

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 21-____-NM

Application of rbTechnologies,)
LLC, Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 248,)
8010 and Commission Rule 5.100)
for authorization to install and)
operate a 44.2 kW AC ground-)
mounted solar array located in the)
Town of East Montpelier, Vermont)

AESTHETICS IMPACT

The Project is a 44.2kW AC ground-mounted solar array sited in the middle of a large undeveloped parcel located adjacent to a commercial building and respective parking lot. The Applicant owns the approximate 3.4 acre parcel in which the Project is located. To the south of the Project site is a parking lot and quonset hut commercial building. To the east and southeast of the array site are densely planted trees lining the entire easterly and southerly perimeter until they meet with the building; both the building and vegetation thoroughly provide screening of the array to the east and south. To the north of the array is Carlton Boulevard, which separates the parcel and array from NorthCountry Federal Credit Union, located across the street. The Applicant intends to plant several crab apple trees along Carleton Boulevard to provide screening of the array from the road and neighboring structures. To the west of the array site is US Route 14 South.

The site and array are located in the zoned Residential and Commercial District of East Montpelier. A ground mounted solar array is consistent with the mixed-use development of this area, and the site will be properly maintained by the Applicant. This site is currently vacant; the current owner has previously cleaned up the site and maintained its landscaping as a grassy field. The solar array will be in compliance with the setback regulations and screening requirements. Furthermore, no trees will be removed to accommodate the Project, and it is our belief that this Project will not adversely impact the aesthetic, scenic and natural beauty of the area.