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and taxing School District have been identified. The names, contact information, and tenure of the Locally Elected Officials are listed below. We have also included other Permitting Agencies and Representatives, Emergency Responders, and elected State Officials.

Authority Having Jurisdiction

The AHJ is the Town of Chateaugay Town Board. For the purposes of this Community Engagement Plan, the AHJs for the Chateaugay Windpark are the municipalities that includes the Bid Facility Area – the Town of Chateaugay, Franklin County, New York. Local elected officials for the Town are listed in the table below. Contact information was pulled from the 2022 Franklin County Roster of Officials. The Town of Chateaugay office address is 191 East Main Street Chateaugay, NY 12920.

The town councils representing the host communities within the Bid Facility Area were identified by review of town and county boundary maps and all council members are considered stakeholders. Points of contact (POC) for the AHJ’s will be the Town Supervisors and the Town Clerks. Bid Facility notices will be addressed to the Town Supervisors, care of the POC and the appropriate Clerk, with language clearly stating the expectation that the notices and information should be distributed to the full council. In the case that the Town Supervisor has an unpublished email address as of the date a notice is being issued, the notice is emailed to the Supervisor, care of the Town Clerk (in addition to a paper copy mailed notice).

In Q4 2021, Bid Facility representatives met with local officials to introduce themselves, discuss the transition of ownership of the Chateaugay Windpark from Cogentrix to AES, and the Bid Facility repowering plan.

The Proposer is currently in legal proceedings with the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) to determine if ORES will be the AHJ for the Bid Facility moving forward. A final determination from this legal proceeding is expected no earlier than April 2023.

School District

Chateaugay Windpark is located in Franklin County, New York. Please see below the contact information for the Chateaugay Central School System. The BEDS code is 160801040000. Codes are according to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

Name	Title and Office	Tenure	Contact	Address
Loretta Fowler	Superintendent	Appointed by School Board 2013.	(518) 497-6611 l.fowler@chateaugaycsd.org	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Lois Green	CCSD School Board President	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2024.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Courtney Leonard	CCSD School Board Vice President	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2024.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Jennifer Stansberry	CCSD School Board Member	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2025.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Ryan La Bare	CCSD School Board Member	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2024.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Valerie Dalton	CCSD School Board Member	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2023.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Michelle Breen	CCSD School Board Member	Elected – 3 years, end term 6/30/2025.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Austin Hodges	CCSD School Board Member	Appointed – 1-year unexpired term, end term 6/30/2023.	(518) 497-6611	Chateaugay Central School PO Box 904 Chateaugay, NY 12920

Locally Elected Officials

Name	Title and Office	Tenure ²	Contact	Address
Phyllis Lemay	Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/23.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Don Bilow	Town Supervisor, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/23.	(518) 497-3126 Dbilow1@gmail.com	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Lori Rowe	Director of Finance, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/23.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Jim Dumont	Code Enforcement Officer, Town of Chateaugay	Appointed, to be renewed or terminated at discrepancy of Supervisor/Board.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920

² Some elected officials have terms that ended in 2022. The Proposer is monitoring town websites to determine who the position is filled by following 2023 local elections.

Name	Title and Office	Tenure ²	Contact	Address
Jim Gonyo	Town Assessor, Town of Chateaugay	Appointed, to be renewed or terminated at discrepancy of Supervisor/Board.	(518) 497-6931 (518) 578-5484	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Marie A Cook	Town Justice, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, End of term 12/31/22.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Roger Labombard	Highway Supervisor, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/22.	(518) 497-6067	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
William Trombly	Board Member, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Kirby Selkirk	Board Member, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Scott Cowen	Board Member, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 4 years, end of term 12/31/23.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Jim Harrigon	Board Member, Town of Chateaugay	Elected 2022, 1-year unexpired term, end of term 12/31/23.	(518) 497-6931	191 East Main Street PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
Edward Lockwood	Chairman, Franklin County	Appointed chairman 1 year, end term as chair expires 1/1/24.	(518) 481-1642 edward.lockwood@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Andrea Dumas	Vice Chairperson, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 524-9514 andrea.dumas@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Andrea Dumas	Majority Leader, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 524-9514 andrea.dumas@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Paul Lauzon	Minority Leader, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 358-2396 paul.lauzon@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Gregory Janisewski	Member of the Board of Legislature, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 497-3240 gregory.janisewski@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Justus Martin	Member of the Board of Legislature, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	518-497-3240 gregory.janisewski@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Nedd Sparks	Member of the Board of Legislature, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 524-2925 nedd.sparks@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953
Malinda "Lindy" Ellis	Member of the Board of Legislature, Franklin County	Elected 3 years, end of term 12/31/25.	(518) 354-3103 melinda.ellis@franklincounty.ny.gov	355 West Main Street Malone NY 12953

Permitting & Regulatory Agencies and Representatives

Department	Contact	Address / POC
United States Fish and Wildlife (USFWS)	(607) 753-9334	New York Field Office 3817 Luker Road Cortland, NY 13045

Department	Contact	Address / POC
United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	(518) 266-6360	Upstate Regulatory Field Office ATTN: CENAN-OP-RU, Bldg.10 3 rd Floor North 1 Buffington Street, Watervliet Arsenal Watervliet, NY 12189
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) - Division of Water Bureau of Water Permits	(518) 402-8233 DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov Contact for Bureau of Water Permits, Toni Cioffi: (518) 402-8109 Toni.cioffi@dec.ny.gov	Toni Cioffi 625 Broadway 4th Floor Albany, NY 12233
NYSDEC - Region 5 Wildlife	Phone: (518) 897-1234 Fax: (518) 897-1394 Info.R5@dec.ny.gov	1115 State Route 86 P.O. Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296 Erin Burns Regional Permit Administrator NYSDEC Division of Environmental Permits 1115 NYS Route 86 PO Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977
NYSDEC - Natural Heritage Program	(518) 402-8935 (518) 402-8927 achaloux@esf.edu	Andrea Chaloux Environmental Review Specialist 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Basil Seggos, Commissioner	(518) 402-9188 Sita.crounse@dec.ny.gov	ATTN: Sita Crounse, Senior Attorney CENTRAL OFFICE 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Richard A. Ball, Commissioner	(518) 457-6468 Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov	ATTN: Tara Wells, Senior Attorney 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235
NYS Department of Health Mary T. Bassett, Commissioner	(518) 473-4632 William.sacks@health.ny.gov	ATTN: William G. Sacks, Senior Attorney, Bureau of Program Counsel Division of Legal Affairs 2468 Corning Tower Albany, NY 12237
NYS Department of Public Service Rory M. Christian, Chair & CEO	(518) 486-1966 Noreena.chaudari@dps.ny.gov	ATTN: Noreena Chaudari, Assistant Counsel Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223-1350
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	(518) 268-2187 Derek.Rhode@parks.ny.gov	Derek Rhode P.O. Box 189 Waterford, NY 12188
Office of Renewable Energy Siting	(518) 473-4590 general@ores.ny.gov	ATTN: Application Review c/o OGS Mailroom Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242
County Department of Real Property Taxes Office Franklin County Government Center	(518) 565-4760	355 West Main Street Suite 251 Malone, NY 12953
NYS Department of Transportation Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner	(518) 457-4422 Janice.mclachlan@dot.ny.gov	ATTN: Janice McLachlan, Division of Legal Affairs 50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232

Emergency Responders

Department	Contact	Address
JoEllen Saumier, Chairperson of the fire District Commissioners Chateaugay Brainardsville Fire District (CBFD)	518-497-6931 cbfdfiredistrict@gmail.com	191 East Main Street, PO Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920
New York State Major Ruben A. Oliver, State Troopers - Troop Commander	518-897-2000	1097 NYS Route 86, Box 100 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0100
Franklin County Sherriff's Office	518-483-3304	45 Bare Hill Rd, Malone, NY 12953

State Officials

Name	Title and Office	Tenure	Contact	Address
The Honorable Kathy Hochul	Governor of New York State	Appointed August 2021 to fill vacated seat. Elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	Office Phone: (518) 474-8390	NY State Capitol Building State Street and Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12224
The Honorable Antonio Delgado	New York State Lieutenant Governor	Appointed May 2022 to fill vacated seat. Elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	Office Phone: (518) 474-8390	NY State Capitol Building State Street and Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12224
Thomas P. Dinapoli	New York State Comptroller	Elected 4 years. Re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	NYC Office: (212) 383-1600 Albany Office: (518) 474-4044	NYC Office: 59 Maiden Lane New York, NY 10038 Albany Office: 110 State Street Albany, NY 12236
Letitia James	New York Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General	Elected 4 years. Re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	General Helpline: (800) 771-7755	NY State Capitol Building State Street and Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12224
Daniel G Stec	Senator, New York State Senate District 45	2-years, re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2024.	District Office: (518) 743-0968 Albany Office: (518) 455-2811	District Office: 5 Warren St., Suite 3, Glens Falls, NY 12801 Albany Office: Legislative Office Building 188 State St., Room 408, Albany, NY 12247
Billy Jones	Assemblymember, New York State District 115	2-years, re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2024.	District Office: (518) 562-1986 Albany Office: (518) 455-5943	District Office: 202 U.S. Oval Plattsburgh, NY 12903 Albany Office: Legislative Office Building 551 Albany, NY 12248
Houtan Moaveni	Executive Director, ORES	Hired in 2020 as a state employee.	(518) 473-4590 General@ORES.ny.gov	c/o OGS Mailroom Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242

Local Libraries

Local libraries serving parcels in the Bid Facility Area were identified by review of county tax maps and online research and are listed below. Local libraries were provided Bid Facility notices, which they make accessible to the broader community.

Department	Contact	Address
Chateaugay Memorial Library	(518) 497-0400 ChatLib@gmail.com	4 John Street PO BOX 10 Chateaugay, NY 12920

2. Outreach Efforts & Strategies

Bid Facility Background

Chateaugay Windpark is a 106.5 MW, 71-turbine wind facility, constructed in 2009 by Noble Environmental Power. The Windpark, part of a six-Windpark portfolio, was acquired by AES from Cogentrix in November 2021, with the intention of pursuing a partial repower. The Chateaugay Windpark has been in operation for 14 years, therefore some of the equipment is nearing end of life. A partial repower will entail replacing the turbine drivetrains, rotors, and blades of each turbine in the Windpark, thus resulting in an extended life of up to 30 years and continuation of the economic benefits associated with Windpark. The repower will also provide increased energy production.

This facility reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated 135,705 metric tons each year, producing enough electricity to power approximately 24,600 homes annually. Repowering will ensure continued, significant economic benefits to the local community via HCA (Host Community Agreements) and PILOT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes) agreements within the Limit of Disturbance (LOD) of the Town of Chateaugay.

The Proposer began conducting community engagement activities during the pre-award and development phase of the repower starting in November 2021 and will continue public involvement activities throughout the development, retrofitting and post-repower operations phases. To date the proposer has hosted one community engagement event for the Bid Facility: a community meeting.

The AES office serving the Clinton, Ellenburg, Chateaugay and Altona Windparks is located in Churubusco, NY where 28 full-time staff are employed. Positions include but are not limited to Wind turbine technicians, Health & Safety Technical Services, Engineering, Field Services, Planner/Scheduler, Strategic Sourcing and Operations & Maintenance.

Permit Application Status

The Proposer is expecting a decision from ORES in April 2023 regarding the permitting process for the Repower Bid Facility. Should the Bid Facility be moved to the 94-c permitting process under ORES, then the Office of Renewable Energy Siting will become the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). In this case, the Proposer will comply with all 94-c community engagement requirements.

While waiting for ORES determination, the Proposer is continuing the current public involvement plans and activities. The Proposer is currently preparing an SUP amendment and FEAF to be submitted to the Town of Chateaugay, under SEQRA. Should the Bid Facility move forward with the SEQRA process, this application will be submitted in Q3 2023.

Description of Stakeholder List

The stakeholder list includes a variety of individuals and parties with interest in the Bid Facility. These stakeholders are described and listed in Section 1 of this Community Engagement Plan. A summary description of the stakeholder list is included below.

Community Members

Within this Community Engagement Plan, “community members” include the participating landowners and Bid Facility neighbors (adjacent landowners and other residents/businesses within 1-mile radius of the boundaries of the Bid Facility Area). The community members stakeholder group also includes any residents of the local community who reach out to the Proposer and have an interest in the progression of the Bid Facility.

Local Agencies

Local affected agencies are also stakeholders. The Proposer been in contact with local agencies including the Town of Chateaugay officials, NYS officials, the local school district, local first responders and fire departments, adjacent municipalities, utility providers and local interest groups.

In addition to local consultation efforts, the Proposer has consulted with state agencies on several occasions during the pre-application process, including ORES; NYSDEC; New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM); and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP).

The Proposer continues to identify and work with key local stakeholder groups, such as Chateaugay Central School, Chateaugay Rotary, and Franklin Essex Hamilton Board of Cooperative Education Services (FEH BOCES). Should other key stakeholder groups come to our attention, the Proposer will initiate outreach and engagement with them, and will add them to our stakeholder list.

Methods of Communication

The Proposer utilizes a variety of communication channels to disseminate information about the Bid Facility including via the Bid Facility Website, mailed notifications, and notices in local papers. When possible, the permit application materials are made available at key locations in the local community. Further details on methods of communication are described below.

- Postcard notifications providing specific Facility information and upcoming meeting dates are mailed to the master stakeholder list two weeks before events.
- Information regarding public meetings for the bid facility can be found via the Project website, notices in local papers, and the town board website.
- Physical copies of permit applications are made available at key locations in the local host communities of bid facilities.
- The Service List for notification of the community events held on December 8, 2022, went out to fifteen local offices and agencies.

Postcards are mailed to stakeholders to notify them about upcoming community meetings. Updates will continue to be shared on the Bid Facility website throughout the repowering process. Community meeting materials, such as slide presentations, are also made available on the Bid Facility website.

Updates will continue to be shared on the Bid Facility website throughout the repowering process. Community meeting materials, such as slide presentations, are also made available on the Bid Facility website. When stakeholders contact the Chateaugay Wind Repower team via phone, the Proposer responds with a return phone call within two business days.

In the table below is a summary of the Proposer's primary channels of communication. Please see Section 9 of this document for a comprehensive list of contact information that stakeholders can use to contact the Proposer to share feedback. The Proposer looks forward to continuing communication and public involvement throughout the repowering process.

Bid Facility Email	chateaugaywind@aes.com
Bid Facility Website	www.aes.com/chateaugay-wind
AES NY Phone #	(866) 757-7697
Local AES Office Address	23 Lost Nation Rd. Churubusco, NY 12923, United States
Town Board Website	chateaugayny.org

The Proposer takes feedback from stakeholders and the public seriously. We are in the process of compiling a Frequently Asked Questions document that includes questions we have received from: submissions through our website, the Project email address, our phone line, 1-on-1 conversations and our public engagement events. We will be posting this document on the Project website by Q2 in 2023. We accept all feedback and try to respond in a timely manner.

Outreach Efforts – Pre-Award & Development

In addition to regular communication with local officials in the host communities, the Proposer has conducted community engagement and outreach events for the Bid Facility. Some of these outreach efforts are described below.

Date and Time	Community and Stakeholder Engagement Event	Location
December 7, 2022 5:30pm – 7:30pm	Chateaugay Windpark Landowner Dinner Repower Community Meeting Informational Boards	American Legion Post 875, 80 West Maine Street Chateaugay, NY
December 8, 2022 1pm - 3pm	Chateaugay Windpark Community Meeting Community Meeting Invitation	American Legion Post 875, 80 West Maine Street Chateaugay, NY
December 8, 2022 5pm - 7pm	Chateaugay Windpark Community Meeting Community Meeting Invitation Chateaugay Wind Project Layout	American Legion Post 875, 80 West Maine Street Chateaugay, NY

At community engagement events, it is customary practice that the Proposer introduces Bid Facility representatives, informs attendees about the Bid Facility, and answers questions. In addition, the Proposer solicits feedback from community members and members of local agencies. The Proposer publishes all notices of public engagement events in a timely manner.

Community Engagement Event Details

Community engagement events offer valuable opportunities for the Proposer to meet with local stakeholders. The purpose of these events is to introduce AES and the Bid Facility to the host community, to inform the community about the repowering process and next steps, and to inform the community about how to get involved. The Proposer makes a thorough effort to notify stakeholders and encourage attendance and participation.

Chateaugay Windpark Community Meeting – December 8, 2022

Displayed on posterboards throughout the room were project overview topics such as “Chateaugay Repower,” “Retrofitting Process” and more with AES representatives and subject matter experts available to answer questions at each station. Other Project overview topics included timeline, specs, relevant maps, community benefits and Project contact information. All questions were recorded for potential inclusion in “Frequently Asked Questions.” Contact information was collected for questions needing follow-up. Postcard invitations with the meeting description, times and RSVP information were sent out to community homes and businesses within the project areas. Project posterboards can be found on the Chateaugay Wind website.

Notification of Community Engagement Events

The Applicant will notify stakeholders about community engagement events 14 or more days prior to the event. Notifications will also be posted on the Project website at a minimum two weeks before the event.

Name & Address	Number of Copies Sent by First-Class Mail or Electronic Service
Office of Renewable Energy Siting Houtan Moaveni, Executive Director ATTN: Application Review c/o OGS Mailroom Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY general@ores.ny.gov
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Basil Seggos, Commissioner ATTN: Sita Crounse, Senior Attorney CENTRAL OFFICE 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY Sita.crounse@dec.ny.gov
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation REGION 5 Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director ATTN: Erin Burns, Region 5 Permit Administrator PO Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296	1 ELECTRONIC COPY dep.r5@dec.ny.gov
New York State Department of Public Service Rory M. Christian, Chair & CEO ATTN: Jason Zehr, Chief OEGW Environmental Certification and Compliance Section Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223-1350	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY jason.zehr@dps.ny.gov
Franklin County, New York ATTN: Donna Kissane, County Manager 355 West Main Street, Suite 456 Malone, NY 12953	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY countymanager@franklincountyny.gov donna.kissane@franklincountyny.gov
Town of Chateaugay ATTN: Don Bilow, Town Supervisor P. O. Box 9 Chateaugay, NY 12920	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY Dbilow1@gmail.com
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Richard A. Ball, Commissioner ATTN: Tara Wells, Senior Attorney 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235	1 ELECTRONIC COPY Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov
New York State Department of Health Mary T. Bassett, M.D. M.P.H., Commissioner ATTN: William G. Sacks, Senior Attorney, Bureau of Program Counsel Division of Legal Affairs 2468 Corning Tower Albany, NY 12237	1 ELECTRONIC COPY William.sacks@health.ny.gov
NYS Department of Transportation Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner ATTN: Janice McLachlan, Acting Assistant Commissioner ATTN: Anne Marie Mull, Administrative Assistant Division of Legal Affairs 50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232	1 ELECTRONIC COPY Jan.mclachlan@dot.ny.gov Annemarie.mull@dot.ny.gov
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Commissioner Erik Kulleseid ATTN: Director Nancy Herter Technical Preservation Bureau New York State Historic Preservation Office Peebles Island Resource Center 1 Delaware Avenue North Cohoes, NY 12047	1 ELECTRONIC COPY nancy.herter@parks.ny.gov
New York State Office of the Attorney General ATTN: Letitia James, Attorney General The Capitol Albany, NY 12224-0341	1 ELECTRONIC COPY Letitia.james@ag.ny.gov

Name & Address	Number of Copies Sent by First-Class Mail or Electronic Service
Chateaugay Memorial Library [REPOSITORY COPY] ATTN: Melissa Erhardt, Library Director P. O. Box 10 Chateaugay, NY 12920	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY chatlib@gmail.com
New York State Senate District 45 ATTN: Senator Daniel G. Stec Albany Office 188 State Street LOB Room 408 Albany, NY 12247	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY stec@nyenate.gov
New York State Assembly District 115 ATTN: Assemblymember Billy Jones Albany Office LOB 551 Albany, NY 12248	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY Jonesb@nyassembly.gov

Outreach Strategies – Retrofitting

Public involvement and community outreach will continue as necessary on an ongoing basis during the retrofitting phase of the Bid Facility's life.

In consideration of the local host community and the temporary disruption caused by the retrofitting and replacement of the wind components, the Proposer will post public notices as well as hold a stakeholder meeting with state and local agencies 14 days prior to the start of the retrofit process.

The Proposer will leverage its existing Complaint Resolution Process developed as part of the current Windpark HCA, and if necessary, will develop a supplementary Complaint Management Plan prior to the retrofitting phase. At a minimum, the Complaint Management Plan shall describe the following:

- Methods for registering a complaint, which shall include a phone number, email address, mailing address, and a form to report complaints.
- Notification to the public of the complaint procedures.
- Process for responding to and resolving complaints in a consistent, timely, and respectful manner.
- Logging and tracking of all complaints received and resolutions achieved, with records of the following for each complaint containing:
 - o The name and contact information of the person filing the complaint.
 - o Location and owner of the property where the complaint originated.
 - o Date and time of the underlying event causing the complaint.
 - o Description of the complaint; and
 - o Current status and description of measures taken to resolve complaints.
- Reporting to the Office and the NYSDPS any complaints not resolved within 30 days of receipt.
- Mediating complaints not resolved within 60 days; and

- Providing annual reports of complaint resolution tracking to the Office staff and NYSDPS staff, which shall also be filed with the Executive Director of the Office and Secretary of the NYSDPS.

Through these engagement tactics, the Proposer will ensure that stakeholders have appropriate recourse to learn and share feedback and concerns about the Bid Facility's retrofitting phase.

Outreach Strategies – Operation

The Proposer will make every effort to keep the community informed about the Bid Facility throughout all phases. During post-repower operation, as during current operation, there is signage posted at both the Bid Facility Site and local office with Bid Facility contact information. Signage includes specific instructions on responding to an emergency.

The Proposer will continue to engage with the local community in appropriate and meaningful ways. Throughout the Operating Phase, as during all phases prior, the Proposer is committed to being accessible to the community and all stakeholders. In particular, the Proposer will remain accessible at the local AES office serving the Altona, Chateaugay, Clinton and Ellenburg offices located in Franklin County.

3. Climate Act Goals & Disadvantaged Communities

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires the state to invest or direct resources in a manner designed to ensure that disadvantaged communities to receive at least 35 percent, with the goal of 40 percent, of overall benefits of spending on:

- Clean energy and energy efficiency programs
- Projects or investments in the areas of housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low-income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development.

Social Impact Program

To support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including the Bid Facility AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021.

Through the Social Impact Program, the AES team collaborates with community leaders from government, business, education, social services and residents to identify opportunities where AES can provide financial and other types of support to high-impact initiatives, programs and institutions that enjoy broad support in the community. AES has developed these four focus pillars from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

1. Partnering for access to Safe, Efficient, and Affordable Energy and Basic Services
2. Partnering for Inclusive Economic Growth & Education
3. Partnering for the Environment
4. Partnering for Community Resilience

Within these Focus Pillars, our Social Impact program strives to create partnerships that align with AES' purpose and values while strengthening our investment in community led initiatives that meet the targets set forth by the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goals](#) and American Clean Power's [Energy Transition for All initiative](#).

These goals closely align with the Climate Act's goals for Disadvantaged Communities.

AES Social Impact Spending for, in, or near Disadvantaged Communities

Per the Climate Justice Working Group Draft Criteria 15 percent of residents in the North Country live in a Disadvantaged Community, including the City of Plattsburgh.

AES understands the need for investing in workforce development and through our Social Impact program, we have invested in workforce development in three Disadvantaged Communities through partnerships with:

- Franklin Essex Hamilton Board of Cooperative Education Services (FEH BOCES)
- Genesee Community College, Solar Electrical Technician Certificate Program
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 910 Apprenticeship Program

Regional Workforce Development

In addition to AES' financial commitments for Workforce Development in the North Country and Disadvantaged Communities, AES has been invited to join the North Country Workforce Development Board based in Plattsburgh and the Electrical Trades Consultant Committee of the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, based in the Town of Malone, Franklin County.

Clean Energy Career Fairs

AES also recognizes the importance of sponsoring and attending Career and Job Fairs in Disadvantaged Communities and as such intends to participate in these events in 2023 and beyond.

STEM Commitments

Equally important to workforce development partnerships at the high school and college level, is early education investments in STEM curriculum. To that end, AES is a founding member of the Discovery Education STEM Careers Coalition. This coalition aims to expand the future STEM workforce by creating equitable opportunities for a diverse population of students and supports exposure to STEM careers and opportunities through the development of content and resources.

AES Social Impact Commitment to Disadvantaged Communities

During the development and construction of our 3 GW utility scale renewable energy portfolio, including Chateaugay Wind repower, AES intends to continue Social Impact Funding during development and construction. This funding will be dispersed in host communities, including the Town of Chateaugay, and across the state.

Given AES' own commitment to a just transition and the goals of the Climate Act, AES is committed to ensuring Social Impact spending in New York directly benefits disadvantaged communities.

On March 27, 2023, the New York State Climate Justice Working Group finalized the criteria for Disadvantaged Communities. AES will use the appropriate criteria and guidance from New York State when investing social impact funding in designated Disadvantaged Communities.

Disadvantaged Communities and Short-Term Economic Benefits

The Bid Facility is forecasted to generate short-term employment for New York State Residents. AES is committed to prioritizing the hiring of construction staff from DACs to the maximum extent practicable. AES will do so by working with EPCs, NYSERDA, the NYS Department of Labor, its contractors, and representatives from the Bid Facility host community.

4. Plans for Public Engagement

Community outreach will continue throughout the operations/pre-award and development phase, the retrofitting phase, and post-repower operation phases of the Bid Facility's life. The Proposer has a robust plan to provide the community with continuing access to Bid Facility representatives to make sure there are plenty of opportunities for community input.

There is a designated Bid Facility email address, a New York phone number, and weekly office hours. Contact information is provided in Section 9 of this document and is also available on

the Bid Facility website. The Bid Facility website is also regularly updated with new information and development schedules so that the community has access to them.

As described in detail within Section 2 of this document, the Proposer uses effective methods of communication to notify all stakeholders and ensure that public engagement events are widely attended.

Town Board Meetings

Presentations are arranged for the Town Board and Town Planning Board meetings where Bid Facility representatives discuss Bid Facility details, introduce the Applicant, and provide details of the retrofitting process. The Proposer provides details on the benefits of the Bid Facility and offers participants an opportunity to have their questions and concerns addressed.

Throughout the development, construction, and operation of the Bid Facility, the Applicant will follow the town law in terms of required attendance at Town Board meetings. For example, the town may require attendance at an informal Town Board meeting when a determination of environmental impact is assigned to the Bid Facility. If the Bid Facility is determined to have potential significant impacts and an environmental impact statement is required through the SEQR process, the Applicant will participate in a public hearing. Public comments will be collected, and potential impacts will be presented to the Town and public. In addition, a public hearing would be held as required for the special use permit application for the Bid Facility. If requested, the Proposer commits to attending future Town Board meetings.

Notifications

The Proposer will notify members of the stakeholder list of the proposed Bid Facility of community events by mailing informational flyers (via U.S. Postal Service) as well as asking the town to post a notice on their town website and posting information on the Bid Facility website.

In addition, if required by the Town Board, a notification of completion of the draft environmental impact statement and public comment period as well as a notice of completion of the final environmental impact statement will be filed, circulated and sent as described in Section 617.7(e) and (f) of Title 6 of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations. This notice will also be published in the official newspapers of the Town. Also, if required by the Town Board, a notice of a public hearing on the draft environmental impact statement will be published in the official Town newspaper at least 10 days prior to the public hearing.

The Proposer will seek to publish notices on upcoming public events and forthcoming opportunities. In addition to the newspaper notices required by law, the stakeholder list will be notified via letter and/or email when milestone Application submittals occur.

5. Direct Community Benefits

As described in Section 3 of this Community Engagement Plan, AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021. This program is designed to support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including Chateaugay Wind.

You can learn more about the importance of AES to the communities where we are developing and operating projects [in this video](#).

Local Partnerships and Memberships

AES' presence in the North Country has resulted in a partnership with the FEH BOCES in Malone. The Proposer has also invested partnerships with local school districts and local fire districts.

The Proposer will also provide electric utility bill credits for the first 10 years of the Bid Facility's operation to the utility customers in the Town of Chateaugay. The credits will total \$106,500 annually, based on \$1000 per MW of capacity. Over the 10-year period, a total of \$1,065,000 in credits will be given.

6. Community Economic Benefits

The Bid Facility has provided economic benefit to the local taxing jurisdictions in the form of Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) and Host Community Agreements (HCAs) since the Bid Facility operation date. The Proposer will continue to provide economic benefits through the repower timeline.

The Proposer expects to execute a PILOT and a Host Community agreement(s), which will require annual PILOT payments.

Payments will also be made in association with easement agreements executed to host Bid Facility components. These easement payments offer direct benefits to New York State.

7. Balancing Stakeholder Interests

The Proposer has conducted stakeholder outreach throughout the current pre-award and development phase of the Bid Facility. These efforts include stakeholder consultation, a public Repowering Community Meeting, a Landowner Dinner, and other forms of engagement, all with ample notification periods. Information is also available to the community via the Bid Facility website. These outreach efforts have ensured community participation during the Bid Facility's development.

Building Stakeholder Support

The Bid Facility's success depends on continuing our strong relationship with the Chateaugay Town Board and the local community. The Proposer has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring the community is aware of and participates in the development, retrofitting, and commercialization of the Bid Facility, and will continue to do so. The Proposer's desire is to be sensitive to local concerns throughout the realization of the Bid Facility, resulting in a project that the community is proud of.

The Proposer will continue to work in cooperation with the community throughout the repower process. Overall, the local community is accepting of the existing Chateaugay Windpark, and recognizes local economic benefits and other general benefits that the Bid Facility will bring well into the future.

Response to Community Concerns

The Proposer has worked in cooperation with the community throughout the repowering of the Bid Facility. The Proposer takes into consideration concerns raised by the community and has incorporated solutions to respond accordingly. Please see examples listed below.

General concerns about wind development (flicker impacts, sound impacts, visual impacts): The Proposer has facilitated one-on-one conversations with concerned stakeholders and has communicated that the repowered Chateaugay Windpark is anticipated to have similar sound, flicker, and visual impacts as the current operating Bid Facility. Perceived burdens related to flicker, sound and visual impacts will be addressed by the Proposer through the development and permitting process.

Retrofitting impacts: The Proposer will be utilizing the same access roads and laydown yards used during initial construction of the Chateaugay Windpark during the retrofitting process to mitigate and minimize impact. Minimal tree-clearing and grubbing (removal of stumps, shrubs and roots) along roads and around turbines, and some grading and smoothing of dips in delivery roads, will be completed to enable delivery of the new turbine components. The Proposer will communicate with landowners on an as-needed basis if any tree-clearing, road-improvement or other retrofitting-related impacts on anticipated on their land.

Preservation of rural landscape and minimizing impacts on the local community: The Proposer is cognizant that preserving the current landscape is a main concern and priority for many members of the local community. To this end, the Proposer aims to mitigate and minimize retrofitting impacts related to the Bid Facility and aims to enable the Bid Facility to continue operating post-repower the same way it has for the past 14 years. The repower will not entail the erection of any new turbines, and thus the Bid Facility footprint and local presence will remain unimpacted. The Proposer believes that realization of the repower will enable preservation of the local landscape and that the Bid Facility will have no new impacts on the community. The Bid Facility Area will be preserved for up to an additional 30 years of operation, and economic benefits to the local community will be able to continue via extended PILOT and HCA agreements.

Concerns about future Bid Facility-related economic benefits: During the two community events the Proposer has held thus far, many participating landowners had questions about what the future of their Bid Facility-related payments will look like. The Proposer was clear that participating landowner leases will not be renegotiated but will be extended as-is. The Proposer is committed to answering landowner/lease-specific questions on an as-need and one-on-one basis.

Additionally, community members expressed the significant positive impact that Windpark HCA and PILOT payments have had on the community from 2009 – present. These community members have stated that they want these payments to continue and have expressed concern about the lost economic benefits to the community if the Windpark is not repowered. The Proposer has communicated with community members and local agencies that our desire is to see the life of the Chateaugay Windpark extended through realization of the Bid Facility, and with it, the economic benefits that have been experienced by the community for the past 14

years. Receipt of a NYSERDA Tier 1 Bid and realization of the Bid Facility are the mechanisms by which current Windpark economic benefits will be able to continue.

Our community engagement philosophy is to create a strong foundation at the local level and build additional layers of support at the regional and state levels. The Proposer will continue this outreach and is committed to respond respectfully to community feedback and concerns.

The Proposer is committed to addressing all instances of concern or opposition with unique attention by listening, providing factual and thorough resources where applicable, acknowledging our stakeholders' concerns, and taking mitigatory or responsive action where possible to address concerns. The Proposer will continue this stakeholder outreach will continue throughout the repower process and is committed to responding respectfully to community feedback and concerns.

8. Mitigating Concerns from Stakeholders

The Proposer commits to understanding the local community and landowners' concerns with the Bid Facility and aid in mitigation where required or appropriate. The Proposer has a long history of working with participating and non-participating landowners of the Bid Facility site and is committed to working with individual stakeholders to mitigate Bid Facility-related concerns and impacts when possible.

In a typical process, any person impacted by the Bid Facility can contact the Bid Facility team through the avenues described in Section 2 of this document: Bid Facility phone lines, Bid Facility email, Bid Facility website and local or state office. Every public concern is taken seriously, and a Bid Facility representative will respectfully communicate with the stakeholder to identify the source of their concern as well as any potential mitigation that may be required. If warranted, the Proposer will attend either virtual or in-person one-on-one meetings with the stakeholder with the goal of achieving a mutual agreement.

The Proposer will coordinate closely with the many teams involved in the Bid Facility – Operations, Repower Development, Asset Management, and Stakeholder Relations – to address/mitigate the identified issue(s). The Proposer is committed to being accessible and ensuring stakeholders receive information and resolutions to concerns as quickly as possible. Some of the concerns that have been raised by the host community and how AES has responded to them are listed in Section 7 of this Plan. The Proposer will continue to solicit feedback and input throughout all Bid Facility phases.

The Proposer is also compiling a comprehensive Wind Repower FAQ document which will be made available on the Bid Facility website. Please see Section 9 of this document for more information.

9. Feedback Solicitation

The Community Engagement Plan has been designed to solicit feedback and input from stakeholders during the Project repower development and permitting process. The Proposer described explicit methods through which feedback is being solicited and incorporated into ongoing Project operation and development and this can be found in Sections 2 and 4 of this Plan. In summary, the Proposer:

- Organizes community meetings including Q&A; one has been organized thus far
- Organizes meetings for participating landowners including Q&A; one has been organized thus far.
- Distributes feedback forms.
- Solicits input on the Project website.
- Monitors the Project email and phone lines Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm
- Speaks with local leaders at least once a month.

Feedback forms are distributed by the Proposer at all community engagement events (e.g., community meetings, landowner dinners). These forms are designed to solicit feedback about the effectiveness of the meeting and information provided. These feedback forms also provide an additional way for stakeholders to share thoughts, questions, and concerns. The Proposer conducts individual follow-up on an as-needed basis, for all stakeholder-specific feedback. Feedback form responses are reviewed and discussed by the Bid Facility team, and feedback is incorporated and adjusted where appropriate and feasible.

The Proposer is compiling a Wind Repower FAQ document which will be made available on the Bid Facility website. This document is comprised of the questions we have commonly received from our stakeholders at community meetings, 1:1 in-person interactions and through our various communication channels. Compiling and publishing this Q&A document demonstrates our commitment to sharing responses publicly.

When the Proposer receives questions, feedback, or concerns that are relevant to the general public, we incorporate them into our public Q&A. When the Proposer receive individual feedback, questions, and concerns, the Proposer follow up with these stakeholders directly and document our response, however we do not make these exchanges public to protect the privacy of our stakeholders. The Proposer has numerous examples of 1:1 concerns and issues that have been resolved via communication and direct follow-up between our AES team and our stakeholders.

Contact Information

To communicate any inquiries, comments, or feedback about the Bid Facility, please contact the Bid Facility team directly using any of the methods listed below.

Bid Facility Email	chateaugaywind@aes.com
Bid Facility Website	www.aes.com/chateaugay-wind
Local AES Office Phone Number	518-497-0818
Local AES Office Address	23 Lost Nation Rd. Churubusco, NY 12923, United States
Town Board Website	https://www.chateaugayny.org/
Office Address	292 Madison Ave. 15 th floor New York, NY 10017 United States
AES New York – Toll-Free Number	866-757-7697 Hours: Mondays 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM ET and Thursdays 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM ET

Wherever there is general interest, an individual can be designated as a project stakeholder and added to the project mailing list in one of several ways:

- Visiting our website and subscribing through our “Stay Updated” section.
- Requesting via email
- Requesting via phone
- Requesting in person, at a community meeting