# Welcome



## Thank you for coming to the Fort Edward Solar Project Open House.

We are here to hear from you! Please fill out a comment card before you leave.

Have more questions or looking for additional information?

Please visit Boralex's project website for Fort Edward Solar:

www.boralex.com/projects/fort-edward



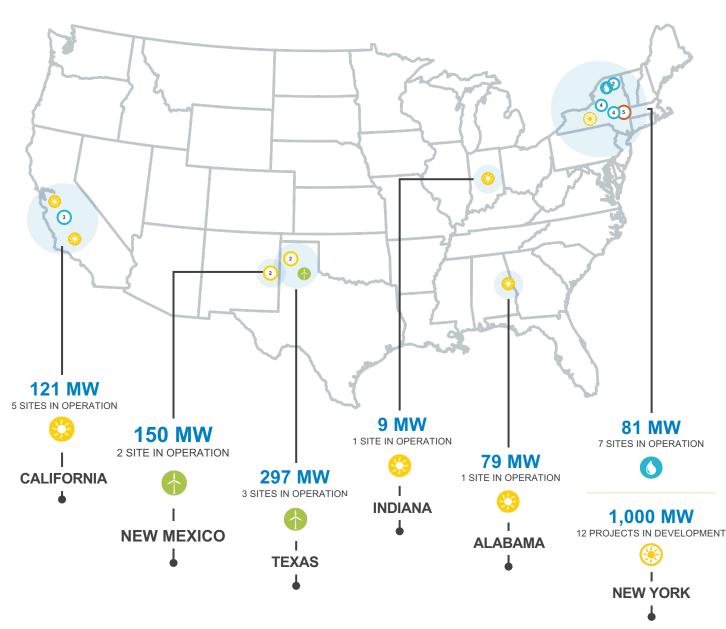
### **BORALEX** US sites in operation

	IN OPERATION		IN OPERATION
ALABAMA		NEW YORK	
🔅 LAFAYETTE	79 MW	🚺 FOURTH BRANCH	3 MW
CALIFORNIA		💧 HUDSON FALLS	44 MW
	60 MW	🚺 MIDDLE FALLS	2 MW
	20 MW	🚺 NEW YORK STATE DAM	11 MW
	20 MW	SISSONVILLE	2 MW
	3 MW	💧 SOUTH GLENS FALLS	16 MW
WESTLANDS	18 MW		3 MW
INDIANA		TEXAS	
🤔 ims	9 MW	I HEREFORD	100 MW
NEW MEXICO		🚯 LONGHORN	100 MW
	25 MW	SPINNING SPUR 3	97 MW
ROOSEVELT	125 MW		

Boralex develops, owns and operates renewable energy projects.

BORALEX 😳

Worldwide, Boralex has an installed capacity of 3,020 MW with more than 4,700 MW of projects in development across the globe.



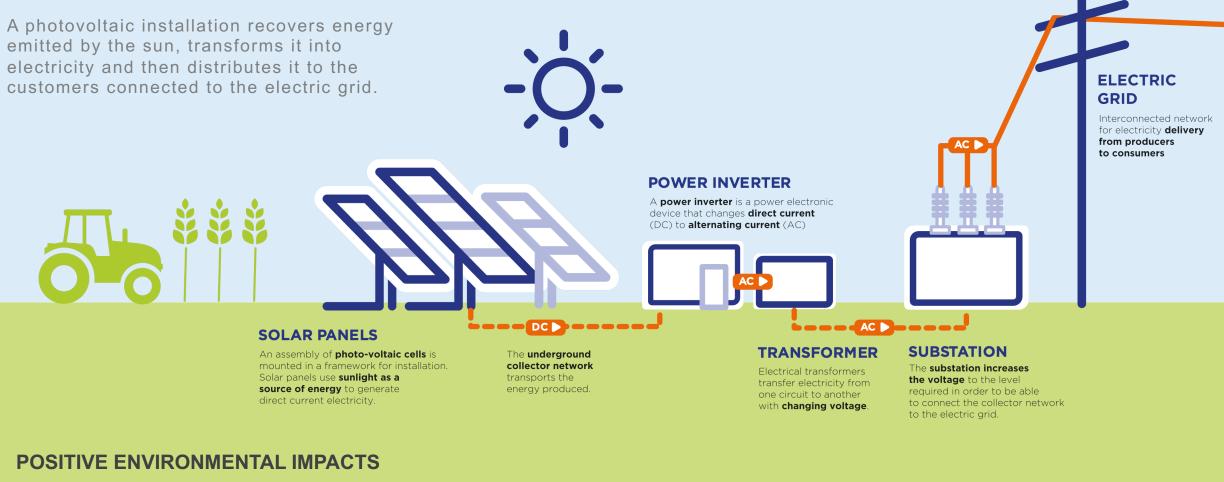


**BORALEX** Solar projects in Development

Fort Covington	250 MW
Two Rivers	200 MW
Greens Corners	120 MW
Newport	130 MW
Fort Edward	100 MW
Diamond	60 MW
Foothills	40 MW
Bald Mountain	20 MW
Easton	20 MW
Sandy Creek	20 MW
Sky High	20 MW
West River	20 MW

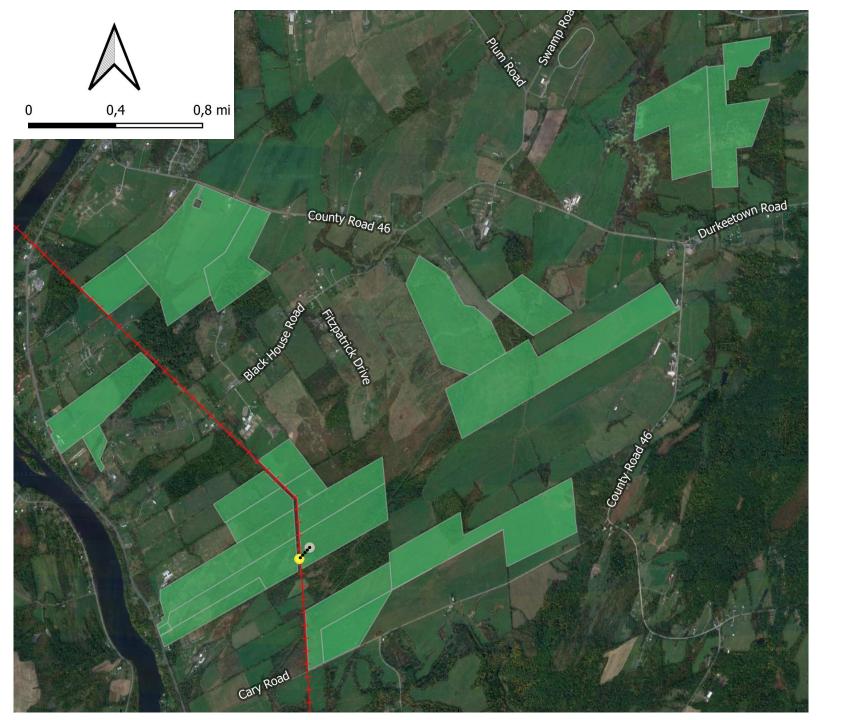
## **Solar Energy**

### HOW DOES A SOLAR FACILITY WORK?



BORA

- Clean and renewable
- Emits no air pollutants or greenhouse gases
- Does not require water for operation





- 100 MW capacity
- Approx. 800 acres project footprint
- Located in Fort Edward
   and Argyle
- No battery storage proposed

The green parcels are those that have been signed up to participate in the project to date and do not represent the built project footprint.

#### Parcels

Executed Binding Option

#### **Proposed Infrastructure**

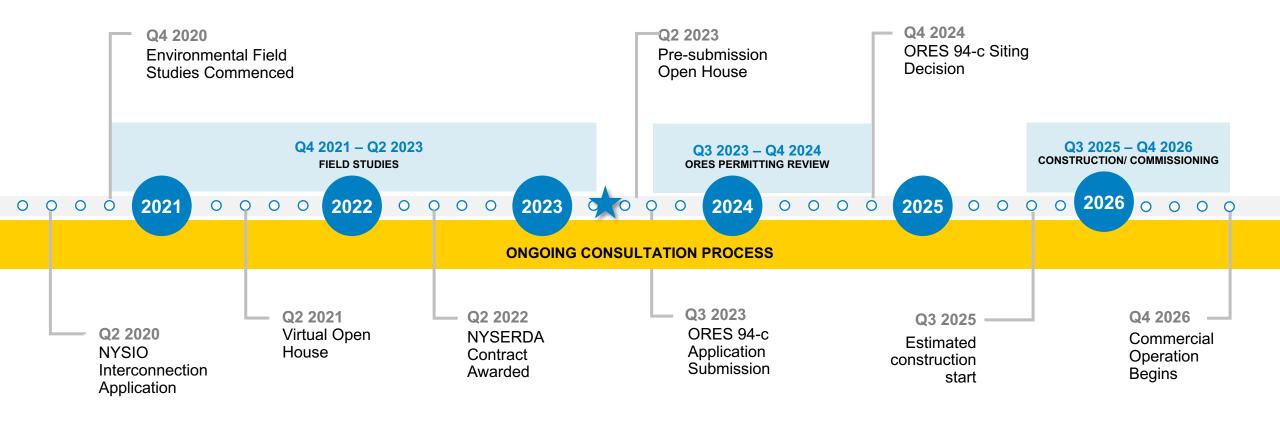
- Interconnection Route 115kV
- 34.5/115kV Step-up Substation
- Proposed POI 115kV

Existing Infrastructure

⊢+++ 115kV Transmission Line



## Fort Edward Solar Anticipated Project Schedule



Throughout the development process there will be **multiple opportunities to provide your input** and feedback on the project. Boralex will hold additional open houses and throughout the process be available for individual meetings or by email and phone. We will continue to seek input from stakeholders to design a project in line with the community's priorities.

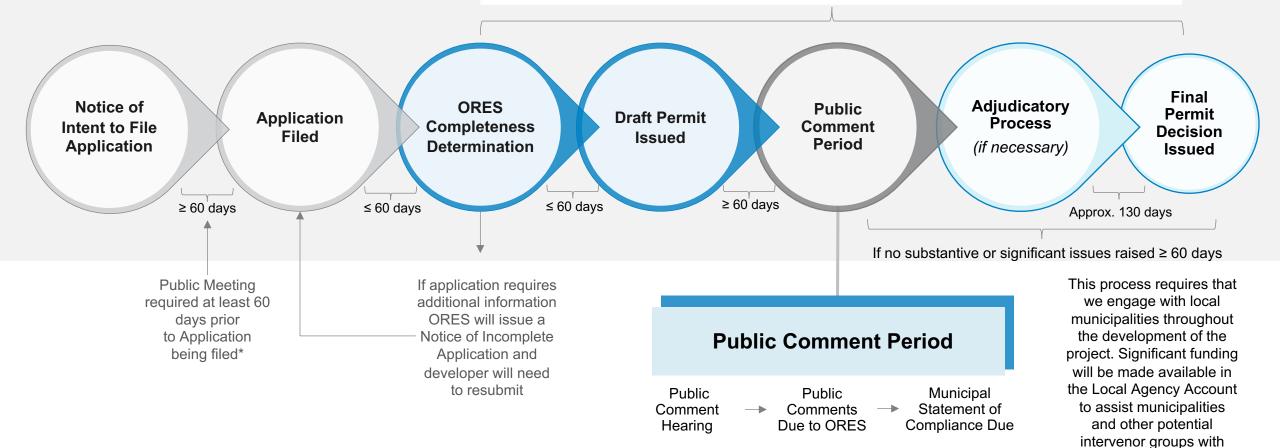


## **ORES 94-c Application Process**

Once Completeness Determination is received ORES must issue Final Permit decision within **One Year** 

review of the 94-c

application.

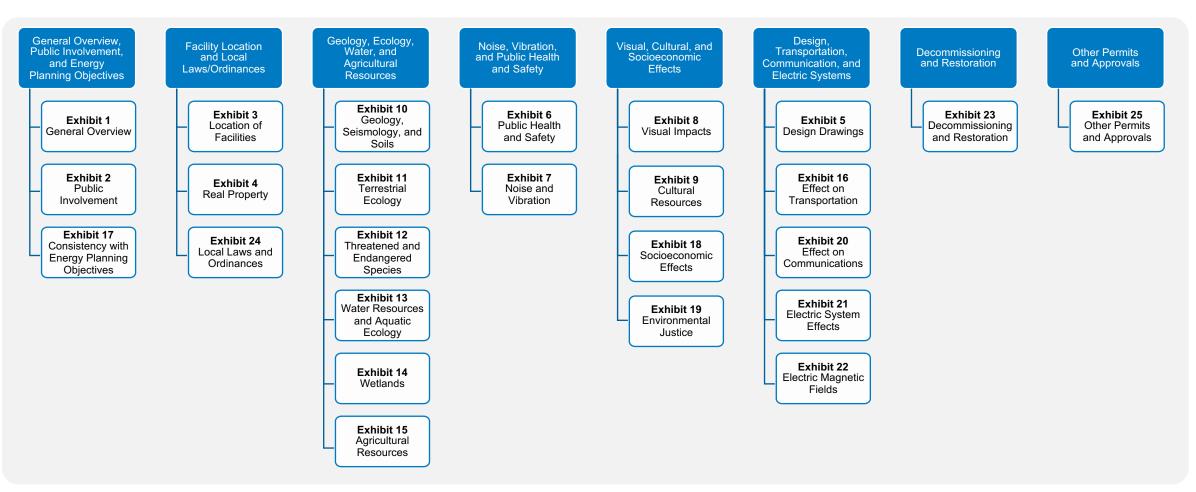


\* Today's meeting is voluntary and in advance of the 94-c application process. There will be another meeting held at least 60 days prior to application submission.



## 94-c Application

Extensive desktop assessments and on-site environmental assessments to support the 94-c application are currently underway and will include information for the following required Exhibits:





Once available, all application information can be found on our website: https://www.boralex.com/projects/fort-edward

## **Studies Conducted**

Noise modelling is completed to ensure noise levels experienced at nearby homes are **not above 40 dbA** from the substation and 45 dbA from the inverters and transformers, which is the **equivalent sound level of a library or bird calls,** typical noise levels experienced in rural communities.

Wetlands

Cultural

Noise

Mapped DEC or NWI wetlands were avoided through initial project siting. A thorough wetland delineation was conducted and confirmed by ORES and DEC for additional unmapped wetlands located on site. The project is designed to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and any remaining impacts will be mitigated through the creation of new wetlands, restoration, and rehabilitation.

A (desktop) **Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment** and **(**field) **Archaeological Survey** were conducted for this project where there will be ground disturbance in areas of high potential for historical activity, considering both indigenous and settler use of the area. A **Historic Resources Report** was completed for the surrounding area to identify any buildings or locations of historical or architectural significance.

### **Visual Assessment**

A visual impact assessment and glint and glare study will be conducted to assess potential visibility of the project and inform vegetative screening.

Photo simulations will be created that show what the panel area will look like from key observation points with and without vegetative screening.

An example set is below. These photos are **not** from this project.









### **Grassland Birds**

Surveys	<ul> <li>All required bird surveys have been conducted for this project:</li> <li>Winter Grassland Raptor Survey: <ul> <li>November 2020 to April 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>Breeding Bird Surveys: <ul> <li>May 2021 to July 2021</li> <li>April 2022 to July 2022</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
ំ្រី្ដាំ Consultation	Consultation with the local birding community and advocacy organizations have been ongoing throughout development. Discussions on project siting and development, bird surveys, mitigation strategies and potential collaboration have been taking place since the project was initially proposed.
Improvements	Our team has been in ongoing <b>conversations</b> with local <b>landowners</b> , <b>birding community</b> , and other stakeholders in the design of the Fort Edward Solar project. To address some concerns raised, Boralex has proposed <b>installing pull-offs at popular viewing spots</b> , interpretative signage, bird boxes, and post-construction research project.



Boralex recognizes the **importance of this habitat** for grassland birds. We are committed to **minimizing our footprint**, mitigating impacts and creating an **increase in protected habitat for birds** and other wildlife in this area.

A Net Conservation Benefit Plan will establish new protected grassland bird habitat and other benefits such as a **bird friendly project design, research elements, and bird observation infrastructure** improvements.



## **Project Benefits**

Commitment to Multi-Use Boralex will establish a local multi-use working group to evaluate, implement, and monitor co-utilization projects during operation that can occur on the same footprint as the solar project. Boralex is committed to solutions which protect the natural environment and replenish and rehabilitate soil.

່ Increased ອີ Local Taxes The project will generate Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) revenues to **local school districts**, **host towns**, and the **county** throughout the project's operation. These payments will be substantially higher than the tax payments currently being contributed by the project host properties and their existing land use.

Local Economic Inputs

**Local jobs will be created** during construction (approximately150 jobs) and operation (2-3 full time positions). **Goods and services needs will be sourced locally** during development and construction wherever possible.

#### **Cleaner Future**

Solar energy does not release any emissions which is better for air quality, climate change and the local animals and plants.

The Fort Edward Solar Project will provide clean power for equivalent of **25,000 – 30,000** homes.



### **Local Support**

Every year Boralex supports local non-profit organizations, charities, and events that contribute to the vitality of the area.

Boralex has contributed more than **\$1,000,000** over the past two years in our partner communities



## **Community Involvement**

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Local Laws	During the 94-c permitting process the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) is required to <b>consider any applicable local law</b> when making its determination. The host municipality must notify the Office if the project complies with local laws concerning environmental, or public health & safety. If the municipality finds the facility does not comply with local law and regulations, these matters must be <b>addressed in a public manner</b> .
Local Operations Center	Boralex's hydropower operations have <b>been based in South Glens Falls</b> <b>for more than 20 years</b> , overseeing run-of-river hydro facilities in South Glens Falls, Hudson Falls, Middle Falls, Warrensburg, Waterford and Potsdam. As our US headquarters, <b>we are proud of our support for</b> <b>efforts that improve local quality of life</b> —from community centers and food banks to health and wellness programs.
<b>ຼິ</b> Community Organizations	As part of our Fort Edward Solar Project, <b>resources will be allocated for</b> <b>STEM education and workforce development programs</b> through local organizations for the duration of our operations. Called the <b>Boralex</b> <b>Beyond Renewables Fund</b> , these financial commitments will help train the next generation in technology, agriculture, and science.



### Meaningful Dialogue

Regardless of the type of project or where it is located, Boralex's philosophy remains the same: we arrive as guests and we become good neighbors.

Thus, we place great emphasis on dialogue and cooperation with our local stakeholders, from the start of a new project continuing through construction and operation.

We are in the early stages of project development. As the project proceeds Boralex will incorporate the best information and expertise of all stakeholders in the project design.

## Decommissioning

Panel Lifespan

The panels are designed for a minimum lifespan of 30 years. Individual panels can be replaced as needed across the project. Panels will be recycled or reused at a different site at the end of the project life.

### Restoration

When the project is decommissioned, Boralex is committed (and obligated) to return the land to its original state. During the lifespan of the project, Boralex will work with the current landowners, soil experts and agricultural experts to improve soil quality for improved productivity and/or a return to native ecosystems.

Component

The project components are primarily made of steel, aluminum, glass, silicon, copper and silver. The scrap and recycling value of these materials are expected to be more than the cost to dismantle at the end of the project life.



### **Local Commitments**

Boralex (or any project owner) is obligated through the 94-c permitting process to provide a Decommissioning Plan that outlines a commitment to pay for decommissioning costs, which will include a financial surety.

These costs will be recalculated every 5 years to ensure the scrap and recycling value continues to support decommissioning costs.

Additionally, Boralex will follow New York State Agriculture and Markets Published Guidelines for Solar Energy Projects which detail post-construction, monitoring, and decommissioning work on agricultural lands.



## **Solar Multi-Use**

Recognizing the importance of the existing land use in this area to the environmental, economic and social well-being of the community, Boralex is committing to:

- Establish a Multi-Use Local Working Group to analyze, implement, and monitor multi-use activities for this site.
- Execute and review multi-use projects in collaboration with the local Working Group and landowners. Projects may include grassland bird habitat, wetlands, commercial bee keeping, planting native pollinator species, carbon sequestration and/or hay farming.

This approach will result in an adaptive integration of multiple land uses within the same project footprint suited to local conditions and needs.

