

September 13, 2021

Kevin O'Neill
c/o Seaboard Solar
43 West Street; Second Floor
New Milford, CT 06776

*Re: Offsite Mitigation Parcel
Bullock Road Site
Town of New Scotland, Albany County, New York*

Dear Kevin:

The Core Forest Area of the site of proposed solar array located at 86 Bullock Road consists of a rich mesophytic forest of about 90 acres with tree sizes that range from saplings in the 2-3 inch dbh (diameter at breast height) range to larger trees in the 4-8 inch dbh range. To the rear or southern edge of the site, the Core Forest Area transitions to a large stand of white pine and eastern hemlock in the 12-24 inch dbh range.

The larger trees on the site will be preserved as part of 55 acres of the site that will not be impacted. Overall, the project primarily impacts young and medium aged forest areas and saves older growth forest areas.

In addition to the 55 acres of forested area that will be preserved on the project site, the applicant proposes to preserve 43 acres of forested land on a 43 acre parcel ("mitigation parcel") located approximately one mile west of 86 Bullock Road. The preservation of the 43 acres will offset the impacts of clearing trees for the proposed solar array. The mitigation parcel is located on Bullock Road, near the intersection of Crow Ridge Road.

To confirm the relative quality of the mitigation parcel, Ecological Solutions completed a site evaluation in July 2021. The goal of the site evaluation and subsequent comparative analysis is to ensure the effectiveness of the mitigation parcel.

The 43 acre mitigation parcel contains similar forested habitat with trees that may even be slightly more mature/larger than that on the project site (86 Bullock Road). The similarity to the onsite forest habitat that is proposed to be impacted makes sense since the two parcels are part of the same overall forested habitat in this part of the Town (*Figure 1*). Because of the similarity of the Core Forested Areas of the two parcels, preservation of the 43 acres, through land trust/deed restriction, will mitigate the impacts of loss of forested habitats associated with the construction of the solar array.

If you need any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,
ECOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS, LLC



Michael Nowicki
Biologist

Figure 1 Offsite Location Map

