

October 22, 2024

Vermont Public Utility Commission  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

Re: Preferred Site Designation: Novus Brandon Solar LLC – 150 kW Net-Metered Solar Array.

Dear Commissioners,

Novus Brandon Solar LLC proposes to install and operate a 150 kW net-metered solar array on private land leased from and owned by the Brandon Industrial Corporation, that is being a portion of Lot F of the Edward Denecke Industrial park on Robert Wood Drive in Brandon, Vermont. The Town of Brandon Selectboard and the Town of Brandon voted unanimously to support this Project and designated its location at Robert Wood Drive as a preferred site for a net-metered solar array within the meaning of Public Utility Commission's Rule 5.103, "Preferred Site" subsection (7)

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission has been asked to review Novus Brandon Solar LLC and designate the array's location as preferred under the Public Utility Commission's Rule 5.103.

After reviewing the project's 45-day Advanced Notice dated October, 1 2024, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission voted to support this project and designate the location at Robert Wood Drive as a preferred site for a net-metered solar array within the meaning of Public Utility Commission Rule 5.103 consistent with the applicable policies in the Rutland Regional Plan. There will be no impact on neighbors, and the site is not visible in any direction, including Arnold District Road. In addition, it is understood that the project will either avoid any environmental resources entirely or not cause undue adverse impacts, and will not create public health or safety concerns for the Towns that the Rutland Regional Planning Commission represents. Furthermore, the project is in conformance with the Rutland Regional Enhanced Energy Plan and will not interfere with the orderly development of the region. More specifically, the Board of Commissioners concluded that this site is not forested land but rather an overgrown field. As such this project is in conformance with all review criteria listed in the Regional Enhanced Energy Plan.

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission does not take a position certifying or approving the project's compliance with any other applicable provisions of Rule 5.100 or Vermont Law. We reserve our right to comment on Novus's application for a Certificate of Public Good and to participate in any hearings on the application.

Thank you for your consideration of our support for Novus Brandon Solar LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANING COMMISSION



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Chair, Rutland Regional Planning Commission

Doug Bailey, Chair  
Heather Nelson, Vice-Chair  
Ralph Ethier, Clerk  
Tim Guiles, Selectman  
Brian Coolidge, Selectman

June 18, 2024

Vermont Public Utility Commission  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Preferred Site Designation: Novus Brandon Solar 150 kW Net-Metered Solar Array

Dear Commissioners:

Novus Brandon Solar, LLC proposes to install and operate a 150 kW net-metered solar array on private land leased from and owned by the Brandon Industrial Corporation, that being a portion of Lot F of the Edward Denecke Industrial park on Robert Wood Drive in Brandon, Vermont. The Town of Brandon Selectboard and the Town of Brandon Planning Commission have been asked to designate the array's location as preferred under the Public Utility Commission's net-metering rule (Rule 5.103, "Preferred Site," (7), clause 2).

After reviewing the project proposal and energy developer questionnaire with the Brandon planning commission, both the Brandon Planning Commission and the Brandon Selectboard have voted unanimously to support this project and designate the location at Robert Wood Drive as a preferred site for a net-metered solar array within the meaning of Public Utility Commission Rule 5.103. There will be no impact on neighbors, and the site is not visible in any direction, including Arnold District Road. Electricity generated by the array will be net metered into the grid and the Town of Brandon will receive credits on its GMP electric bills at a 15% discount. The planning commission vote is recorded in the minutes of June 3, 2024; the selectboard vote is recorded in the minutes of June 10, 2024.

Neither the Brandon Selectboard nor the Brandon Planning Commission takes a position certifying or approving the project's compliance with any other applicable provision of Rule 5.100 or Vermont law. We reserve our right to comment on Novus's application for a certificate of public good and to participate in any hearings on the application.

Thank you for your consideration of our support.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWN OF BRANDON SELECTBOARD

  
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Douglas Bailey, Chair

November 7, 2024

Mr. Doug Bailey  
Select Board Chair  
Town of Brandon  
42 Center Street  
Brandon, VT 05733

Doug,

On the evening of June 3rd, Jim Emerson, Chair, reviewed the completed renewable energy developer questionnaire submitted by Alex Bravakis of Novus Energy, based in Montpelier, with the members of the Energy Committee.

This is our standard procedure as outlined in the Town Plan's Enhanced Energy section. The Energy Committee reviews these questionnaires and determines whether a recommendation should be passed along to the Planning Commission.

The proposed 150kW array would be sited in the Brandon Industrial Corporation's property near to the Green Lantern array. Novus will enter into a lease with the BIC for the location which had previously been selected as the site for the proposed town-owned solar array. It meets all the criteria for a medium-sized solar development and there are no neighbors to be affected. The site is not visible in any direction, including Arnold District Road.

Electricity generated by the array will be net metered into the grid and the Town of Brandon will receive credits on its GMP electric bills at a 15% discount.

I have attached the completed questionnaire.

The Project site in Novus Energy's 45-day letter is consistent with what was reviewed in June. The Planning Commission agrees with the Energy Committee's recommendation and requests the Select Board submit a letter of town support to the state's Public Utility Commission.

Regards,



Jack Schneider

Planning Commission Chair