REPORT OF THE GENESEE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S PUBLIC HEARING OF FOREFRONT POWER, LLC, HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021 10:00 A.M. AT THE GENESEE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 99 MEDTECH DRIVE, BATAVIA, NEW YORK, GENESEE COUNTY, NEW YORK AND ELECTRONICALLY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

I. ATTENDANCE

Mark Masse, Sr. VP of Operations – GCEDC
Jim Krencik, Director of Marketing and Communications – GCEDC
Lauren Casey, Finance Assistant – GCEDC

II. CALL TO ORDER

The public hearing of ForeFront Power, LLC Project was opened at 10:14 am electronically via video conference.

PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCT INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION:

In accordance with Section 859-a of the Act, a representative of the Agency will be at the above-stated time and place to present a copy of the Company’s project Application, which is also available for viewing on the Agency’s website at: https://www.gcedc.com/index.php/news/gcedc-approved-projects

However, given the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis and related Executive Orders issued by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the Agency will not be able to accommodate any in-person public attendance or participation at this hearing. Nonetheless, and in furtherance of the provisions of Section 859-a of the Act requiring interested parties be provided a reasonable opportunity, both orally and in writing, to present their views with respect to the Project, the Agency will broadcast the Public Hearing live: https://zoom.us/j/94733787306, with written comments accepted on that platform in real time. In addition, the Agency will provide public access to provide oral comments in real time via conference bridge at telephone number: 1-929-205-6099, passcode 947 3378 7306. The Agency also encourages all interested parties to submit written comments to the Agency, which will be included within the public hearing record.

Any written comments may be sent to GCEDC, Attention: Mark Masse, Senior Vice President of Operations, 99 MedTech Drive, Suite 106, Batavia, New York 14020, and/or via email at mmasse@gcedc.com no later than Friday, March 26, 2021.

A notice of this public hearing describing the project was published in the Batavia Daily News, a copy of which is attached and is an official part of this transcript.

III. PROJECT SUMMARY

The company is planning a community solar farm project in the Town of Elba. The project is a 5 (AC) MW solar generation system that will be interconnected with National Grid.

The project will provide enhanced property tax payments via a 15-year PILOT that are significantly greater than the current agricultural-vacant land value of the project. The project will contribute $6,000/MWAC + a 2% annual escalator, with the 5 MWAC solar farm generating in excess of $518,000 in PILOT payments over the 15-year term. The project will also fund a community benefit agreement for workforce development and economic development projects in Genesee County.
The project is aligned with New York’s aggressive goals for renewable energy, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reductions, and offer customers a 10% discount vs average market rates for the generated power.

In addition to these benefits, the project is supporting the continued viability of the agricultural economy in Genesee County.

GCEDC is seeking to assist the project with sales tax exemption of approximately $781,000 and property tax exemption of approximately $635,000.

IV. COMMENTS

M. Masse began the public hearing by introducing himself as the Sr. VP of Operations of the Genesee County Economic Development Center. He then stated the purpose and guidelines for the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to solicit comments and feedback from the public regarding the proposed incentives on the above outlined project. It is not a question-and-answer session. There were no written comments received ahead of time to be included with the written record.

V. ADJOURNMENT

As there were no written or oral comments, the public hearing was closed at 10:25 am.