

**SEQR Resolution
Above Grid Rome Solar LLC Facility**

RESOLUTION OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DETERMINING THAT ACTION TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RELATING TO A PROJECT FOR THE BENEFIT OF ABOVE GRID ROME SOLAR LLC WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, Above Grid Rome Solar LLC, on behalf of itself and/or the principals of Above Grid Rome Solar LLC, and/or an entity formed or to be formed on behalf of any of the foregoing (collectively, the "Company") has applied to the Oneida County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") to enter into a transaction in which the Agency will assist in construction of an approximately 5 megawatt AC ground-mounted solar energy system/community solar array with solar panels connected to a single-axis tracking racking system consisting of two pervious gravel access roads, inverter pads, a fence surrounding the entirety of the equipment, underground wiring, and overhead utility interconnection to equipment (collectively, the "Improvements"), situated on a 50± acre portion of a 174.40± acre parcel of land located at 5727 Rome Taberg Road, City of Rome, County of Oneida (the "Land"), all for the purpose of furthering the mission of New York State renewable energy goals by providing renewable energy for consumers in the region under the New York State Community Solar Program (the Land and the Improvements are referred to collectively as the "Facility" and the construction of the Improvements is referred to as the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, Chapter 43-B of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended (the "SEQR Act") and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York, being 6 NYCRR Part 617, as amended (the "Regulations"), the Agency desires to determine whether the construction and equipping of the Facility may have a "significant effect on the environment" (as said quoted term is defined in the SEQR Act and the Regulations) and therefore require the preparation of an environmental impact statement; and

WHEREAS, to aid the Agency in determining whether the construction, and equipping of the Facility may have a significant effect upon the environment, the Company has prepared and submitted to the Agency a long environmental assessment form (the "EAF"), a copy of which was presented to and reviewed by the Agency at this meeting and copies of which are on file at the office of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, to aid the Agency in determining whether the Project may have a significant effect upon the environment, the Agency has reviewed the Determination of Significance dated August 8, 2023 (the "Planning Board Review") by the City of Rome Planning Board (the "Lead Agency"), a copy of which was presented to and reviewed by the Agency at this meeting and copies of which are on file at the office of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Regulations, the Agency has examined the EAF and the Planning Board Review in order to make a determination as to the potential environmental significance of the Facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Based on an examination of the Application, the EAF, the Planning Board Review, and based further upon the Agency's knowledge of the area surrounding the Facility and such further investigation of the Facility and its environmental effects as the Agency has deemed appropriate, the Agency makes the following findings and determinations with respect to the Facility:

- (A) The Facility is as described in the Application and the EAF;
- (B) The Facility constitutes a "Type 1 Action" (as defined in the Regulations);
- (C) No potentially significant impacts on the environment are noted in the EAF for the Facility, and none are known to the Agency;
- (D) The Facility will not result in (i) substantial adverse change in existing air quality; ground or surface water quality or quantity, traffic or noise levels; a substantial increase in solid waste production; or a substantial increase in potential for erosion, flooding, leaching or drainage problems; (ii) the removal or destruction of large quantities of vegetation or fauna; substantial interference with the movement of a resident or migratory fish or wildlife species; impacts on a significant habitat area; substantial adverse impacts on threatened or endangered species of animal or plant, or the habitat of such species; or (iii) other significant adverse impacts to natural resources;
- (E) The Facility will not affect a critical environmental area as designated pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.14(g);
- (F) The Facility will not conflict with the community's current plans or goals as officially approved or adopted;

(G) The Facility will not result in the impairment of the character or quality of important historical, archeological, architectural, or aesthetic resources or of existing community or neighborhood character;

(H) The Facility will not result in a major change in the use of either the quantity or type of energy;

(I) The Facility will not result in the creation of a hazard to human health;

(J) The Facility will not result in a substantial change in the use, or intensity of use, of land including architectural, open space or recreational resources, or in its capacity to support existing uses;

(K) The Facility will not result in encouraging or attracting of a large number of people to a place or places for more than a few days, compared to the number of people who would come to such place absent the action;

(L) The Facility will not result in the creation of a material demand for other actions that would result in one or more of the above consequences;

(M) The Facility will not result in changes in two or more elements of the environment, no one of which has a significant impact on the environment, but when considered together result in a substantial adverse impact on the environment; and

(N) The Facility will not result in two or more related actions undertaken, funded or approved by an agency, none of which has or would have a significant impact on the environment, but when considered cumulatively would meet one or more of the criteria in 6 NYCRR Section 617.7(c).

Section 2. The Agency hereby concurs with the determinations and findings of the Lead Agency and determines that the Facility will not have a significant impact on the environment and the Agency will not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement with respect to the Facility. As a result, the Agency has prepared a negative declaration with respect to the Facility.

Section 3. The Executive Director of the Agency is hereby directed to file in the Agency's records a negative declaration with respect to the Facility (said negative declaration to be substantially in the form and substantially to the effect of the negative declaration attached hereto).

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

[Remainder of page left blank intentionally]

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF ONEIDA)

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Oneida County Industrial Development Agency, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT:

I have compared the foregoing copy of a resolution of the Oneida County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") with the original thereof on file in the office of the Agency, and the same is a true and correct copy of such resolution and of the proceedings of the Agency in connection with such matter.

Such resolution was passed at a meeting of the Agency duly convened on September 15, 2023 at eight a.m., local time, at Rome, New York which the following members were:

Members Present: David Grow, Ferris Betrus, Mary Faith Messenger, Mike Fitzgerald, Kirk Hinman, Steve Zogby.

Members Present – WebEx: Gene Quadraro

EDGE Staff Present: Shawna Papale, Maureen Carney, Tim Fitzgerald, Laura Cohen, Mark Kaucher, Hannah Phillips, Bill Van Shufflin.

Other Attendees: Jenna Peppinelli and Mark Levitt, Levitt & Gordon; Rome Mayor Jackie Izzo, Shaun Kaleta, Oneida County; Jennifer Miller and Mark Schweiker, Renmatix, Inc.

Other Attendees – WebEx: Laura Ruberto, Bond, Schoeneck & King; Paige Beyer and Jeff Davis, Barclay Damon LLP; Joe Tassone, Above Grid Rome, LLC; Dan Huntington, BW Solar Holding Inc., Robert Ryan, Harris Beach PLLC; Matt Wells, Bond, Schoeneck & King; Gareth McDonald; Hamza Khalil; Ari Goldberg.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

David Grow voting aye;
Michael Fitzgerald voting aye;
Ferris Betrus voting nay;
Kirk Hinman voting aye;
Mary Faith Messenger voting aye;
Gene Quadraro voting aye;
Steve Zogby voting aye.

and, therefore, the resolution was declared duly adopted.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that (i) all members of the Agency had due notice of said meeting, (ii) the meeting was open for the public to attend and public notice of the date, time, location and call-in information for said meeting was duly given, (iii) the meeting in all respects was duly held, and (iv) there was a quorum present throughout.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as of January 5, 2024.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shawn Papale".

Secretary