

February 24, 2023.

2:30PM

## Auburn Water District Solar Array RFP Questions

- Will extensions be granted under the below scenarios that would be out of our control?
  - o PTO – National Grid related delays – **yes**
  - o Construction – National Grid related delays– **yes**
  - o Supply Chain Issues – **Reasonable accommodations will be made with the expectation that the project will continue to the extent possible while waiting for the delayed parts/equipment.**
- Railroad
  - o Setbacks – do you know what setbacks are required? **Please review Auburn Zoning By-Laws for necessary setbacks. I do not know if there are any additional setbacks required due to the railway.**
  - o Ownership – who owns the railroad? **PROVIDENCE & WORCESTER RR Co.**
  - o Do they have mineral rights? (CSX) **Unknown**
  - o Access – Does the owner of the railroad need unobstructed access to reach the railroad? **The railway owner can access their property from public road crossing and do not access their property from AWD property.**
  - o How does the Auburn Water District currently access the lands on the other side of the railroad? **AWD does not have vehicular access to the eastern parcel. On the rare occasions when access is needed, staff typically walk across the tracks or along the tracks from Elm Street.**
- Clarification of well setbacks
  - o Who completed well monitoring? **AWD per MassDEP compliance schedule**
  - o How often is well monitoring completed? **Monthly, quarterly or yearly depending on the water parameter.**
  - o How does this impact access rights? **Frequency of sampling should not impact access.**
  - o If during a monitoring inspection, an issue is noted – how will mitigation impact the potential solar project? **Monitoring is suspended for several years until the treatment plant is constructed. Not anticipated to impact project as long as BRP Wind & Solar Energy Projects Proposed in Zone 1 guidance is followed.**
- How much tree clearing is the Auburn Water District comfortable with outside the useable areas and where? **The District will consider all potential designs that have the required setbacks. Designs are not limited to potential locations suggested in Attachment B.**
- What form of decommissioning assurance is acceptable to the Auburn Water District? Would they accept a parent company guarantee? **A decommissioning bond will be required based on the size of the proposed project.**
- Lease Term – would the Auburn Water District consider 2 x 10-year extension terms? **The RFP allows for two extension periods of five years each. Additional extensions may be negotiated during the second 5-year extension.**
- How does the Auburn Water District plan to collaborate with the Town – have the necessary Town Boards been made aware of the proposed project? **AWD meets with the Town Boards on a monthly basis for planning review and will collaborate as needed to assist the project.**