Revised Appendix 15-1.

Agricultural Plan

SHEPHERD'S RUN SOLAR PROJECT

AGRICULTURAL PLAN

PROJECT OPERATOR:

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621 W. Randolph Street
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February 2022
Revised January 2023

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1.0 Introduction

Hecate Energy Columbia County 1 LLC (the Applicant) has developed this Agricultural Plan in accordance with 19 NYCRR § 900-2.16(c) in order to avoid, minimize, and mitigate agricultural impacts to active agricultural lands[1] within NYS Agricultural Land Classified Mineral Soil Groups (MSG) 1 through 4 to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects ("NYSDAM Guidelines" or "Guidelines")[2].

This Agricultural Plan provides an overview of the NYSDAM Guidelines and the Applicant's proposed plan for implementing the Guidelines. This Agricultural Plan is designed to outline mitigation activities for construction impacts on agricultural land subject to ground disturbance, as such term is defined in the Guidelines, during the following stages of the Project: construction, post-construction restoration, monitoring and remediation, and decommissioning. The mitigation activities proposed in this plan only apply to areas within the Project Footprint[3] subject to ground disturbance within active agricultural lands.

The Project Area[4] comprises approximately 880 acres. The dominant NLCD landcover class in the Project Area is pasture/hay (37%; approximately 328 acres), followed by cultivated crops (23%; approximately 202 acres) and deciduous forest (20%; approximately 176 acres). The aforementioned types of agricultural land are designated as Pastureland and Cropland/Row Crops, respectively, according to the Ecological Communities of New York State (ECNYS) (Heritage Ranks: both unranked cultural), the latter of which consists of row crops such as corn (*Zea mays*), soybeans (*Glycine max*), potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*), and other vegetables.

The total Project Footprint will include approximately 265 acres and includes the limits of all temporary and permanent impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Project. There are 197.69 acres of active agricultural land in the Project Footprint. The Project is designed within a fenced and contained area, and no active agricultural practices will occur within the fenced area containing the solar arrays during the operation of the Project. Therefore, the

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[1] "Active Agricultural Land" is defined in the 19 NYCRR § 2.16(c) as land in active agriculture production. "Active agricultural production" is defined therein as active during 3 of the last 5 years.
[2] New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects – Construction Mitigation for Agricultural Lands (Revision 10/18/2019). Available at: https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/10/solar_energy_guidelines.pdf.
[3] Refers to the limit of disturbance caused by the construction and operation of all components of the Project.
[4] Refers to those privately owned parcels under option lease, purchase, easement or other real property interests with the Application on which all Project components will be sited.

applicable NYSDAM Guidelines will be followed during construction with respect to temporary features (such as construction laydown yards). If applicable NYSDAM Guidelines cannot be implemented, the Applicant will consult with NYSDAM to discuss acceptable and appropriate alternatives. The Applicant will follow the NYSDAM Guidelines during Project decommissioning and site restoration.

1.1 Environmental Monitor

The Applicant (or its contractor) will designate an Environmental Monitor (EM) to oversee Project construction, restoration, and monitoring in agricultural areas and to serve as the agricultural point of contact and act as a liaison between landowners, Project construction personnel, and NYSDAM regarding agriculture-related matters for the Project. THE EM will be qualified as an agricultural monitor in accordance with 19 NYCRR § 900-6.4)(b)(4), 6.4(s). The EM will maintain regular contact with appropriate onsite Project construction supervisors and inspectors during the construction phase. The EM will also maintain regular contact with the participating landowners regarding agricultural land impacted, management activities pertinent to the agricultural operations, and site-specific implementation of agricultural resource mitigation measures.

For projects involving 50 acres or more of agricultural land within the limit of disturbance (LOD), the NYSDAM Guidelines require the EM be on site when construction or restoration results in ground disturbance on agricultural land, and the EM shall notify NYSDAM of the Project activity. The EM will be located on site during ground-disturbing activities related to construction and restoration.

2.0 Construction Requirements

NYSDAM Guidelines associated with construction are summarized in Table 1 below. All permanent and temporary impacts from the Project will be contained within the Project Footprint or limit of disturbance.

Table 1. Construction Requirements

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
Before any topsoil is stripped, representative soil samples should be obtained from the areas to be disturbed. Soil sampling should be consistent with Cornell University's soil testing guidelines, and samples should be submitted to a laboratory for test pH, percent organic material, cation exchange capacity, phosphorous/phosphate (P), and potassium/potash (K). Soil testing results will	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
establish a benchmark that the soil's pH, nitrogen, P, and K that soil can be compared to following restoration activities. If soil sampling is not performed, NYSDAM's fertilizer, lime, and seeding guidelines will be implemented.	
Stockpile topsoil stripped from work areas (e.g., parking areas, electric conductor trenches, along access roads, equipment pads) separate from other excavated material (rock and/or sub-soil) until Project completion for final restoration. At least 25 feet of additional temporary workspace (ATWS) may be needed along "open-cut" underground utility trenches. All topsoil will be stockpiled as close as reasonably practical to the area where stripped/removed and will be used for restoration in that particular area. Any topsoil removed from permanently converted agricultural areas (e.g., permanent roads, etc.) should be temporarily stockpiled and spread evenly in adjacent agricultural areas within the Project's LOD. Clearly designate topsoil stockpile areas and topsoil disposal areas in the field and on construction drawings. Changes or additions to designated stockpile areas may be needed based on field conditions in consultation with the EM. Sufficient LOD area should be allotted to allow adequate access to stockpiles for topsoil replacement during restoration.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction. Where topsoil is stripped from open trenches wider than 6 feet or from temporary parking and laydown areas not planned for Project components, topsoil will be stockpiled separately for each particular work area and subsequently returned to the ground surface for restoration to the extent possible. Topsoil will not be stockpiled in wetlands or streams.
Seed topsoil stockpiles on agricultural areas left in place prior to October 31 with Aroostook Winter Rye or equivalent at a rate of 168 pounds per acre (lbs/acre) and mulch with straw at a rate of 2-3 bales per 1,000 square feet (sq. ft.).	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction. Topsoil stockpiles will be seeded and mulched in accordance with the NYSDAM Guidelines and the Applicant's *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan* (see Appendix 13-3).
Mulch topsoil stockpiles left in place between October 31- May 31 with straw at a rate of 2-3 bales per 1,000 sq. ft. to prevent soil loss.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction. Topsoil stockpiles will be mulched in accordance with the NYSDAM Guidelines and the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.
The surface of access roads located outside of the Project's fence line and constructed through agricultural fields must be level with the adjacent field surface. If a level road design is not feasible, all access roads should be constructed to allow a farm	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
crossing and to restore/maintain original surface drainage patterns.	
Install culverts and/or water bars to maintain or improve site-specific natural drainage patterns.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction. Natural drainage patterns will be maintained to the maximum extent practicable. The Applicant will apply the requirements of the Project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.
Vehicles or equipment are not allowed outside the planned LOD without the EM seeking prior approval from the landowner and without associated permit amendments (as necessary). Vehicle and equipment traffic, parking, and material storage will be limited to the access road and/or designated work areas except for low ground pressure equipment. Where repeated temporary access is necessary across portions of agricultural areas outside of the Project fencing, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled linearly along the access road or timber mats will be used.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction.
Proposed permanent access should be established as soon as possible by removing topsoil according to the depth of topsoil as directed by the EM. Extra topsoil removed from permanently converted areas (e.g., permanent roads, equipment pads) should be temporarily stockpiled and eventually spread evenly in adjacent agricultural areas within the LOD.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction to the maximum extent practicable based upon final Project design.
When open-cut trenching is proposed, topsoil will be stripped from the work area adjacent to the trench. Trench excavation in agricultural areas will not be completed using trencher or road saw like equipment. Narrow open trenches less than 25 feet long involving a single directly buried conductor or conduit to connect short rows within the Project arrays are exempt from topsoil segregation.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction of buried electrical collection lines where feasible based upon equipment availability. Some trenches could be direct buried with a trencher or cable plow or equivalent. Many planned trenches are anticipated to be relatively narrow (3 feet wide) and will generally be excavated using a trenching machine or backhoe. For open-cut trenches greater than 6 feet wide, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for replacement after closing the open trench to the extent possible and to the extent that additional, unnecessary disturbance is not caused as a result of segregation. Where topsoil segregation is not deemed feasible, the Agricultural Monitor will be consulted prior to commencing with trenching operations.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
Interconnect conductors outside of the Project fencing must be buried in agricultural fields wherever practicable. Where overhead utility lines are required, lines must be installed outside field boundaries or along permanent access roads wherever possible. Overhead utilities crossing farmland must minimize impacts by using taller structures that provide longer spanning distances, and poles must be located on field edges to the greatest extent practicable.	Electrical collection lines are buried throughout the Project Footprint. The only overhead components of the Project are limited to the approximately 250 foot line between the Project substation and the NYSEG substation. Poles will be sited within the footprint of the substation facilities.
Buried utilities within the Project's fencing must have a minimum depth of 18 inches of cover if buried in a conduit and a minimum depth of 24 inches of cover if directly buried. Buried utilities outside of the Project's fencing: Must have a minimum depth of 48 inches of cover in cropland, hay land, and improved pasture; in areas where the depth of soil over bedrock is less than 48 inches, electric conductors must be buried below the surface of the bedrock if friable/rippable or as near as possible to the surface of bedrock. Must have a minimum depth of 36 inches of cover in unimproved grazing areas or on land permanently devoted to pasture. Must have a minimum depth of 24 inches of cover where electrical conductors are buried directly below the Project's access roads or immediately adjacent to access roads; conductors must be close enough to the road edge to not be subjected to agricultural cultivation.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction.
When buried utilities alter the natural stratification of soil horizons and soil drainage patterns, effects will be rectified with measures such as subsurface intercept drain lines. The local Soil and Water Conservation District will be consulted to determine the appropriate type of intercept drain lines. Drain lines will be installed and repaired in accordance with the Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications. Drain tile must meet or exceed the AASHTO M-252 specifications. Repair of subsurface drain tiles should be consistent with NYSDAM's details for "*Repair of Severed Tile Line*".	The Applicant will retain current surface drainage patterns and install a significant surface drainage system in accordance with the Project SWPPP comprised of dry swales for use with access roads steeper than 10% slope, slope protection, storm pipes, culverted crossings of surface water features, and vegetated filter strips that accommodate water quantity generated by the Project. Maintenance of these facilities will exceed the performance of drain tile features that may exist in the Project Footprint. Where drainage features such as culverts are impacted by Project construction, they will be repaired and restored.
For areas returning to pasture, temporary fencing will be required to delay pasturing	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction where applicable.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
livestock within the restored portion of the LOD until pasture areas are appropriately revegetated. Temporary fencing will be maintained until the EM determines that vegetation in the restored area is established and able to accommodate grazing, at which point the temporary fencing will be removed.	

3.0 Post-Construction Restoration

NYSDAM Guidelines pertaining to post-construction restoration are applicable to continued use agricultural areas that experience ground disturbance due to Project construction activities, typically consisting of lands outside of the developed Project's fencing, including laydown yards. The NYSDAM Guidelines related to restoration are outlined in Table 2 below. Agricultural cropland will be suspended within the Project Footprint for the entirety of the operational life of the Project, expected to be 30 years. Temporary construction areas will be restored immediately following construction; however, overall site restoration activities will not occur until Project decommissioning.

Table 2. Restoration Requirements

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
All construction debris in active agriculture areas including pieces of wire, bolts, and other unused metal objects will be removed and properly disposed of as soon as practical to prevent mixing with topsoil.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration.
Excess concrete will not be buried or left on the surface in active agriculture areas. Concrete trucks will be washed outside of active agriculture areas. All excess subsoil and rock unearthed from construction related activities occurring in areas intended to return to agricultural use will be removed. Such material will not be disposed of on-site in active agricultural lands. Designated spoil disposal locations will be specified in the construction plans. If landowner agreements, the LOD boundary, or Project's land use approvals do not allow for on-site disposal, material will be removed from the site.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration. Any excess concrete will be disposed of outside agricultural areas. Concrete trucks will be washed in designated areas.
Excess stripped topsoil will not be used for fill within the project area. Extra topsoil removed from permanently impacted areas (e.g., roads, equipment pads, etc.) will be evenly spread in adjacent agricultural project areas.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration.
All access roads outside of the Project fencing will be regraded, as determined necessary by the EM, to allow farm equipment crossing. Original surface drainage patterns will be restored, or other drainage patterns will be incorporated into the design.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration.
All surface or subsurface drainage structures damaged during construction will be repaired as close to preconstruction conditions as possible, unless said structures will be removed as part of the project design. Any surface or subsurface drainage problems resulting from construction of the project will be corrected with appropriate mitigation determined by the EM, Soil and Water Conservation District, and the landowner.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration.
On agricultural land needing restoration because of ground disturbance, restoration practices will be postponed until favorable (workable, relatively dry) topsoil/subsoil conditions exist. Restoration will not be conducted while soils are in a wet or plastic state of consistency. Stockpiled soil will not	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction, restoration and decommissioning where applicable. Overall site restoration activities will not occur until Project decommissioning (see Section 5.0 below).

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
be re-graded, and subsoil will not be de-compacted until plasticity, as determined by the Atterberg field test, is adequately reduced. No permanent restoration activities will occur in agricultural areas from October through May unless favorable soil moisture conditions exist.	
In all continued use agricultural land where topsoil was stripped, subsoil decompaction will be conducted prior to topsoil replacement. Following construction, all such areas will be de-compacted to a depth of 18 inches using a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Soil compaction results should be no more than 250 pounds per square inch (psi) throughout the de-compacted 18 inches, as measured with a soil penetrometer. Following decompaction, all rocks 4 inches and larger unearthed from decompaction will be removed from the surface of the subsoil prior to replacement of topsoil. Topsoil will be replaced to original depth and original contours will be established where possible. All rocks 4 inches and larger will be removed from the topsoil surface. Subsoil decompaction and topsoil replacement must be avoided after October 1, unless approved on a site-specific basis by the landowner in consultation with NYSDAM. All parties involved must be cognizant that areas restored after October 1 may not obtain sufficient growth for stabilization to prevent erosion during winter months. If areas are restored after October 1, necessary provisions must be made to prevent potential springtime erosion, as well as restore any eroded areas in the spring to establish proper growth. Excess stripped topsoil will be evenly spread in the adjacent project areas or adjacent agricultural areas (within the LOD).	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning and restoration where applicable (temporary Project Footprint in active agricultural lands). Subsoil decompaction and topsoil replacement activities will occur during favorable conditions to the maximum extent possible. Overall site restoration activities will not occur until Project decommissioning (see Section 5.0 below).
In all continued use agricultural areas where topsoil is not stripped (including timber matted areas), the EM will determine appropriate activities to return the area to agricultural use. Soil compaction should be tested in the affected areas and the affected area's adjacent undisturbed areas using a soil penetrometer or other soil compaction measuring device as soon as soils achieve	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction, restoration and decommissioning where applicable. Overall site restoration activities will not occur until Project decommissioning (see Section 5.0 below).

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
moisture equilibrium within adjacent unaffected areas. Compaction tests will be made at regular intervals throughout the affected areas, including each soil type within the affected areas. Soil compaction results will be measured with a soil penetrometer not to exceed more than 250 psi by comparing probe depths of both the affected and unaffected areas. Where representative soil density of the affected area's collective depth measurements present compaction restrictions exceeding an acceptable deviation of no more than 20% from the adjacent undisturbed area's mean soil density, additional decompaction may be required to a depth of 18 inches via a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Following decompaction, all rocks 4 inches and larger will be removed from the surface, and the area will be revegetated as described in the following guideline.	
Agricultural areas from which vegetation was removed or destroyed will be seeded with the seed mix specified by the landowner/agriculture producer or as otherwise recommended in NYSDAM's fertilizer, lime, and seeding guideline. Soil amendments will be applied as necessary so that restored agricultural areas' soil properties, at minimum, reasonably reflect the preconstruction soil test results or as otherwise agreed to by the involved parties to ensure continued agricultural use. All parties must be cognizant that areas restored after October 1 may not obtain sufficient growth to prevent erosion during winter months. If areas are restored after October 1, necessary provisions must be made to restore and/or re-seed any eroded or poorly germinated areas in the spring to establish proper growth.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction and restoration. The requirements of the Project's approved Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan will also apply to site seeding and restoration measures.

4.0 Monitoring and Remediation

Agricultural cropland production and related activities will be suspended within the Project Footprint for the entirety of the operational life of the Project, which is expected to be 30 years. Therefore, implementation of monitoring and remediation measures within the Project Footprint during operation is not practicable and will not occur until Project decommissioning. However,

monitoring and remediation activities would occur to areas within the Project Footprint that are temporarily disturbed during construction such as buried collection lines outside of the Project fence line and temporary laydown yards located in agricultural lands. The Applicant will provide a monitoring and remediation period of no less than two growing seasons following the date upon which the Project achieves commercial operation. On-site monitoring will be conducted at least three times during the growing season (spring, summer and fall). Monitoring is required to identify any remaining impacts directly associated with the construction of the Project on agricultural lands proposed to remain or resume agricultural production. The EM will coordinate follow-up monitoring and remediation, as needed, in agricultural areas. Monitoring will be limited to the restored agricultural areas. Impacts affecting the restored areas that are not Project-related will be discussed with NYSDAM and considered for omission from future monitoring and remediation. The EM will record observations from on-site inspections as summarized in Table 3 below.

Observations made during each applicable growing season will be consolidated into an annual report during the monitoring period and will be provided to NYSDAM upon request. Annual reports will include dated photographs illustrating crop growth compared with unaffected portions of agricultural areas.

The Project is not responsible for site conditions and/or potential damages attributable to the agricultural producer's land use management or other's land use management. Pursuant to the Guidelines, the activities set forth in Table 3 are not necessary for restored agricultural lands on which the farmer or landowner has commenced activities, including agricultural activities or other use that tends to reverse restoration or create conditions that would otherwise trigger restoration.

Table 3. Monitoring and Remediation Requirements

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
Topsoil Thickness and Trench Settling: Observations by the EM may require small hand dug holes to observe the percentage of settled topsoil in areas where the topsoil was stripped or trenching was performed without stripping topsoil. Observations concerning depth of topsoil deficiencies will require further remediation by re-appropriating additional topsoil. Acceptable materials for remediation include known areas of native excess topsoil or imported topsoil free of invasive species that is consistent with the quality of topsoil on the affected site.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during restoration and decommissioning, where EM observations so require. Following Project decommissioning, the Applicant will monitor the Project Footprint for two growing seasons in accordance with this guideline. The Applicant will coordinate with the landowner(s) to mitigate topsoil deficiency or trench settling.
Excessive Rock (> 4 inches): A visual inspection of disturbed areas compared to unaffected portions of the same field located	The Applicant will apply this guideline during restoration and recommissioning, where EM observations so require. Following Project

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
outside the construction area will determine presence of excessive rocks exceeding 4 inches. If such a condition exists, further remediation will require removal and disposal of excess rocks and large stones.	decommissioning, the Applicant will monitor the Project Footprint for two growing seasons in accordance with this guideline.
Soil Compaction: Project affected agricultural soils will be tested with an appropriate soil penetrometer or other soil compaction measuring device. Compaction tests will be made at regular intervals throughout access or work areas, including each soil type identified on the affected agricultural areas. Where representative soil density of the affected area exceeds the representative soil density of unaffected areas, additional decompaction may be required. Consultation with NYSDAM staff and the agricultural producer(s) should be conducted prior to scheduling additional decompaction. If warranted, soil will be de-compacted to a depth of 18 inches with a tractor mounted deep ripper or heavy-duty chisel plow. Where possible, displaced topsoil will be restored to original depth and original contours will be re-established. Decompaction deep shattering will be applied during periods of relatively low soil moisture to ensure the desired mitigation and to prevent additional soil compaction. Surface rocks (exceeding 4 inches) unearthed as a result of deep shattering will be removed.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during restoration and decommissioning, where EM observations so require. Following Project decommissioning, the Applicant will monitor the Project Footprint for two growing seasons in accordance with this guideline.
Drainage: The EM will visually inspect restored agricultural areas for pervasive stunted crop growth due to seasonal saturation (not previously experienced at the site and not resulting from the agricultural producer's irrigation management or due to excessive rainfall). Identified areas of stunted crop growth will be compared to the nearest undisturbed adjacent areas under a substantially equivalent terrain and crop management plan. Drainage observations should be evaluated for project effects to surfaces or sub-surfaces drainage during construction or restoration. Project caused drainage issues affecting or likely to reduce crop productivity of the adjacent areas will be remediated via a positive surface drainage, sub-surface drainage repair, or equivalent.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning. Following Project decommissioning, the Applicant will monitor the Project Footprint for two growing seasons in accordance with this guideline.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
Agriculture Fencing and Gates: The EM will inspect Project associated fencing and gates within the Project's LOD associated with agricultural activities for function and longevity.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during construction, restoration and decommissioning, where applicable, in accordance with the EM's observations and the Guidelines.

5.0 Decommissioning

The operational life of the Project is anticipated to be approximately 30 years. Agricultural cropland production and related activities will be suspended within the Project Footprint for the entirety of the operational life of the Project. Upon Project decommissioning, the Project Site will be substantially restored to pre-construction conditions in coordination with the respective landowners. At the end of the Project's operational life, the Project's *Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan* will be implemented (see Appendix 23-1). During decommissioning, an EM will be designated to oversee on-site activities in accordance with the NYSDAM Guidelines. The NYSDAM Guidelines related to decommissioning are outlined in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Decommissioning Requirements

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
If the operation of the Project is permanently discontinued, all aboveground structures (including panels, racking, signage, equipment pads, fencing) and underground utilities less than 48 inches deep will be removed. All concrete piers, footers, or other supports must be removed to a minimum depth of 48 inches.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning.
Underground electric conduits and conductors at depths of 48 inches or greater will be abandoned in place. Applicable conduit risers will be removed, and abandoned conduit will be sealed or capped.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning.
Underground electric conduits and conductors at depths less than 48 inches will be removed.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning.
Access roads in agricultural areas will be removed, unless otherwise specified by the landowner. If access roads are removed, topsoil will be returned from recorded project excess native topsoil areas, if present. Otherwise topsoil free of invasive species that is consistent with the quality of topsoil on the affected site will be imported. All areas intended for agricultural production will be restored according to recommendations of	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning. The Applicant will coordinate with the landowners to determine which access roads will remain and which will be removed. The Applicant will also consult with the local Soil and Water Conservation District and NYSDAM.

NYSDAM Guideline	Project Consistency
the landowner or leasing agricultural producer and as required by any applicable permit, the Soil and Water Conservation District, and NYSDAM.	
Monitoring and restoration requirements in accordance with the NYSDAM Guidelines outlined in the sections above will be implemented during decommissioning restoration. NYSDAM will be notified prior to initiating decommissioning.	The Applicant will apply this guideline during decommissioning.

6.0 Conclusions

As summarized in this Agricultural Plan, the Applicant will construct, operate, and decommission the Project in accordance with the NYSDAM Guidelines to the maximum extent practicable. Although the Project is proposed on land that is currently in agricultural use, crops will not be farmed among or between the operational solar arrays during the operation of the Project. As such, the Applicant will follow the NYSDAM Guidelines with respect to temporary features (such as construction laydown yards) during the construction and stabilization phases of the Project. The Applicant will follow NYSDAM Guidelines during decommissioning and site restoration. If, in the implementation of this plan, applicable NYSDAM Guidelines cannot be met, the Applicant will consult with NYSDAM to discuss acceptable alternatives.

7.0 References

Edinger, G. J. et al. eds. (2014). Ecological Communities of New York State. Second Edition. A revised and expanded edition of Carol Reschke's Ecological Communities of New York State. New York Natural Heritage Program, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, NY.

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