Trelina Solar Project



TrelinaSolarEnergyCenter.com

700 Universe Boulevard Juno Beach, FL 33408

I hope you and your loved ones are staying healthy and safe during these challenging times. We're writing to share an update about the Trelina Solar Project, an approximately 80-megawatt photovoltaic solar energy generating facility proposed for private land in the Town of Waterloo that is expected to begin operating in 2022.

The project will deliver new jobs, long-term revenue and economic development to Seneca County and the Town of Waterloo while supporting local family farms.

As you may recall, we held our first open house in September of last year. Since we announced the project in May 2019, we have enjoyed meeting with members of the community and sharing information about the project. We have also met with many elected officials and community leaders, presented at town hall and chamber of commerce meetings, and volunteered with local organizations. We've shared meals with you and have been welcomed into many of your homes.

We previously planned to hold another open house event this spring to share revisions to the project and allow you to ask questions and hear the answers directly from our subject-matter experts. We are still planning to hold this open house at a later date when conditions allow.

On the following pages, you will find information that we intended to present at the open house, including frequently asked questions. We also realize our neighbors are particularly interested in the project layout and the proposed location of vegetative screening. A new map is enclosed, and can also be found at: https://TrelinaSolarEnergyCenter.com/project-maps.

Finally, we invite you to share any thoughts you may have. Answers to questions we receive as a result of this correspondence will be posted on the project website at **https://TrelinaSolarEnergyCenter.com** and the New York Department of Public Service's webpage at **https://on.ny.gov/2VCkAZZ**.

In support of the Trelina Solar Project's permitting and approval process, we continue to coordinate and consult with the community and a variety of New York State and local authorities. We respectfully request that you provide additional feedback by June 15. You can contact us by emailing **info@TrelinaSolarEnergyCenter.com** or calling **(800) 405-9723**.

We're confident that this project will bring significant community benefits in the form of millions of dollars of incremental tax revenue that will be shared between the town, county and school over the life of the project; between 100 to 150 construction jobs; as well as benefits to hotels, restaurants and entertainment during the construction period. We strive to continue our relationship with other local businesses and the community, and to listen to our neighbors. We look forward to the next steps in the permitting process.

Gratefully,

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David Boxold Senior Project Manager NextEra Energy Resources



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Proposed by a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, the Trelina Solar Project is an approximately 80-megawatt solar project located in the Town of Waterloo in Seneca County.

The project will interconnect with the existing electrical transmission system and its expected commercial operation date is in 2022.

Economic Benefits

- > The Trelina Solar Project is expected to deliver new jobs, taxes and economic development to Seneca County.
- > The project is expected to create approximately 100 to 150 construction jobs.
- > It will support the local economy through the purchase of regional goods and services.
- > It will deliver safe and clean renewable energy.

ABOUT NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES

A Leader in Clean Energy

The project's sponsor, NextEra Energy Resources, is the world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and the sun with more than 21,000 megawatts of generating capacity primarily in 37 states and Canada as of year-end 2019. NextEra Energy was named to Fortune's 2019 list of the "World's Most Admired Companies" and was also recognized among the top 25 companies worldwide, across all industries, for innovation and social responsibility.

We look forward to sharing more information as the project progresses.

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BENEFITS OF SOLAR ENERGY

The Trelina Solar Project will position Seneca County as a leader in renewable energy and help New York meet its renewable energy goals.

Environmental Compatibility

- > Solar energy creates no greenhouse gases or other air pollutants
- > Uses no water resource to generate electricity
- > Creates no waste by-products when generating electricity
- Does not create any hazardous material clean-up concerns at the end of a project's productive life

Local and State Leadership

- > The Trelina Solar Project will help New York meet its renewable energy goals while creating lasting benefits for Seneca County.
- New York State has a goal to produce 70 percent of its total power from renewable sources by 2030, and projects like this will help meet that need.
- > Generation serving electrical demand is targeted to be zero emissions by 2040.
- This new source of clean, renewable power produces no air or water pollution and is in line with the state's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, the Clean Energy Standard and the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) initiative, which are fostering new opportunities for renewable power that will help New York transform its energy generation system.

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STUDIES

In support of the permitting process, the Trelina Solar Project must conduct numerous detailed studies to ensure the project is appropriately and thoughtfully designed. In consultation with various agencies and stakeholders, the following studies have been, or will be, conducted by subjectmatter experts. These studies must adhere to rigorous guidelines and are subject to regulatory oversight by New York State.

Studies Include:

- > Wetlands and Streams
- > Threatened and Endangered Species
- > Habitat Characterization
- > Avian Use
- > Archaeological Resources
- > Historic Architecture
- > Sound
- > Visual
- > Socioeconomic
- > Site Decommissioning and Restoration
- > Geotechnical
- > Glare



CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

Should the Trelina Solar Project receive necessary approvals, the project will employ best-in-class construction techniques and practices.

Solar Arrays and Electrical Interconnection

- > Solar panels are placed on racks that are driven directly into the ground.
- > Groups of racks and solar panels are connected through a series of electric cables that run to collection boxes and inverters.
- > Inverters will be installed to convert the power from direct current to alternating current.
- A project substation will be constructed to increase the voltage for connection to the power grid.

Site Access

- > The project plans to work with the state, county and town to minimize the impact on roads and local traffic
- > Public roads will be used to transport equipment to the construction site.
- > Gravel roads will be constructed for access within the site.
- > Equipment will be delivered by truck and trailer as needed throughout the construction phase and stored at temporary lay-down yards within the site.



About the Trelina Solar Project

Q: What is the Trelina Solar Project?

A: Located on private land in the Town of Waterloo in Seneca County, N.Y., the Trelina Solar Project is a proposed approximately 80-megawatt photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generating facility. The Trelina Solar Project is proposed by NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, the world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and sun.

Q: What specific benefits will the project bring?

A: The project will bring significant benefits to the local community, including:

New Revenue

The Trelina Solar Project will bring numerous benefits through a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement, which will provide millions in revenue over the project's life to the taxpayers of Seneca County, Town of Waterloo and the Waterloo School District to invest in infrastructure, additional services and resources for residents.

New Jobs

The Trelina Solar Project's goal is to hire as many workers as possible from the local area. With a construction labor budget of approximately \$10 million, the project will invest a significant amount of money in construction labor, creating employment opportunities for those in the construction trades, including equipment operators, truck drivers, laborers and electricians.

Further, the project is expected to create one to two full-time positions for the duration of the expected 30-year life.

Support to Local Businesses

There will be opportunities for local businesses to supply materials to support construction of the project. Additionally, the service industry (e.g., hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues) will also benefit from an increase in worker activity throughout the construction period.

Support to Local Farmers

Through land agreements, the Trelina Solar Project will support the agricultural economy by infusing revenue into local farms and diversifying income streams for farmers.



Q: How much land will the project utilize?

A: The fenced area of the project spans approximately 425 acres. Solar panels will cover approximately half of that area.

Q: When will this project begin generating power?

A: The Trelina Solar Project is expected to begin commercial operation in late 2022 and is designed to operate for at least 30 years.

Q: How much energy will the Trelina Solar Project generate?

A: The Trelina Solar Project will have the capacity to generate up to approximately 80 megawatts and is expected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by an average of 80,000 tons every year. This is the equivalent of taking more than 16,000 cars off the road.

Furthermore, the facility will produce electricity without creating air or water pollution and without the use of water for generation.

Q: Will the solar panels be visible to the public?

A: The project will be designed to meet local setback requirements. We will include a vegetative buffer around the project, including native plants, different species and various heights. Once the vegetative buffer is established, the majority of the project will not be visible from nearby roads.

We will share additional information about the design in the project's Article 10 application.

Q: Why did you choose this location?

A: The Town of Waterloo possesses the critical elements required for an efficient solar project, including available land from willing landowners, strong solar resource, existing road infrastructure, ready access to transmission infrastructure, and available land in an area well suited environmentally to host such a project.

Q: How is the project being permitted?

A: The permitting of the Trelina Solar Project will be conducted in accordance with New York State's Article 10 law. This thorough process requires local input and mandates rigorous study of the project. Through Article 10, Trelina will continue to seek input from community stakeholders and will work to minimize potential impacts to the maximum extent practicable. Information about the Article 10 process can be found at www.dps.ny.gov/SitingBoard/.

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Q: How can members of the public become involved?

A: Representatives from the Trelina Solar Project have attended community events and talked to neighbors to obtain local feedback. As a result, the proposed project design accommodates important community concerns. At NextEra Energy Resources, we believe in building strong partnerships and supporting the communities we serve.

At every stage of developing a solar project, from siting to construction to operations, we strive to:

- > Establish a cooperative relationship with the community
- > Listen to our neighbors
- > Share information
- > Tailor our proposal to incorporate interests and priorities of the community

Members of the stakeholder list receive important project materials and notice of project milestones.

Members of the public are invited to join the project stakeholder list by:

- > Calling (800) 405-9723
- Mailing a letter to: Trelina Solar Energy Center
 700 Universe Boulevard, FEW-JB Juno Beach, FL 33408
- > Sending an email to info@trelinasolarenergycenter.com
- > Or visiting www.trelinasolarenergycenter.com/join-the-stakeholder-list

Additionally, guidance about intervenor funds in the Article 10 process is available on the project website at **www.trelinasolarenergycenter.com/summary-of-intervenor-funding-process**.



Q: What is the Town of Waterloo's role in the Article 10 process?

A: The Town of Waterloo is automatically a party in the review process and is entitled to apply for intervenor funding to support its legal and technical efforts in the hearings. It has all the rights parties have in the Article 10 review process, including the right to present expert testimony, conduct cross examination and submit legal briefs. Furthermore, local members of the community are also eligible to serve on the Siting Board.

Q: What happens to the project once it has reached the end of its useful life?

A: The anticipated life of this project is 30 years. At the end of that period the project may continue operating, be repowered or be removed through a process called decommissioning. If the solar facility is decommissioned the land substantially would be able to return to farmland.

As part of the project's permitting and approval process, the Trelina Solar Project is required to fully fund decommissioning efforts up front through a bond or other financial security. These funds are set aside to remove the project and restore the land to its original condition. Furthermore, the project plans to abide by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets guidelines for solar installation requiring the land's potential to return to agricultural use after decommissioning.

Q: Will the project impact hunting?

A: While hunting would be prohibited within the fenced-in portion of the project, hunting can continue on the private lands surrounding the project, as the owners choose.

Q: Will the project have an impact on groundwater?

A: The Trelina Solar Project will use solar panel technology that does not impact groundwater.

There will be no water withdrawal or discharge involved with operation of the project. However, solar projects require water during construction, primarily for dust control, soil compaction, concrete hydration and revegetation, if necessary. For these uses, the water is expected to be trucked in by an off-site supplier or accessed from a participating landowner's existing well, if the landowner is agreeable.

Additionally, the project will improve current land management practices, thereby reducing potential impacts to groundwater.



Q: How will the completed project maintain vegetation?

A: Mowing will be the primary method of vegetation maintenance proposed at the Trelina Solar Project. In select instances, such as an increase in weed population in a specific area, it may be necessary to utilize herbicides. If herbicides are used as part of the project, they will be selected in accordance with applicable New York State regulations and applied by a statecertified applicator. Broadcast or aerial spraying will not be used, and only spot treatments will be employed.

Q: How is the project working with local emergency management officials?

A: With the input of local first responders, the Trelina Solar Project will create an emergency response plan (ERP). In the unlikely event of an emergency, this plan will outline the circumstances that would constitute a safety or security emergency, the appropriate response measures to be taken as a result of the emergency, any evacuation control measures that may be necessary, and the means by which the community will be notified of the emergency and any procedures that shall be followed. In addition, training will be provided by NextEra Energy Resources to the appropriate emergency response agencies, including the local fire and police departments.

About Solar Energy

- Q: Are the materials used in solar panels safe? What happens if they break?
- A: Solar panels are made of solid materials and do not pose a hazard to the general public, underlying soil or groundwater. In fact, people have been safely living and working around solar panels for decades. Solar energy emits no pollution and has no impact on human health.

During construction or operation, if panels are damaged, trained facility personnel will safely collect, recycle and/or properly dispose of them in a manner that meets or exceeds regulatory requirements.

Q: Do solar energy projects make noise?

A: Solar projects operate quietly. During the short construction period, noise at the project area would be typical of construction sites.

As part of the Article 10 process, detailed sound measurements of the project site are taken by acoustical experts and analyzed in order to meet or exceed all applicable requirements.

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Q: Will the panels create glare?

A: Through design and intelligent siting, glint and glare can be eliminated or kept to a minimum. Photovoltaic panels are constructed with nonreflective coatings and/or glass. These panels are designed specifically to absorb as much sunlight as possible in order to maximize electrical generation, rather than reflect sunlight.

Further, an analysis of any potential glare will be provided in the application. The scope and methodology for the glare analysis will also include a discussion of the use of galvanized steel for the racking system.

Q: Can the equipment be damaged by weather?

A: The support systems for the solar arrays are designed to withstand the typical wind-loading and snow-loading present in this area. PV panel manufacturers have tested and rated their equipment to withstand the impact of hailstones. Any panels that are damaged by hail or other debris can be individually replaced without taking the entire project out of service.

In the case of severe weather or natural disaster, if panels are damaged, trained facility personnel will safely collect, recycle where feasible and/or properly dispose of them.

Q: During construction or operations, how are community concerns reported and managed?

A: We will establish a complaint resolution process to address any issues or concerns that arise during the construction or operation of the project. A phone number and email address will be included in the plan.

Either the Siting Board or the Public Service Commission, depending upon when a potential issue may arise, is responsible for enforcing the conditions issued in any Article 10 certificate.





May 21, 2020

Honorable Michelle L. Phillips Secretary New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Case 19-F-0366 Trelina Solar Energy Center, LLC Trelina Solar Energy Center 80-Megawatt Solar Photovoltaic Generation Project Town of Waterloo, Seneca County, New York

Dear Secretary Phillips,

This letter serves to supplement the Public Involvement Program (PIP) Plan filed in the above-captioned proceeding on May 13, 2019. The PIP provided, inter alia, that two open house events, one during the day and one in the evening, on the same day, would be held before the Article 10 Application was filed. Considering the restrictions on public gatherings ordered by the Governor to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not possible to hold these open houses during May 2020 when the Applicant had intended to do so. Accordingly, after discussing the matter with the Department of Public Service, the Applicant will postpone holding the open house events, and, accordingly, they will be rescheduled to a date when the applicable public health restrictions are lifted and exposure risks have sufficiently abated.

To solicit further input from the public at this time, the Applicant will send updated project information materials, by US mail and/or email, depending on contact information availability and the Stakeholders' previously indicated preference, to the Project Stakeholder List. The materials will contain a copy of this letter together with an updated fact sheet and Project map. The public will be invited to submit comments within a 14-day period, via either the Project's toll-free number or the Project's email address. After the conclusion of the comment period, the Applicant will post on the Project's website and on the DPS DMM website for the Project, the relevant comments received and the Applicant's responses to them. Commenters will not be identified in this document. The materials will inform the public that they may view the comments and responses on these two websites. Once the public repositories are reopened, the response document will also be sent to those facilities.

Respectfully Submitted, Trelina Solar Energy Center, LLC

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William J. Boer, PP, AICP Project Manager Environmental Services

NextEra Energy Resources, LLC