

May 26th, 2020

Chairman Paul Schwartz
And Members of the Planning Board
Town Hall, Town of Washington
P.O. Box 667
Millbrook, NY 12545

Re: Cary Institute Amended Site Plan Approval for Additional Screening

Dear Chairman Schwartz and Members of the Planning Board,

On behalf of the ground-mounted solar PV system (“the Project”) located at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies (“Cary Institute”), please find further materials submitted in support of the Project Amended Site Plan approval application to enhance and improve the screening. As YSG Solar, Inc. (“YSG”) discussed in its initial application package presented to you on March 3rd, 2020, portion of the Project are currently visible from the Sharon Turnpike. Recognizing the shared sentiment that the PV systems needs to blend naturally with the environment and provide adequate screening from the public roads the Site Plan must be amended.

As the Board is aware, the Project was issued a Negative Declaration and Site Plan approval on September 2nd, 2018. Since that time, YSG has obtained a Building Permit and constructed the Project.

Town Zoning Code Section 349-6(C)(3) requires that the Project “shall not be visible” to passerby. The Approved Site Plan for the Project displays a 4-foot fence surrounding the project with an additional vegetated buffer along the Sharon Turnpike. Upon completion of construction the Project was visible along the Sharon Turnpike. The initial planting was deemed insufficient.

In this proposal, we are recommending an additional 112 trees with the approximate height of 10 feet. These trees include a variety of Concolor Fir, Norway Spruce, and Eastern White Pine. Trees will be planted in a random pattern and staggered in two rows along the Sharon Turnpike to provide additional screening for the Project. Maintenance will include frequent watering until trees are dormant as well as maintaining grass along the public road. We are proposing to retain a 4 foot high agricultural fence around the array as was approved.

After discussing the options with the Board at the March 3rd meeting and gathering materials from local contractors, we determined that the best visual screening would include the additional trees we are proposing in the Amended Site Plan approval application. We appreciate the Board’s thought and attention to this matter. We look forward to the public hearing and appearing before the Board at its next scheduled meeting.

Sincerely,



John Chaimanis

Managing Director

Kendall Sustainable Infrastructure, LLC