Phase IA Historic Resources Survey

South Ripley Solar Project

Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York SHPO Project Review Number 20PR03687 NYSDPS Case 19-F-0560

Prepared for:



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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number: 20PR03687

Involved State/Federal Agencies: New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (Section

14.09); New York State Department of Public Service (Article 10)

Phase of Survey: Phase IA Historic Resources Survey

Location Information: Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County

Survey Area:

Facility Description: A proposed 270-megawatt (MW) utility-scale solar facility consisting of ground-

mounted photovoltaic arrays and associated infrastructure.

Facility Area: An approximately 4,510-acre general area of land under consideration to

potentially host the South Ripley Solar Project.

Facility Site: Approximately 2,000 acres of leased or purchased private land to contain all

components of the proposed Facility.

2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area: The area within two miles of the Facility Site boundary, which has been defined

by SHPO as the appropriate study area for indirect effects on newly identified

above-ground historic resources.

5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area: The area within five miles of the Facility Site boundary, which has been defined

by SHPO as the appropriate study area for indirect effects on above-ground

historic resources.

Area of Potential Effect (APE) for Indirect

Effects:

The area where the Facility may result in indirect effects on historic resources, such as visual or auditory impacts. The APE includes those areas within five

miles around the Facility Site where Facility components are anticipated to be

visible.

USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangles: Clymer, North Clymer, Ripley, Sherman, South Ripley, and Westfield, NY; North

East and Wattsburg, PA

Phase IA Historic Resources Survey

Overview:

No properties listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places (S/NRHP) are located within five miles of the Facility Area. There are 11 properties within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area that were previously

recommended or determined to be S/NRHP-eligible and 39 properties within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area whose eligibility for the S/NRHP has not been formally determined. Of the 50 previously identified historic resources, four are located in the APE for Indirect Effects. In addition, two NRHP-listed

properties are located within the APE for Indirect Effects in Pennsylvania.

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Date of Report: August 2020

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the Investigation

On behalf of ConnectGen Chautauqua County LLC (ConnectGen, or the Applicant), a direct subsidiary of ConnectGen LLC, Environmental Design & Research, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, & Environmental Services, D.P.C. (EDR) prepared this Phase IA Historic Resources Survey for the proposed South Ripley Solar Project (the Facility), located in the Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York (Figure 1). The Phase IA Historic Resources Survey was prepared as part of review of the Facility under Article 10 (Certification of Major Electrical Generating Facilities) of the New York State Public Service Law.¹

As described in 16 NYCRR § 1001.20 (Exhibit 20: Cultural Resources), an Article 10 application must include:

(b) A study of the impacts of the construction and operation of the facility and the interconnections and related facilities on historic resources, including the results of field inspections and consultation with local historic preservation groups to identify sites or structures listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places within the viewshed of the facility and within the study area, including an analysis of potential impact on any standing structures which appear to be at least 50 years old and potentially eligible for listing in the State or National Register of Historic Places, based on an assessment by a person qualified pursuant to federal regulation (36 C.F.R. 61).

The information and recommendations included in this report are intended to assist the New York State Department of Public Service (NYSDPS), the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (SHPO), and other New York state and/or federal agencies in their review of the Facility under Article 10 of the New York State Public Service Law, Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law, and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as applicable. Please note that this report addresses only aboveground historic properties; information concerning the Facility's potential effect on archaeological resources is being provided to SHPO under separate cover.

The purpose of the Phase IA Historic Resources Survey is to identify and document those buildings within the **Facility's** Area of Potential Effect (APE) that appear to satisfy State and National Register of Historic Places (S/NRHP) eligibility criteria and to provide a scope of work for additional survey of a five-mile study area surrounding the Facility per SHPO guidelines (see Section 1.4). The Phase IA Historic Resources Survey was prepared by a qualified architectural historian who meets the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects (36 CFR Part 61).

¹ The Applicant has initiated state permitting with the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (Siting Board) as set forth under Article 10 of the Public Service Law (Article 10), but may elect to become subject to Section 94-c of the Executive Law, with the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) as the lead agency. SHPO will be informed of any changes to the lead agency or review process for the Facility. For the purpose of this report, all proposed historic resources survey work references the requirements of Article 10.

1.2 Facility Location and Description

The proposed Facility is a 270-megawatt (MW) photovoltaic solar energy project located entirely within the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County, New York. The regional Facility location is depicted on Figure 1. The Facility will include photovoltaic (PV) panels mounted on fixed-tilt or single-axis tracking structures, together with the associated support infrastructure. The Facility will ultimately be sited on approximately 2,000 acres of leased or purchased private land consisting primarily of open agricultural fields, fallow fields, and large forest stands. The lands that are being evaluated for potential solar development are generally bounded within an approximately 4,510-acre area identified on Figure 2 as the Facility Area. It is important to note that not all the land identified as the Facility Area will be included in the Facility. Rather, the Facility Area represents the broader area within which selected parcels will be developed with solar facilities. This provides flexibility during the project development phase to minimize and avoid impacts to wetlands, cultural resources, visual resources, wildlife habitat, and other sensitive resources.

The Facility will consist of the following components:

- Uniform rows of PV solar panels producing direct current (DC) electricity. The PV panels will be mounted on either fixed-tilt or single-axis tracking structures that follow the sun throughout the day, with a maximum height of approximately 15 feet;
- Internal infrastructure including access roads and fencing;
- Co-located inverters placed throughout the Facility (internal to the panel arrays) to convert DC electricity to alternating current (AC) electricity;
- Medium voltage transformers co-located with the inverters that will increase the voltage of the electricity to 34.5 kV for the collection system;
- A medium voltage collection system that will aggregate the 34.5 kV AC output from the co-located inverters and transformers and deliver electricity to the Facility substation;
- A collection substation where the Facility's electrical output voltage will be combined, and its voltage increased
 to the transmission line voltage of 230 kV via step-up transformers;
- A new point of interconnection (POI) with connecting transmission equipment associated with the existing National Grid substation;
- A potential Operations and Maintenance (O&M) building to be located within the Facility Area;
- Temporary laydown areas for equipment staging during construction; and
- A potential 20 MW battery energy storage system with up to 80 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy storage capacity.

The following terms are used throughout this document to describe the proposed action:

Facility:

Collectively refers to all components of the proposed project, including PV panels, access driveways, buried and above ground collection lines, collection substation, POI switchyard, battery energy storage system, and staging areas.

Facility Area:

An approximately 4,510-acre general area of land under consideration to potentially host the South Ripley Solar Project, including generating facility components, interconnections, and related facilities. The Facility Area may be refined based on landowner coordination, environmental sensitivities, and engineering/design considerations.

Facility Site:

The parcels proposed to host the Facility components. This includes parcels currently under, or being pursued, for lease, purchase, or easement (or other real property interests) by the Applicant for the location of all Facility components. The Facility will ultimately be sited on approximately 2,000 acres of leased or purchased private land. It is anticipated that the Facility Site will change as the Facility's design advances and becomes more refined.

2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area: The area within two miles of the Facility Site boundary, which has been defined by SHPO (see Section 1.4) as the appropriate study area for indirect (visual) effects on above-ground historic resources not previously listed or determined eligible for listing on the S/NRHP nor designated a National Historic Landmark. The 2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area for the Facility is located entirely within Chautauqua County including portions of the Towns of Ripley, Westfield, Sherman and Mina.

5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area: The area within five miles of the Facility Site boundary, which has been defined by SHPO (see Section 1.4) as the appropriate study area for indirect (visual) effects on above-ground historic resources listed on or determined eligible for listing on the S/NRHP or designated a National Historic Landmark. The 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area for the Facility is located entirely within Chautauqua County including portions of the Towns of Ripley, Westfield, Chautauqua, Sherman and Mina, and the Village of Sherman.

APE for Direct Effects: The APE for Direct Effects for the Facility is the area containing all proposed soil disturbance associated with the Facility. As presently envisioned, the APE for Direct Effects for the current Facility layout would be defined as all areas of soil disturbance within the leased or purchased privately-owned parcels that would ultimately be developed for the Facility, although the proposed locations of specific components have not been defined yet. It is anticipated that the APE for Direct Effects will change as the Facility's design advances and becomes more refined.

APE for Indirect Effects:

The APE for Indirect Effects on historic resources includes those areas where the Facility may result in indirect effects on historic resources, such as visual or auditory impacts. As presently envisioned, the APE for Indirect Effects would be confined to areas where the Facility would be visible (based on a viewshed analysis considering only topography) or where noise created by the Facility would be noticeable. The APE for Indirect Effects will include those areas within five miles around the Facility Site where Facility components are anticipated to be visible (see Figure 3).

1.3 Historic Resources Study Area and Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Per the definition set forth in 16 NYCRR § 1000.20, the visual study area to be used for analysis of major electric generating facilities is defined as:

An area generally related to the nature of the technology and the setting of the proposed site. For large facilities or wind power facilities with components spread across a rural landscape, the study area shall generally include the area within a radius of at least five miles from all generating facility components, interconnections and related facilities and alternative location sites. For facilities in areas of significant resource concerns, the size of a study area shall be configured to address specific features or resource issues.

Unlike a wind power project that contains wind turbines that may be 500 feet or more in height and which are visible from a relatively large surrounding area (e.g., five miles or more), a solar generating facility does not have any prominently visible components. Although the PV panels would be the most widespread Facility component (and are not expected to be more than 15 feet above grade, less than a single-story residence), the tallest structures associated with the Facility would be substation equipment such as the overhead gantry (which allows the powerlines to connect to the existing transmission line), lightning protection masts, and possible telecommunication structures that each could have a height of 70 feet or more. Above-ground collector lines, if these are determined to be necessary, may also have heights of more than 18.5 feet.

To ensure that potential visual effects on regional visually sensitive historic resources are adequately considered in the Article 10 Application, and consistent with SHPO guidelines regarding solar facilities (see Section 1.4), the historic resources survey and subsequent analyses will address two-mile-radius and five-mile-radius Historic Resources Study Areas (see Figure 3). The 2-Mile and 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Areas will be used for the purpose of identifying historic properties and evaluating visibility and potential visual impacts to those properties determined by SHPO to be eligible for listing on the S/NRHP.

The APE for Direct Effects for the project is defined as all areas where potential soil disturbance (or other direct, physical impacts) is anticipated during construction of the Facility. The actual extent of soil disturbance associated with the Facility Site is anticipated to be significantly less than 2,000 acres. As described above, the proposed PV panels are mounted on racks with a small footprint (in terms of soil disturbance), typically consisting of small I-beam posts, helical piles, or ground screw piles driven or screwed into the ground. Facility components will ultimately be sited on approximately 2,000 acres within which there will remain a large amount of open space in between rows of PV panels, and in the buffer areas around the perimeter. The remaining lands within the Facility Site will be undeveloped

due to a combination of ecological resource avoidance, setbacks, and engineering constraints. As the Facility is planned to be constructed almost entirely on open lands, no direct physical impacts to historic properties are anticipated to occur as a result of the Facility.

The APE for Indirect Effects on historic resources includes those areas where the Facility may result in indirect effects on cultural resources, such as visual or auditory impacts. The **Facility's** potential indirect effect on historic resources would be a change (resulting from the introduction of PV panels or other Facility **components**) in the property's setting. This could theoretically consist of auditory and/or visual impacts; however, industrial-scale solar facilities produce minimal noise, so auditory impacts resulting from the proposed Facility are not anticipated to be a significant type of impact to the setting of historic resources. Therefore, potential visual impacts associated with the proposed Facility are the most relevant consideration for defining an APE for Indirect Effects.

In order to accurately determine an APE for Indirect Effects for the Facility, a preliminary viewshed analysis for the proposed PV panel arrays was prepared using 10-meter resolution USGS digital elevation model (DEM) data (7.5-minute series) for the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area, the location and height of all proposed PV panels, an assumed viewer height of 1.8 meters (or approximately 6 feet), and ESRI ArcGIS® software with the Spatial Analyst extension. Since the specific layout of solar panels is yet to be determined, sample points representing solar panels were placed 300 feet apart in a grid pattern throughout all developable areas within those parcels that are currently being considered for development by the Applicant.

The preliminary DEM viewshed analysis, which provides the basis for the APE for Indirect Effects, is presented in Figure 3. Because the Applicant is in the process of defining the parcels where the Facility will ultimately be sited, the APE for Indirect Effects presented in this report should be considered preliminary in nature. The Facility's APE relative to historic resources will likely be revised in association with subsequent layout changes during the permitting process, and changes in the layout of the Facility are likely to result in changes in the size of the APE, which will be documented in the Historic Resources Survey report that is anticipated to be prepared as a subsequent step in the consideration of the Facility's potential effect on historic properties, as described herein in Section 3.0 of this report.

1.4 Agency Consultation

16 NYCRR § 1001.20 indicates that the scope of cultural resources studies for a major electrical generating facility should be determined in consultation with SHPO. Applicable agency consultation that has been conducted to date is summarized below.

The Public Involvement Program Plan (PIP) prepared as part of the Article 10 process was released in October 2019.² The PIP is designed to initiate the Article 10 process, and includes consultation with the affected agencies and other stakeholders; pre-application activities to encourage stakeholders to participate at the earliest opportunity; activities designed to educate the public as to the specific proposal and the Article 10 review process, including the availability of funding for municipal and local parties; the establishment of a website to disseminate information to the public and updates regarding the Facility and the Article 10 process; notifications to affected agencies and other stakeholders; and activities designed to encourage participation by stakeholders in the certification and compliance process.

A Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) was released May 22, 2020.3 The PSS and related "scoping" process are designed to gather stakeholder input at a relatively early stage, before an applicant has a fully developed proposal, so that issues and environmental and social resources of particular concern to the community can be identified and addressed in the final project design. Consistent with this goal, this PSS provides the scope and methodology of the comprehensive environmental studies required for the proposed Facility, as well as the information required to satisfy the Article 10 regulations.

An initial request for consultation was made to SHPO via the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS) website on June 18, 2020 (EDR, 2020a). This submittal included a description of the proposed Facility and a map of the Facility Area and proposed a historic resources survey be conducted in accordance with SHPO's Guidelines for Solar Facility Development Cultural Resources Survey Work (SHPO, 2020a) in order to meet the Article 10 requirements. On June 22, 2020, SHPO provided a response letter concurring with EDR's general approach to the historic resources survey. and requested that they be provided with the methodology and scope of work for historic resources surveys for the Facility.

The initial consultation submission to SHPO also included a memorandum that was also provided to DPS, and other relevant state and local agencies and entities to assist in the identification of visually sensitive resources (VSRs), in accordance with Article 10 regulations (EDR, 2020b). The memorandum described a 5-mile visual study area to be used for the visual impact assessment to be prepared for the Facility, and included a table and maps depicting VSRs identified within the visual study area.

On July 6, 2020, DPS provided a response to the memorandum indicating the following regarding historic resources within the 5-mile visual study area:

² The Public Involvement Program Plan (PIP) for the Facility is available on

DPS' website here: http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=19-F-0560&submit=Search

Scoping Preliminary Statement (PSS) for the Facility is available DPS' website here: http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=19-F-0560&submit=Search

DPS staff advises that the five-mile study area should continue into Pennsylvania to ensure that visually sensitive resources are properly addressed. The following are resources to be considered in Pennsylvania:

Properties of Historic Significance

- 1. (NRHP) Short's Hotel 90 S Pearl St, North East, PA 16428
- 2. (NRHP) North East Historic District 21-1 N Pearl St, North East, PA 16428 (DPS, 2020)

A copy of all referenced agency correspondence is included as Appendix A.

The submission of this Phase IA Historic Resources Survey is provided in response to initial consultation with SHPO for the Facility. This Phase IA Historic Resources Survey presents a preliminary APE for Indirect Effects and proposes methodologies and analyses that are consistent with SHPO correspondence related to cultural resources surveys prepared by EDR for previous energy projects in New York.

Following submission and review of this survey by SHPO, EDR anticipates that a subsequent historic resources survey will be conducted, as described herein in Section 3.0 of this report. As stated in Section 1.1, this report addresses only aboveground historic resources; information concerning the Facility's potential effect on archaeological resources is being provided to SHPO under separate cover via the CRIS website.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND SITE HISTORY

2.1 Previously Identified Historic Resources

EDR reviewed the CRIS website maintained by SHPO to identify significant historic buildings, resources and/or districts located within the 2-Mile and 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Areas and APE for Indirect Effects for the Facility. A total of 50 resources within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area were identified using the CRIS website. Of these 50 properties:

- A total of 11 properties have been previously recommended or determined to be S/NRHP-eligible and 39 properties have not been formally evaluated by SHPO in terms of their S/NRHP eligibility.
- No properties listed on the S/NRHP in New York State, or National Historic Landmarks are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area.
- No historic resources determined to be eligible for listing on the S/NRHP are located within the Facility Area.
- Only one previously identified historic resource is located within the 2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area and is also located within the Facility Area (South Ripley Cemetery, see Table 1 below).
- None of the 11 previously determined S/NRHP-eligible properties within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area are in areas of anticipated Facility visibility.
- Of the 39 properties that have not been formally evaluated by SHPO in terms of their S/NRHP eligibility, only one is located in the APE for Indirect Effects within the 2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area, and three are located in the APE for Indirect Effects within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area (see Table 1).

In addition, as noted in Section 1.4, two NRHP-listed properties (North East Historic District and the Short's Hotel) are located within the APE for Indirect Effects in Pennsylvania.

The locations of previously identified historic resources within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area are depicted on Figure 4. Previously identified S/NRHP-eligible resources and resources whose S/NRHP eligibility has not been formally determined by SHPO, are listed in Table 1, and the two NRHP-listed properties located in Pennsylvania are listed in Table 2.

Table 1. Previously Identified Historic Resources Within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area

USN	Property Name and/or Description	Address	Municipality	S/NRHP Eligibility (SHPO Determined)	Distance from Facility (miles)	Potential Facility Visibility (based on viewshed)
N/A	South Ripley Cemetery	County Road 64	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	0	Yes
01324.000023	Mail Pouch Tobacco Barn	8755 Sherman Findley Lake Rd (NY 430)	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	2.3	Yes
N/A	Mina Cemetery	Mina-Cemetery Road	Mina	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	2.5	Yes
01322.000023	Buffalo, Cleveland, & Chicago / New York, Chicago, & St. Louis / Nickel Plate RailwayTunnel	Railroad ROW	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	2.7	No
01322.000024	Buffalo and Erie Railroad	Railroad ROW	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.0	No
N/A	Porter Cemetery	Lyons Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.1	No
01355.000001	Sherman Community Church (former Methodist Episcopal Church)	North of Route 430	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.1	No
01355.000025	O. Hopkins House	124 Miller Street	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.1	No
01355.000018	Brick commercial building	124 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000021	Brick Italianate-style commercial building	125 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000009	Minerva Free Library	116 Miller Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.2	No
01355.000019	Brick commercial building	110 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000022	Brick Italianate-style commercial building	113 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.00002	Brick commercial building	106 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000024	Twentieth-century brick commercial building	101 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000011	Nineteenth-century brick commercial buildings	100-104 East Main Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.2	No
01355.000027	Nineteenth-century vernacular residence	111 Columbia Street	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No
01355.000023	Brick Italianate-style commercial building	103 West Main St	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.2	No

USN	Property Name and/or Description	Address	Municipality	S/NRHP Eligibility (SHPO Determined)	Distance from Facility (miles)	Potential Facility Visibility (based on viewshed)
01355.000012	Brick Italianate-style commercial buildings	105-107 East Main Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.2	No
01355.000013	Twentieth-century brick commercial building	108 East Main Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.2	No
01355.000014	Vacant lot	109-119 East Main Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.2	No
01355.000003	Former Roger Harmelink House	143 Park Street	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.3	No
01327.000068	Circa-1910 farmstead	5869 Parker Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.3	No
01355.000015	Vacant lot	121-123 East Main Street	Sherman	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.3	No
01327.000069	Circa-1910 farmstead	5671 Sherman Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.3	No
01327.000066	Circa-1900 residence	8844 Pigeon Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.3	No
01327.000070	Circa-1920 farmstead	5674 Sherman Westfield Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.3	No
01327.000065	Circa-1920 residence	5808 Parker Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.4	No
01324.000009	County Bridge #1016, riveted truss bridge	Barcelona Road	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.6	No
01358.000053	Nineteenth-century vernacular residence	25 Maple Avenue	Ripley	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.6	No
01322.000027	Vernacular residence	48 South State Street	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.7	No
01305.000748	County Bridge #1053, steel girder bridge	Nettle Hill Road	Chautauqua	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.7	No
N/A	Quincy Rural Cemetery	Shaver Street	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.8	No
01317.000008	Vernacular residence	10391 School Street	Mina	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.8	No
01324.000019	Newman Residence	7879 Lyons Road	Sherman	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.8	No
01327.000067	Circa-1940 residence	8397 Pigeon Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.8	No
01322.000033	Circa-1880 residence	98 State Route 20 (East Main Street)	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.8	No
01322.000034	Queen Anne-style residence	70 State Route 20 (East Main Street)	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	3.9	No

USN	Property Name and/or Description	Address	Municipality	S/NRHP Eligibility (SHPO Determined)	Distance from Facility (miles)	Potential Facility Visibility (based on viewshed)
01322.000092	Hamilton Mansion Caretaker's Cottage	71 West Main Street	Ripley	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	3.9	No
01322.000093	Hamilton Mansion	69 West Main Street	Ripley	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	4.0	No
01358.000043	F.A. Rice Building	2 West Main Street	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.0	No
01358.000042	Italian Renaissance Revival-style commercial building	1 West Main Street	Ripley	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	4.0	No
01322.000006	Queen Anne-style residence	38 East Main Street	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.1	No
01358.000029	Vernacular residence	29 North State Street	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.2	No
01358.000027	Queen Anne-style residence	35 North State Street	Ripley	S/NRHP-Eligible (SHPO Determined)	4.2	No
01322.000032	Circa-1860 residence	71 State Route 20 (East Main Street)	Ripley	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.2	No
01327.000071	Twentieth-century farmstead	5959 Sherman Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.4	No
01327.000072	Circa-1890 farmstead	5862 Ogden Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.5	No
01327.000073	Circa-1930 farmstead	5960 Ogden Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	4.7	No
01327.000074	Circa-1850 farmstead	8724 Belson Road	Westfield	S/NRHP Eligibility Undetermined	5.0	Yes

Table 2. NRHP-Listed Properties within APE for Indirect Effects in Pennsylvania

NR Number	Property Name and/or Description	Address	Municipality	NRHP Status	Distance from Facility (miles)	Potential Facility Visibility (based on viewshed)
90000414 North East Historic District		114 contributing buildings in North East Borough	North East, PA	NRHP-Listed	3.8	Yes
83002243	Short's Hotel	90 S. Pearl Street	North East, PA	NRHP-Listed	3.9	Yes

Nineteenth and early-twentieth century structures (primarily residences and farmsteads) that have not been previously evaluated for S/NRHP eligibility may be located within the Facility Area and 2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area. These types of resources often derive their significance from being associated with particular events or individuals, or as representative examples of architectural styles that retain their overall integrity of design and materials.

A review of the CRIS database indicated that one previous historic resources survey has been conducted within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area:

• The Village of Sherman Reconnaissance Level Cultural Resources Survey was completed in 2010 to determine the S/NRHP eligibility of all properties located within the village boundaries, or approximately 290 in total. The report recommended the nomination of a small commercial historic district along Main Street comprised of 11 contributing and five noncontributing resources; the report recommended 52 resources as individually S/NRHP-eligible. None of these resources are located within the APE for Indirect Effects.

All of the previously identified S/NRHP-eligible resources located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area are in areas of concentrated settlement, namely, the Village of Sherman and hamlet of Ripley (see Figure 4). The preliminary DEM viewshed analysis indicates that none of these resources are located in areas of anticipated Facility visibility. The S/NRHP-eligible properties within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area include residences, commercial buildings, and a library. Resources associated with residential and commercial life are typically determined S/NRHP-eligible under Criterion C (i.e., they "embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction" [CFR, 2004]), and often derive their significance from being representative examples of vernacular nineteenth-century architectural styles that retain their overall integrity of design and materials.

Numerous nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century structures (primarily residences and farmsteads) are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area that have not been previously evaluated by SHPO to determine if they are S/NRHP-eligible. These resources consist mainly of vernacular interpretations of Greek Revival and Victorian style residences, often with associated English and/or gambrel-roofed barns and other agricultural structures. The architectural integrity of historic resources throughout the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area is variable, with many showing noticeable alteration, or deterioration due to the elements.

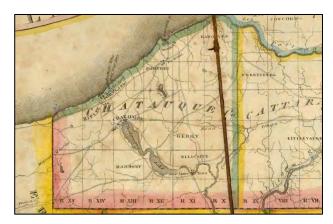
2.2 History of the Historic Resources Study Area

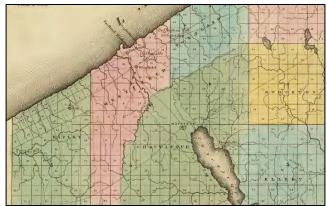
Archives and repositories consulted during EDR's research for the Facility included the online digital collections of the Library of Congress, New York State Library, David Rumsey Map Collection, and USGS. Sources reviewed for the Facility included the *Gazetteer of the State of New York: Embracing A Comprehensive View of the Geography*,

Geology, and General History of the State, and A Complete History and Description of Every County, City, Town, Village, and Locality (French, 1860), the History of Chautauqua County New York, From Its First Settlement to the Present Time; With Numerous Biographical and Family Sketches (Young, 1875), the History of Chautauqua County, New York (Edson, 1894), and the History of Chautauqua County New York and Its People (Downs and Hedley, 1921). Historic maps reproduced in the report include **Keeney's 1854** Map of Chautauque County, NY (Figure 5); the 1899 Westfield, NY, 1905 Clymer, NY, and 1913 North East, PA 15-Minute USGS Topographic Quadrangles (Figure 6); and the 1954 Ripley, NY, 1954 South Ripley, NY, 1954 Sherman, NY, 1954 Clymer, NY, 1954 North Clymer, NY, 1954 Westfield, NY, 1960 Wattsburg, PA, and 1960 North East, PA 7.5-Minute USGS Topographic Quadrangles (Figure 7).

The Facility is located in the Town of Ripley in Chautauqua County, New York. The 1,062 square miles of the county are divided into two cities, part of the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation, and 17 towns which contain 9 incorporated villages. At the time of European contact and colonization in the eighteenth century, the Facility site was located within the territory of the Seneca Nation of the Iroquois Confederacy, though it was previously territory of the Erie Nation. Erie territory encompassed modern-day Chautauqua County, extending westward along the southern shore of Lake Erie, and eastward toward the lands of the Iroquois Confederacy. From 1654 to 1656, it is reported that between one and two thousand Iroquois warriors invaded Erie territory, and began an assault so brutal that it destroyed the Erie Nation entirely. For the next century, this remained primarily Seneca territory (Downs and Hedley, 1921; Kirst, 2005).

The French began utilizing the western end of Chautauqua Lake by 1679, setting the stage for later European land claims. By the eighteenth century, France had claimed the land around Chautauqua Lake for its own, which it ceded to Great Britain in 1763. By 1797, the land had been purchased by the Holland Land Company, which subdivided and sold it to early European American settlers. Chautauqua County was established in 1811 after being split from Genesee County in 1808 along with Niagara and Cattaraugus Counties. Within a decade, major settlements began to form adjacent to water bodies, including Dunkirk and Portland along Lake Erie, Mayville at the northern end of Chautauqua Lake, and Jamestown along the Chadakoin River in the southern part of the county (Inset 1). In 1829, several new towns were formed from existing early town parcels, establishing the general land patterns that would define Chautauqua County throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Inset 2). The opening of the Erie Canal to the north brought new trade and settlers to western New York, and by 1835, the population of Chautauqua County had reached 35,000, mostly concentrated along Chautauqua Lake and Lake Erie (Beers, 1881; Kirst, 2005).





Inset 1. 1817 Lay *Map of the State of New York* (left)

By 1817, most parts of Chautauqua County had begun to be settled, though there were only a few organized townships. Much of the town remained rural throughout the subsequent decade (Lay, 1817; collections of the David Rumsey Historical Map Collection).

Inset 2. 1829 Burr *Map of the County of Chautauque* (right)
By 1829, several new towns had been formed, and laid out in a generally grid-like pattern (Burr, 1829; collections of the David Rumsey Historical Map Collection).

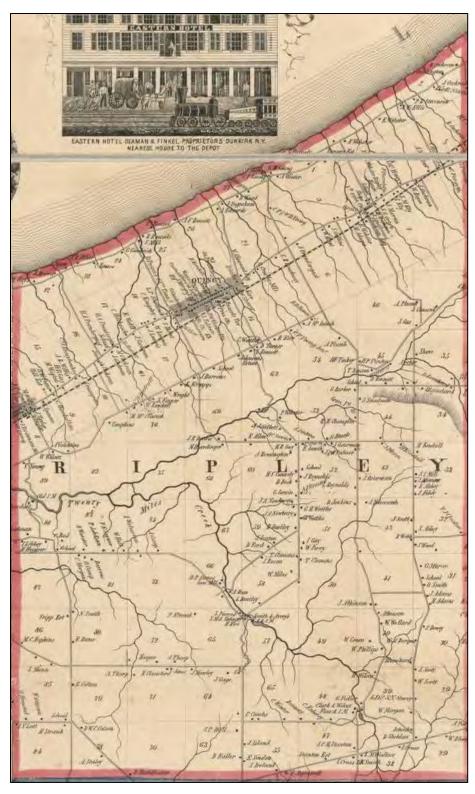
Chautauqua County experienced slow economic growth throughout the early nineteenth century, as an extensive transportation system was not in place until the 1850s. In addition to a road network across the northern half of the county, rail service was constructed along Lake Erie, including the New York and Erie Railroad (later known as the Erie Railroad) and the Buffalo and State Line Railroad (later known as the New York Central Railroad) beginning in 1850. The Erie Railroad allowed Brooks Locomotive Works to be established in Dunkirk, which facilitated growth of the city's population and encouraged expansion of the steel and textile industries at the northern end of the county. Economic development in smaller towns and rural areas in the southern portions of the county included creameries, sawmills, tanneries, peach and grape crops, fisheries, wool mills, furniture factories, paper mills, canning plants and basket works. Northern Chautauqua County is particularly known for its grape crop, as part of the largest Concord grape belt in the northeastern United States. The Town of Westfield was home to Welch's Grape Juice Co. from 1897-1983 (Young, 1875; Downs and Hedley, 1921; Kirst, 2005).

The Town of Ripley was formed in 1817 from the Town of Portland and named in honor of General Eleazar Wheelock Ripley, a celebrated War of 1812 veteran. In 1829, Ripley's borders decreased to accommodate the formation of the Town of Westfield. Prior to widespread European settlement of the area, James McMahan purchased a tract of more than four thousand acres (known as the McMahan tract) in 1801. Most of the town's first residents settled in the McMahan tract; the early lots lacked the uniform layout later established elsewhere in Ripley following the formal survey of the town. The Village of Quincey (also, Quincy) was settled rapidly in the early nineteenth-century and later renamed the Village of Ripley in 1873. By 1804, the village was accessible via the Buffalo & Erie Road (later renamed the Main Road) and became a key point along the railroad. Later, Lake and Side Hill Roads developed parallel to the Main Road,

providing access to both the Lake Erie shoreline and the rural interior of the town (French, 1860; Young, 1875; Downs and Hedley, 1921; McCutcheon, 2005; Town of Ripley, 2020).

The Town of Ripley benefited from its location along Lake Erie and its proximity to both Pennsylvania and Canada as manufactured and agricultural goods were transported to regional markets by the New York Central, Lake Shore & Michigan Central, Buffalo & State Line, and Nickel Plate railroads. Ripley was home to small-scale, local industries including grist and saw mills, foundries, wool mills, and brick factories; however, the town was primarily agricultural. In the 1921 *History of Chautauqua County, New York and Its People*, **Downs and Hedley recount that** "Ripley is essentially a town of one industry and around the famous Chautauqua grape its prosperity is built. The town is a vast vineyard; grape juice is manufactured in large quantities and the manufacture of grape baskets is carried on extensively" (Downs and Hedley, 1921: 229; Town of Ripley, 2020).

Ripley is one of eight towns in Chautauqua County that comprises part of the region's grape belt. Grapes were first introduced in the town by John B. Dinsmore, Walter Loomis, and Joel Calvin in 1860. Grapes, most commonly Concord grapes, were grown along Lake and Side Hill Roads and sold to grape processors to produce juice, wine, jam, and jelly. The Randall Fruit Juice Company (later called the Randall Grape Juice Company) was the prominent vineyard and processor in Ripley. Grapes were transported via the railroads in baskets, which gave rise to several basket factories near the town's railroad depots. In the 1894 *Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Chautauqua County, New York*, Edson notes the rapid increase in Chautauqua County's annual grape production from a few thousand baskets in 1867 to more than 13,000 tons by 1891. While most of Ripley was engaged in grape production, the southern portion of the town boasted a successful dairy industry with several local creameries (Edson, 1894; Downs and Hedley, 1921; Town of Ripley, 2020).



Inset 3. Keeney 1854 Map of Chautauque County, New York: From Actual Surveys
By the mid-nineteenth-century, the Village of Quincy (later renamed Ripley) served as the town of Ripley's economic and transportation center;
while the majority of the town remained primarily agrarian with scattered farmsteads (Keeney, 1854, collections of the Library of Congress,
Geography and Map Division).

Throughout Chautauqua County, manufacturing and large industry greatly decreased by the late-twentieth century, and with it the population of the county. This trend was exacerbated by the completion of Interstate 90, an east-west route, through the Towns of Ripley, Westfield, and Chautauqua in 1957, which diverted traffic from local rail lines and provided efficient and expeditious transportation for freight via trucks. The Southern Tier Expressway (New York State Route 17) through the southern portion of the county, including through the Towns of Mina and Sherman, was completed in the 1990s and designated as Interstate 86 in 1999, becoming the second major east-west thoroughfare in modern Chautauqua County. Agriculture, specifically grape cultivation, maple syrup, and dairy have remained major industries, and education also plays a large role in the local economy, due to the locations of SUNY Fredonia, Jamestown Community College, the Chautauqua Institution, and BOCES (Kirst, 2005; McCutcheon, 2005; Town of Ripley, 2020).

Historic maps reflect the nineteenth century settlement and expansion of Chautauqua County within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area, and the relative lack of population growth throughout the twentieth century. The 1854 Keeney *Map of Chautauque County, New York* (Figure 5) shows development within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area concentrated around the hamlet of Quincy (now Ripley, Town of Ripley), the hamlet of Mina Corners (now Mina, Town of Mina), the hamlet of Pleasant Valley (Town of Sherman), and the hamlet of Sherman (Town of Sherman). Farmsteads are scattered along the secondary roads, with denser patterns of farmstead development along the Main Road (present-day U.S. Route 20) and Side Hill Road. The 1854 Keeney map also reflects the grid-like pattern of lots on a cardinal axis in the southern portion of the Town of Ripley and the neighboring towns, contrasted with the development of agricultural lots on a diagonal axis reflecting their proximity to Lake Erie in the north portion of the Town of Ripley.

The 1899-1913 USGS topographic quadrangles (Figure 6) do not reflect a significant change in the number or placement of farmsteads. The growth of the Village of Sherman due to its location along the Pennsylvania Railroad is apparent, whereas the nearby hamlet of Pleasant Valley appears to have fewer structures than it did on the 1854 Keeney map. The hamlet of Ripley likewise has grown. The 1899-1913 quadrangles also show an increase in the number of structures in the hamlets of Findley Lake and South Ripley, which were not identified on the earlier map. The 1954-1960 USGS topographic quadrangles (Figure 7) reflect continued, moderate growth of the hamlet of Ripley and Village of Sherman, and relatively little change in the remaining portions of the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area. The most notable change is the introduction of the New York State Thruway (Interstate 90) between Lake Road and U.S. Route 20.

2.3 Existing Conditions

The Facility Area is proposed in a rural part of Chautauqua County encompassing the area bounded roughly by the New York-Pennsylvania state border to the west, the Ripley Town line to the south and east, and Irish Road and East Johnson Road to the north. The Facility Area contains gently rolling topography consisting of a mix of agricultural lands and undeveloped second growth forest. Existing conditions within the 2-Mile and 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area have been observed and evaluated during site visits and through an examination of aerial imagery and can be summarized as follows:

- Land use is typical for a rural area in Western New York and consists primarily of hay, corn, and soy bean fields, as well as fallow fields and pastures, scattered residential development along area roadways, and moderately sized tracts of undeveloped second-growth forest intermixed with the fields. The northern portion of the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area includes part of the Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt; in this area, grape production is the predominant agricultural land use. The roads and highways that cross the Facility Area and the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area offer open and generally unobstructed views of the rural landscape (See Appendix B, Photographs 1-3).
- Except for the Village of Sherman and the hamlets of Ripley and Findley Lake, the area within five miles of
 the Facility Site is for the most part rural and lightly populated. Older homes and farms are widely spaced at
 regular intervals along roadways and include primarily vernacular interpretations of Greek Revival and
 Victorian style houses, agricultural buildings and farm facilities, and one-story single- or double-wide modular
 homes (see Appendix B, Photographs 4-6).
- The Village of Sherman is located approximately three miles southeast of the Facility Area in the Town of Sherman, at the intersection of New York State Routes 76 and 430, and just off Exit 6 of the Southern Tier Expressway (Interstate 86). The village is comprised of a downtown commercial district and surrounding residential streets with churches, a central school, and homes dating from the early-nineteenth to midtwentieth centuries.
- The hamlet of Ripley is located approximately four miles north of the Facility Area in the Town of Ripley, at the intersection of U.S. Route 20 and New York State Route 76, and near Exit 61 of the New York State Thruway (Interstate 90). The hamlet is comprised of a commercial district surrounded by residential streets with churches, a cemetery, a central school, and homes dating from the early-nineteenth to late-twentieth centuries. It is bisected by two parallel rail lines operated by CSX and Norfolk Southern. Cultivated fields of grapevines are a prominent visual feature of the hamlet (see Appendix B, Photographs 9-11).
- The hamlet of Findley Lake is located approximately four miles south of the Facility Area in the Town of Mina, at the intersection of New York State Routes 426 and 430, and near Exit 4 of the Southern Tier Expressway (Interstate 86). The hamlet is located at the north end of Findley Lake, a reservoir primarily surrounded by

- lakefront residences. The hamlet is comprised of a commercial district surrounded by residential streets with a church, a cemetery, and homes dating from the early-nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries.
- Smaller population centers are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area, including the hamlets of Mina, State Line, and South Ripley. They are generally characterized by a cluster of residences with a church and/or a small number of commercial buildings (see Appendix B, Photograph 7).
- Several rural cemeteries whose S/NRHP eligibility has yet to be formally determined are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area. One of these, South Ripley Cemetery, is located in the Facility Area (see Appendix B, Photograph 8); however, the South Ripley Cemetery is not proposed for inclusion in the Proposed Facility Site.

3.0 HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY METHODOLOGY

As described in Section 1.1 of this report, 16 NYCRR § 1001.20 (Exhibit 20: Cultural Resources) requires that an Article 10 application for a major electrical generation facility must include:

(b) A study of the impacts of the construction and operation of the facility and the interconnections and related facilities on historic resources, including the results of field inspections and consultation with local historic preservation groups to identify sites or structures listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places within the viewshed of the facility and within the study area, including an analysis of potential impact on any standing structures which appear to be at least 50 years old and potentially eligible for listing in the State or National Register of Historic Places, based on an assessment by a person qualified pursuant to federal regulation (36 C.F.R. 61).

To address this requirement, the Applicant intends to conduct a historic resources survey of the APE for Indirect Effects for the Facility. The proposed methodology for conducting this survey is described below.

3.1 Criteria for Evaluating the Significance of Historic Resources

Historically significant properties are defined herein to include buildings, districts, objects, structures and/or sites that have been listed on the S/NRHP, as well as those properties that SHPO has formally determined are eligible for listing on the S/NRHP. Criteria set forth by the National Park Service for evaluating historic properties (36 CFR 60.4) state that a historic building, district, object, structure or site is significant (i.e., eligible for listing on the S/NRHP) if the property conveys (per CFR, 2004; NPS, 1990):

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and:

- (A) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (B) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (C) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (D) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

As noted in Section 1.1 of this report, historic resources surveys undertaken by EDR in association with the Facility will be conducted by professionals who satisfy the qualifications criteria per the **Secretary of the Interior's Standards for**

Historic Preservation (36 CFR 61). Our staff are thoroughly familiar with vernacular architectural styles, architectural traditions, historic settlement and land use patterns, and relevant historic contexts for rural New York State.

3.2 Historic Resources Survey Methodology

The SHPO has developed *Guidelines for Solar Facility Development Cultural Resources Survey Work* (*Guidelines*; SHPO, 2020a), which require the following for the assessment of historic and cultural resources associated with the development of ground-mounted solar facility projects covering 100 acres or more in New York State⁴:

Visual Impact Area for Historic Resources

- 4. Solar arrays covering 100 acres or more.
 - i. Complete a GIS analysis of areas that will have positive visibility of the solar field based upon topography only (do not factor in vegetation).
 - ii. A survey** of all properties 50 years old or older within 2-miles of the solar array ZVI should be completed by a 36 CFR 61 qualified consultant.
 - iii. Identification of any New York State and/or National Register listed property or district or National Historic Landmark within 5-miles of project ZVI⁵.

In accordance with the *Guidelines*, EDR will conduct a historic resources survey of the Facility's APE for Indirect Effects (see Figure 3). The Facility's APE for Indirect Effects is defined in Section 1.3 of this report and includes those areas within five miles of the Facility with potential visibility of the Facility (as determined by viewshed analysis considering only topography). The historic resources survey will identify and document those buildings within the APE for Indirect Effects that, in the opinion of EDR's architectural historian, appear to satisfy S/NRHP eligibility criteria. In addition, the survey will also be conducted for the purpose of providing updated photographs and recommendations of eligibility for previously identified resources within the APE and within the 2-Mile Historic Resources Survey Area whose S/NRHP eligibility has not formally been determined (see Table 1). None of the previously identified S/NRHP-eligible resources within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area are located within the APE for Indirect Effects; therefore, EDR will not survey those resources. There are no National Historic Landmarks within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area. Two NRHP-listed resources are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area and APE for Indirect Effects, in Pennsylvania.

^{**} The determined distance of survey from the solar field is for those areas that fall within the ZVI as established by the GIS analysis only. Qualified (36 CFR 61) consultants are required to document only those properties that in their professional opinion may meet the National Register criteria.

⁴ Although a portion of the APE for Indirect Effects is located within Pennsylvania, the survey methodology described herein is limited to New York State only.

⁵ The SHPO *Guidelines* define a Zone of Visual Impact, or ZVI, that is synonymous with the APE for Indirect Effects defined in this report.

Prior to conducting fieldwork, EDR will and consult with local stakeholders identified in Table 2, including historic societies, municipal historians, museums, and other available sources, in order to identify properties that may be S/NRHP-eligible due to non-architectural associations (i.e. their significance is derived from associations with significant events or persons per National Register Criteria A and B).

Table 3. Local Stakeholders for Historic Resources Survey

Municipality or Organization	Contact	Title
Chautauqua County	Michelle Henry	County Historian
Town of Ripley	George Davis	Town Historian
Town of Ripley	Dr. John Hamels	Town Historian
Town of Chautauqua	Devon Taylor	Town Historian
Town of Westfield	Marybell Beigh	Town Historian
Town of Sherman	Donna Higginbotham	Town Historian
Town of Mina	Mary Norcross	Town Historian
South Ripley Cemetery Association	Peter J. Ryan	N/A
Chautauqua County Historical Society	Cristie Herbst	President
Findley Lake-Mina Historical Society	Mary Norcross	President
Yorker Museum	N/A	N/A
Fenton History Center	Noah Goodling	Director

Historic resources survey fieldwork will include systematically driving all public roads within the APE for Indirect Effects to evaluate the S/NRHP eligibility of structures and properties within the APE for Indirect Effects. When resources that appear to satisfy S/NRHP eligibility criteria are identified, the existing conditions of the property will be documented by EDR's architectural historian. This includes photographs of the building(s) (and property) and field notes describing the style, physical characteristics and materials (e.g., number of stories, plan, external siding, roof, foundation, and sash), condition, and physical integrity for each resource. Other known criteria aside from architecture which may contribute to a property's S/NRHP eligibility will be noted and evaluated as well.

EDR's evaluation of historic resources within the APE will focus on the physical condition and integrity (with respect to design, materials, feeling, and association) to assess the potential architectural significance of each resource. EDR will also assess the significance of properties previously determined or newly identified to be potentially significant under National Register Criteria A (associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of

our history) and B (associated with the lives of significant persons in our past). If deemed appropriate, individual buildings located within hamlets will not be documented as individual properties, but instead will be described collectively as clusters or districts. For previously surveyed historic properties within the APE whose S/NRHP eligibility has not formally been determined., EDR will take an updated photograph (or photographs) and will make a recommendation of S/NRHP eligibility. In addition, the consideration of vernacular landscape elements within the APE for Indirect Effects will be considered per SHPO direction on previous historic resources surveys associated with solar projects.6

Note that all properties included in the historic resources survey will be photographed and assessed from public rightsof-way. The condition and integrity of all resources will be evaluated based solely on the visible exterior of the structures. No inspections or evaluations requiring access to the interior of buildings, or any portion of private property, will be conducted as part of this assessment. Based on previous consultation with SHPO for previous energy projects, buildings that are not sufficiently old (i.e., are less than 50 years in age), that lack architectural integrity, or otherwise were evaluated by EDR's architectural historian as lacking historical or architectural significance will not be included in or documented during the survey.

In accordance with the SHPO Guidelines for Solar Facility Development Cultural Resources Survey Work, EDR will provide initial survey results and recommendations of S/NRHP eligibility for historic properties surveyed, in the form of completed digital survey forms, to SHPO via the CRIS website. EDR is requesting that SHPO review these results and provide determinations of eligibility prior to EDR completing any subsequent analyses for the Facility, so that only the potential effects of the Facility on historic properties determined eligible by SHPO are considered. In response to DPS correspondence described in Section 1.4, the two NRHP-listed properties located in Pennsylvania will be photographed as part of the historic resources survey fieldwork for inclusion in subsequent visual analyses associated with the Facility.

3.3 Historic Resources Survey Report

In accordance with the SHPO Guidelines for Solar Facility Development Cultural Resources Survey Work, the methods and results of the survey will be summarized in an illustrated Historic Resources Survey Report, along with a standalone annotated properties list in Microsoft Excel to be submitted to SHPO via CRIS. The annotated properties list will include an entry for each identified property with the property name (if any); address; municipality; county; USN (if any); current S/NRHP eligibility status; current/proposed S/NRHP criteria/recommended area(s) of significance; integrity; recommended S/NRHP eligibility status; and a primary image.

⁶ Mohawk Solar (17PR06371), Flint Mine Solar (18PR07885), and the Morris Ridge Solar Energy Center (19PR01246).

The Historic Resources Survey Report will also be included as part of the Article 10 Application for the Facility and will provide the basis for ongoing consultation with SHPO (and other applicable consulting parties) regarding potential visual and auditory effects of the Facility on aboveground historic resources. The Applicant anticipates that this consultation will continue through the permitting process and that SHPO's evaluation regarding potential effects and/or identification of any required mitigation will be determined as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers review of the Facility under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 review would be triggered by submission of a Joint Application for Permit, which is anticipated to occur following the submission of the Article 10 Application. Therefore, SHPO's determination of potential effects and any subsequent discussion of proposed mitigation measures, if necessary, is not anticipated to be included in the Article 10 Application.

4.0 SUMMARY

4.1 Summary of Phase IA Historic Resources Survey

On behalf of ConnectGen, EDR has prepared a Phase IA Historic Resources Survey for the proposed South Ripley Solar Project, located in the Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York. As noted previously, the Applicant is in the process of defining the parcels upon which the Facility will ultimately be sited, so the APE for Indirect Effects presented in this report should be **considered preliminary in nature**. **The Facility's APE relative to historic resources will** likely be revised in association with subsequent layout changes during the permitting process, and changes in the layout of the Facility are likely to result in changes in the size of the APE, which will be documented in the Historic Resources Survey Report.

A total of 52 previously identified historic resources are located within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area for the South Ripley Solar Project:

- There are 11 properties previously determined eligible for listing on the S/NRHP and 39 properties for which S/NRHP eligibility has not been formally determined. All of the previously identified properties within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area were identified using the CRIS database or through review of previous historic resources surveys.
- None of the 11 properties previously determined eligible for listing on the S/NRHP are located in areas of anticipated Facility visibility. Of the 39 properties for which S/NRHP eligibility has not been formally determined, only three are located in the APE for Indirect Effects.
- Two NRHP-listed properties are located within the APE for Indirect Effects in Pennsylvania (the North East Historic District and Short's Hotel).
- One previous architectural survey has been conducted within the 5-Mile Historic Resources Study Area.

This Phase IA Historic Resources Survey proposes the following activities to identify historic properties and evaluate the potential effect of the South Ripley Solar Project:

- EDR will conduct a historic resources survey of the APE for Indirect Effects for the Facility (which is preliminary
 and may be subject to revision) in order to identify and document those buildings within the APE that, in the
 opinion of EDR's architectural historian, appear to satisfy S/NRHP eligibility criteria.
- In addition, EDR will provide recommendations of S/NRHP eligibility for properties within the APE for Indirect Effects and 2-Mile Historic Resources Study Area whose S/NRHP eligibility has not yet been formally determined.

- The two NRHP-listed properties located in Pennsylvania will be photographed as part of the historic resources survey fieldwork for inclusion in subsequent visual analyses associated with the Facility.
- EDR will provide initial survey results and recommendations of S/NRHP eligibility for historic properties surveyed in the form of completed digital survey forms, submitted to SHPO via the CRIS website. EDR is requesting that SHPO review these results and provide determinations of eligibility prior to EDR completing any subsequent analyses for the Facility, so that only the potential effects of the Facility on historic properties determined eligible for the S/NRHP by SHPO are considered.
- The results of the Historic Resources Survey will also be summarized in an illustrated report along with an
 annotated properties list. The report and annotated properties list will be submitted to SHPO via the CRIS
 website and the Historic Resources Survey Report will be included as an appendix to the Article 10
 Application.

As noted previously, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers review of the Facility under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act review would be triggered by submission of a Joint Application for Permit, which is anticipated to occur following the submission of the Article 10 Application. Section 106 review and the Article 10 Application are not linked, therefore SHPO's determination of potential effects and any subsequent discussion of proposed mitigation measures, if necessary, is not anticipated to be included in the Article 10 Application.

EDR has provided this Phase IA Historic Resources Survey to SHPO in advance of conducting the full historic resources survey to confirm the visual APE for the project and to ensure that the proposed scope of the survey is consistent with SHPO's expectations. Please provide a formal response indicating SHPO's concurrence with and/or comments on the methodology described herein.

5.0 REFERENCES

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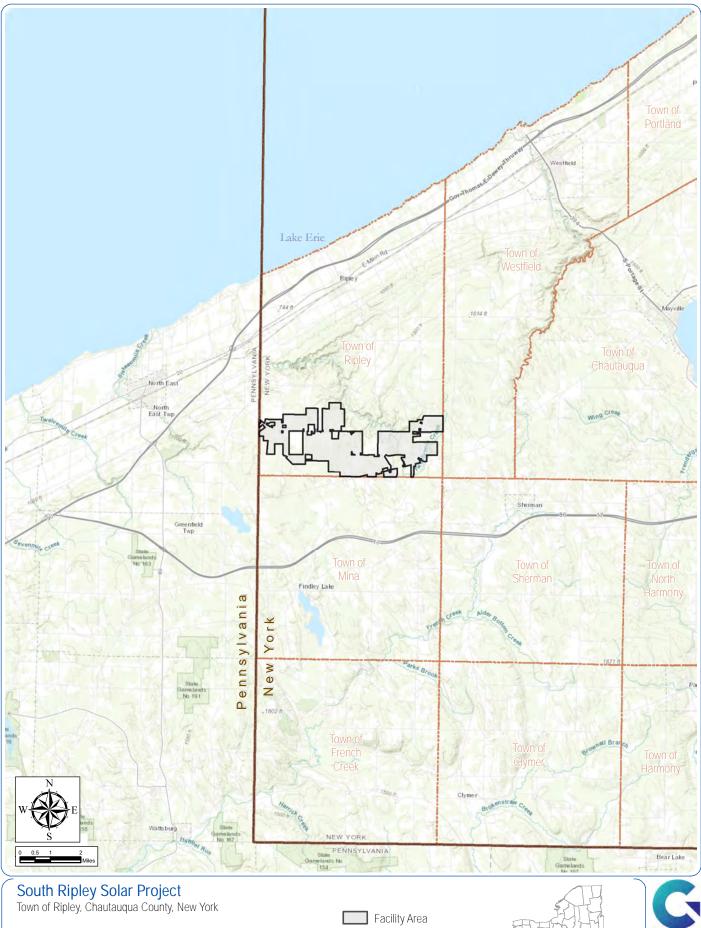


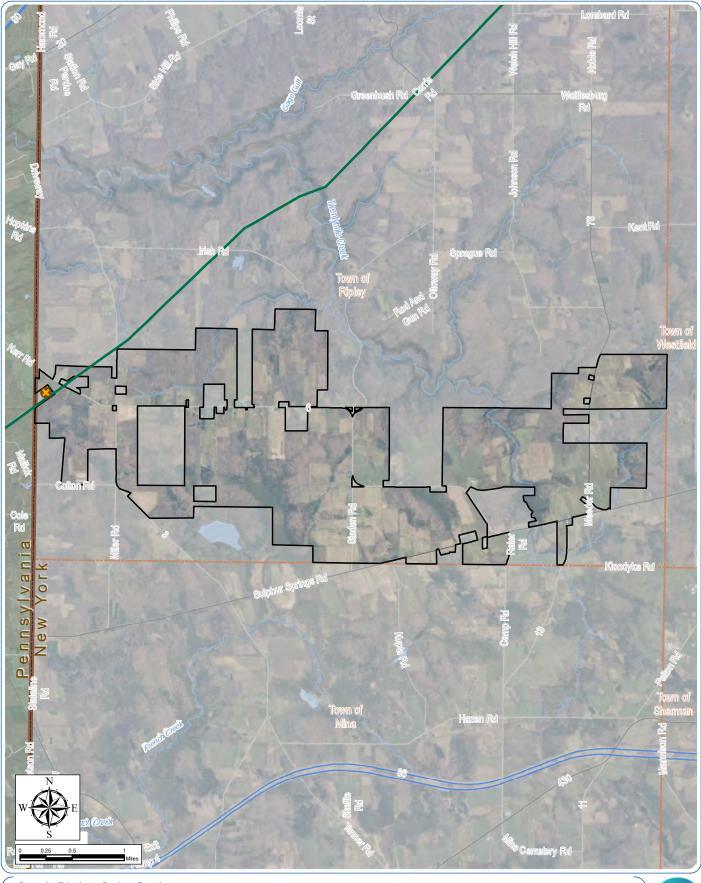
Figure 1: Regional Facility Location

Notes: 1. Basemap: ESRI ArcGIS Online "World Topographic Map" map service. 2. This map was generated in ArcMap on July 7, 2020. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.









South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

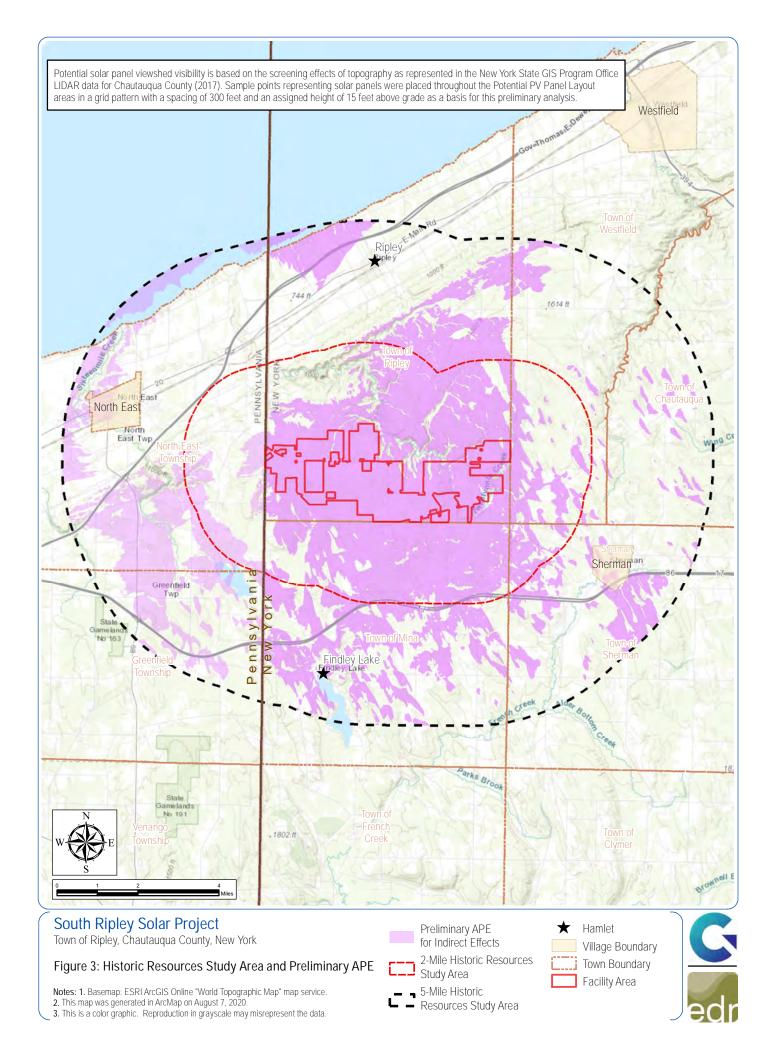
Figure 2: Proposed Facility Area

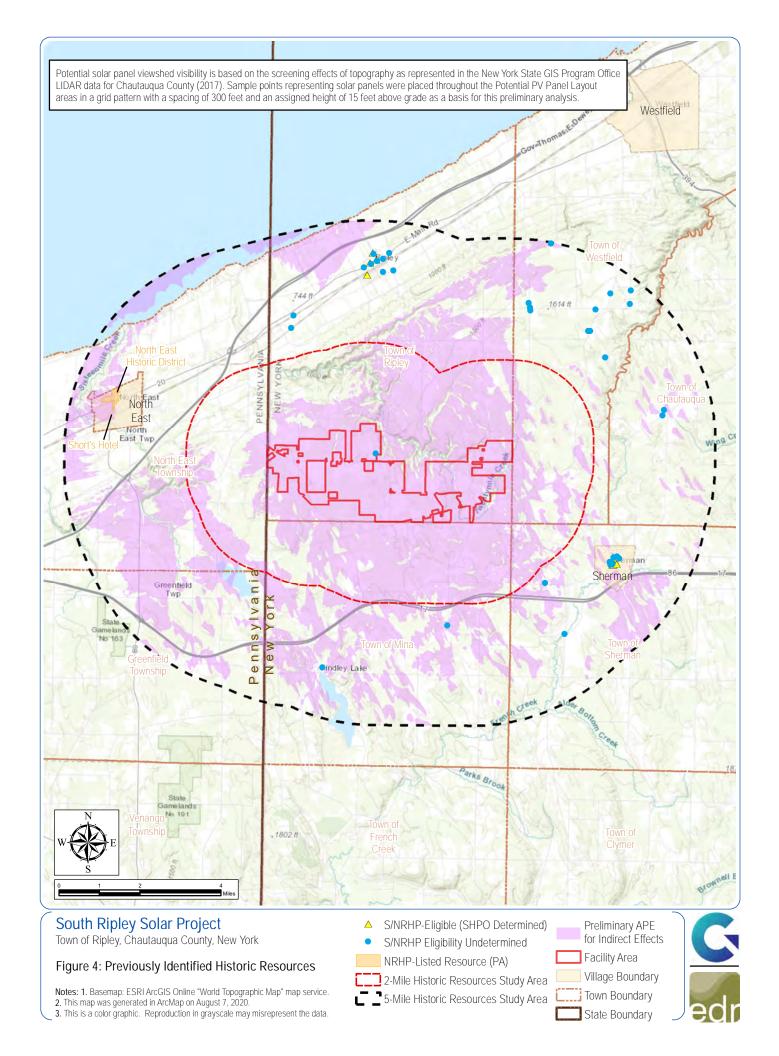
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South Ripley Solar Project

Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

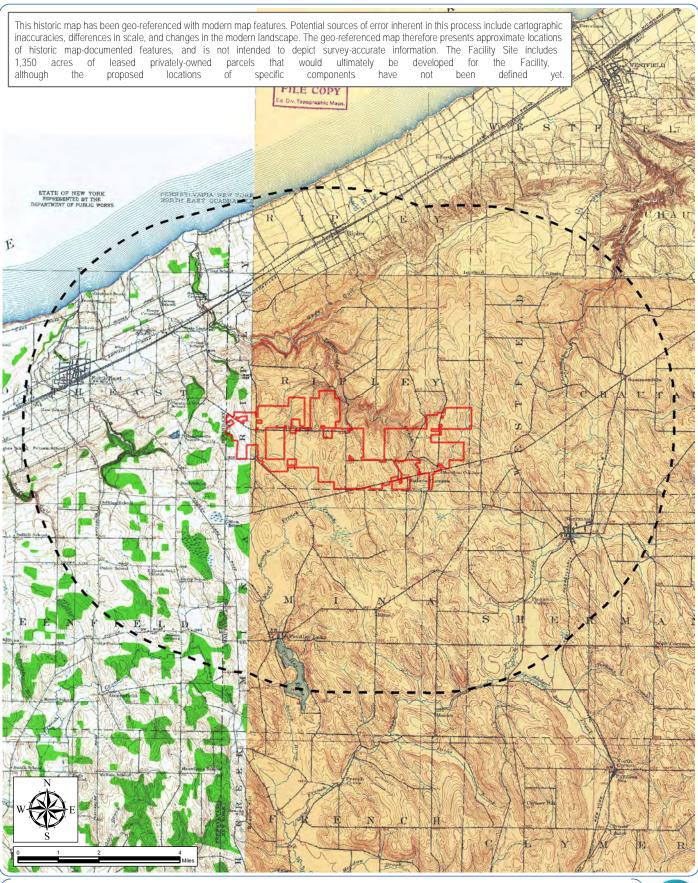
Figure 5: 1854 Keeney *Map of Chautauque County, New York* and 1855 Chace *Map of Erie County, Pennsylvania*

Notes: 1. Basemap: 1854 Keeney *Map of Chautaueque County, New York* and 1855 Chace *Map of Erie County, Pennsylvania* 2. This map was generated in ArcMap on August 17, 2020. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.









South Ripley Solar Project

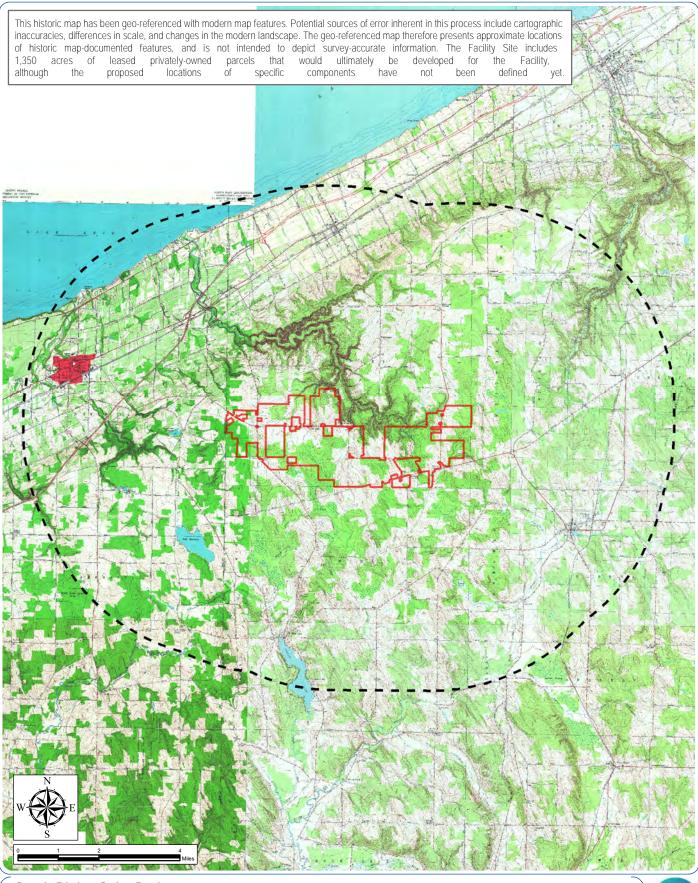
Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Figure 6: 1899-1913 USGS 15-Minute Topographic Quadrangles

Notes: 1. Basemap: 1899 Westfield, NY, 1905 Clymer, NY. and 1913 North East, PA 15-Minute USGS Topographic Quadrangles. 2. This map was generated in ArcMap on August 17, 2020. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.







South Ripley Solar Project

Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Figure 7: 1954-1960 USGS 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangles

Notes: 1. Basemap: 1954 Ripley NV: 1954 South Ripley, NV: 1954 Sherman, NV: 1954 Clymer, NV: 1954 North Clymer, NV: 1954 Westfield, NV: 1960 Wattsburg, PA: and 1960 North East, PA: 7.5-Minute USGS Topographic Quadrangles. 2. This map was generated in ArcMap on August 17, 2020. 3. This is a color graphic. Reproduction in grayscale may misrepresent the data.





Appendix A:
Agency Correspondence



ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor ERIK KULLESEID
Commissioner

June 22, 2020

Mr. Grant Johnson Senior Project Manager – Historic Preservation Environmental Design & Research, D.P.C. (EDR) 217 Montgomery Street, Suite 100 Syracuse, NY 12303

Re: DPS

South Ripley Solar Project/270 MW/2000 acres Towns of Ripley, Mina, and Westfield, Chautauqua County, NY 20PR03687

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We have reviewed the provided documentation in accordance with Section 14.09 of the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980. These comments are those of the SHPO and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include other environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impacts must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and/or the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8).

Upon review of the Request for Consultation memorandum and Identification of Visually Sensitive Resources document provided to our office via CRIS on June 18, 2020, we concur with your general approach to the Historic Resource Survey, and we look forward to receiving any information on the Zone of Visual Influence (ZVI) as well as your Methodology/Survey Work Plan. Upon approval of the ZVI and your Methodology/Survey Work Plan, you will be given access to the Trekker mobile survey application.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Jennifer Walkowski at <u>Jennifer.walkowski@parks.ny.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Walkowski

Historic Preservation Program Analyst

awd

Survey and National Register Unit – Western NY Region

(via email)

19-F-0560 South Ripley Energy Center Visual Impact Survey Request DPS Comments July 6, 2020

DPS staff advises that the following locations should be added as visually sensitive resources:

Public Lands and Recreational Resources

- Gillard Rowing Center (Mercyhurst University rowing team) Findley Lake, NY 14736
- 2. Ripley Community Park, Park Avenue, Ripley NY
- 3. The Yorker Museum, Park Street, Sherman, NY 14781
- 4. Brushwood Folklore Center, 8881 Bailey Hill Rd, Sherman, NY 14781

High Use Public Areas

DPS Staff notes that the New York State Department of Transportation provides an Official Description of Highway Touring Routes, Scenic Byways and Bicycle Routes in New York State. https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/operating/oom/transportation-systems/repository/2017%240tour-bk.pdf

The Routes listed in the Visual Study are all listed in this publication.

- 1. NY-17 (Should be added to the list of roads even though it shares the route with I-86)
- 2. US 20 is listed in the study but should be noted as a Historic Route https://www.historicus20.com/index.html

Additional Resources

- 1. Quincy Rural Cemetery There is one famous grave of a US Congressman
- 2. East Ripley Cemetery There are two famous graves; one US Congressman and one Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.
- 3. Sherman Cemetery

DPS staff advises that the five-mile study area should continue into Pennsylvania to ensure that visually sensitive resources are properly addressed. The following are resources to be considered in Pennsylvania:

Properties of Historic Significance

- 1. (NRHP) Short's Hotel 90 S Pearl St, North East, PA 16428
- 2. (NRHP) North East Historic District 21-1 N Pearl St, North East, PA 16428
 "North East Historic District is a national historic district located at North East, Erie County,
 Pennsylvania. It includes 114 contributing buildings in the central business district and
 surrounding residential areas of North East. The district includes commercial, residential,
 institutional, and religious buildings. The buildings were built from the mid-19th to early-20th
 century and are in a variety of popular architectural styles including Greek Revival, Queen Anne,
 and Italianate. Located at the center of the district is Gibson Park. Notable non-residential
 buildings include commercial buildings along East and West Main Street and South Lake Street,

the Concord Hotel, the Crescent Hose Company, Baptist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Methodist Church, two main buildings of St. Mary's Seminary, McCord Memorial Library (1916), and Heard Memorial School." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North East Historic District

Designated Scenic Resources

1. Seaway Trail – National Scenic Byway - PA

High Use Public Areas

- 1. North East Central School District
- 2. Mercyhurst University School of Health
- 3. NYS Bike Route 517 Connects to Pennsylvania Bike Route Z (These bike routes are part of the Northern Tier / US-30 Bike Route https://www.adventurecycling.org/routes-and-maps/adventure-cycling-route-network/northern-tier/)
 - a. https://www.penndot.gov/TravelInPA/RideaBike/Pages/Pennsylvania-Bicycle-Routes.aspx
 - b. https://www.penndot.gov/pages/all-news-details.aspx?newsid=507

Public Lands and Recreational Resources

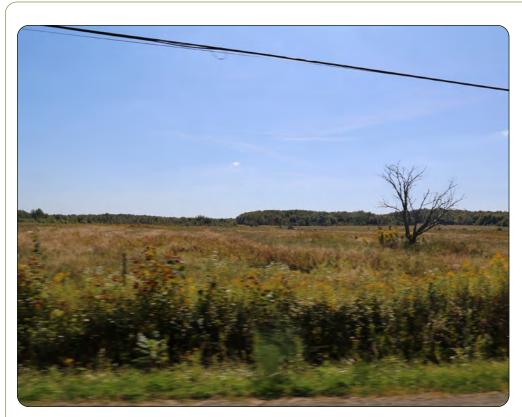
- 1. Howard Eaton Reservoir (boat launches, fishing, multi-use public trail, picnic areas) https://greenfieldtownship.info/howard-eaton-reservoir-bulls-dam/
- 2. Gibson Park

Additional Resources

- 1. Lake View Country Club 8351 Station Road, North East, PA 16428
- 2. Beach Glass Estates on Lake Erie (The Old St. Barnabas House) North East, PA

Appendix B:

Photographs



View to the south toward the Facility Area from Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.



Photograph 2

View to the southwest toward the Facility Area from Miller Road, Town of Ripley.

South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York Appendix B: Photographs

Sheet 1 of 6





Photograph 3

View to the north toward the Facility Area from Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.



Photograph 4

View to the south toward a gambrel-roofed barn, located at 10149 Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.

South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York Appendix B: Photographs

Sheet 2 of 6





View to the northeast toward a modern residence, located at 9279 Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley, with nearby nineteenth-century residences and agricultural buildings.



Photograph 6

View to the northeast toward a representative farmstead with nineteenth- and earlytwentieth-century buildings, located at 9357 Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.

South Ripley Solar Project

Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Appendix B: Photographs

Sheet 3 of 6





View to the northeast toward the South Ripley United Methodist Church, Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.



Photograph 8

View to the north toward South Ripley Cemetery, located near 10044 Northeast Sherman Road, Town of Ripley.

South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Appendix B: Photographs

Sheet 4 of 6





View to the southwest along West Main Street (U.S. Route 20), hamlet of Ripley.



Photograph 10

View to the southwest along U.S. Route 20, hamlet of Ripley.

South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Appendix B: Photographs

Sheet 5 of 6





Representative view within the Grape Belt, Town of Ripley, including a nineteenth-century residece with associated early-twentieth-century agricultural buildings.

South Ripley Solar Project Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York Appendix B: Photographs



