

# DRAFT Minutes of the Regulatory Programs Committee Meeting September 10, 2020

The Committee Meeting convened at approximately 1:19 pm.

### Regulatory Programs Committee Members Present

Chair Daniel Wilt, Arthur Lussi, John Ernst, Ken Lynch, and Lynne Mahoney (DOS)

### Other Members and Designees Present

Bradley Austin (DED), Joe Zalewski (DEC), Zoe Smith, Andrea Hogan, Mark Hall, Dr. Chad Dawson

## **Local Government Review Board Present**

Gerald Delaney, Executive Director

### **Agency Staff Present**

Terry Martino, Executive Director; Christopher Cooper, Counsel; Robert Lore, Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs; Ariel Lynch, Environmental Program Specialist 2, John Burth, Environmental Program Specialist 3

### Approval of Draft Committee Minutes for July 2020

A motion to approve the draft committee minutes was made by Mr. Ernst, and seconded by Ms. Mahoney. All were in favor.

# **Regulatory Programs Report (Robert Lore)**

Mr. Lore gave a brief update of the activities of the Regulatory Programs Division since the last Agency meeting. He noted an increase in the number of applications over the last two months; with at least 33 more in July and August of this year compared to 2019.

Mr. Lore also reported that staff are still working under a suspension of timeclocks, although they continue to meet regulatory timeframes despite increased workloads and site visits. He spoke of prioritizing site visits earlier in the summer and the efforts to conduct them using safety protocols, and noted that staff will be in a good position as site visits begin to slow down in the fall or are put on hold until spring.

Mr. Lore spoke of the past monthly reports having included discussions regarding transmission rebuilds and how the Agency anticipates an increase in these types of projects. Staff have worked with applicants from New York State Electric and Gas as well as National Grid to identify potential concerns, primarily related to visual impacts.

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These discussions were helpful not only to current projects, but future projects as well.

Mr. Lore also anticipates an increase in the number of solar applications, and stated that he will provide updates as these applications are received.

Mr. Lore followed up on his report from the July Agency meeting, reminding the Board members that 69 permits were issued digitally during the first three months of teleworking, and that all but one has been issued as of this time.

### P2020-0008 SolarPark Energy, LLC (Ariel Lynch)

Ms. Lynch gave a detailed overview of the project including review of jurisdiction, conclusions of law, a description of and slides of the project location and the existing conditions, site history, proposed project details, visual analysis slides, public comment, review by others, and staff's recommendation and permit conditions.

The complete presentation is available at: <a href="https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/545/player?autoplay=0&start=1116&stop=4810">https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/545/player?autoplay=0&start=1116&stop=4810</a>

A motion for approval with conditions was made by Mr. Lussi and seconded by Mr. Ernst. All were in favor.

Mr. Lussi and Ms. Smith recused themselves from the following presentation.

# P2016-0029 LS Marina (John Burth)

Mr. Burth gave a detailed and extensive overview of the project proposal including review of jurisdiction, conclusions of law, a description of and slides of the project location and the existing conditions, site history, proposed project details, visual analysis slides, public comment, review by others, and staff's recommendation and permit conditions.

The complete presentation is available at: <a href="https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/545/player?autoplay=0&start=4810&stop=12987">https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/545/player?autoplay=0&start=4810&stop=12987</a>

A motion for approval with conditions was made by Mr. Wilt and seconded by Mr. Ernst. Dr. Chad Dawson opposed; all others were in favor.

### Old Business

None

### **New Business**

None

The committee meeting adjourned at approximately 4:36 pm.