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SENT VIA EMAIL to <u>ischmitt@duanesburg.net</u>, <u>MDeffer@duanesburg.net</u>, tbakner@woh.com, and Dale@duanesburg.net.

Planning Board Town of Duanesburg 5853 Western Turnpike Duanesburg, NY 12056

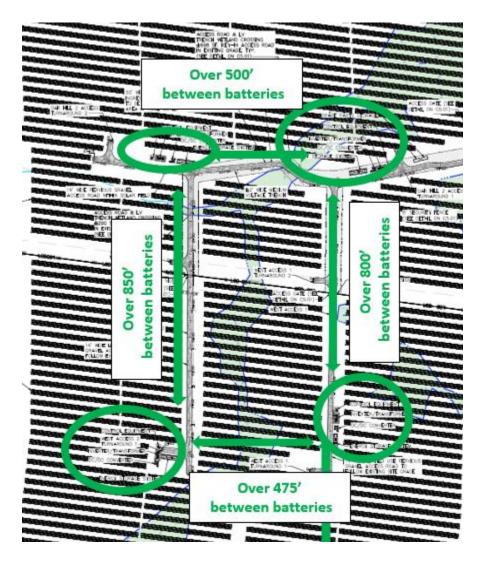
**RE:** Amp September 9, 2021 Special Meeting & Workshop Follow Up Oak Hill 1 and Oak Hill 2 Solar and Energy Storage Projects

Dear Chairman Schmitt,

Thank you for providing AMP Solar Development Inc. ("Amp") the opportunity to present at the September 9, 2021 Town of Duanesburg Planning Board Special Meeting & Workshop. Amp is using this letter to provide written responses to questions raised during the workshop.

#### Distance between battery enclosures

As discussed during the workshop, there are significant distances between the four separate battery enclosures (four enclosures for both the Oak Hill 1 and Oak Hill 2 sites). The battery enclosures are over 475' apart at their closest point. The risk of fire propagating between battery enclosures is incredibly low due to these significant setbacks. As stated by the ESRG representative during the workshop, this is a very conservative site design. The approximate distances between the enclosures are pictured below.



In addition to the distance between enclosures, the site design provides intentional setbacks from native fuels to provide a buffer for minimizing the likelihood of engaging materials beyond site boundaries. All battery enclosures are made of steel and are designed to prevent fire propagation. The steel enclosures are placed on designed foundations with a minimum of a 23-foot setback between the battery enclosures and the solar modules. In the extremely unlikely event of a fire, the battery would burn within the enclosure and the fire would not spread beyond the foundation.

#### Need for an Additional Water Source

In the highly unlikely case of a battery fire, the battery enclosure's built in fire suppression system will be deployed to suppress the combustion. In the extremely unlikely case that the fire suppression system is unable to contain the blaze, the battery would burn within the steel enclose and would not spread beyond the foundation. As discussed by the battery safety expert from ESGR, this is an accepted industry practice. Therefore, additional on-site water sources would not be required.

## Digital File Sharing

Amp's 2021 Special Permit Amendment application materials can be found at <a href="https://app.box.com/folder/145690494603?s=clatbkfqwy9roet5i43w2k5r6vpfoovn">https://app.box.com/folder/145690494603?s=clatbkfqwy9roet5i43w2k5r6vpfoovn</a>.

Amp has shared all publicly available application materials.

## Gasses Released During a Thermal Runaway Event

The gasses released during battery thermal runaway events are included in the UL9450A Test Report. Report sections of particular interest include section 3.9 Gas Generation Measurement and section 3.10 Total Gas Release.

The UL9450A test result will be resubmitted with this letter.

#### Site-Specific Safety Plan

A site-specific operational safety plan will be developed once a final design and site plan is approved. An operational safety plan will be provided prior to the completion of construction.

The site-specific plan will be based on Powin's safety documents, which were previously provided to the Town of Duanesburg and the Esperance Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief.

# **Emergency Decommissioning Plan**

The following language will be added to the battery decommissioning plan (in *italics*):

## 6.0 Emergency BESS Decommissioning

In the event of a BESS failure that requires emergency removal (such as a BESS enclosure fire) the Applicant will be responsible for proper removal and disposal of the affected BESS equipment and any damaged equipment surrounding the BESS. The BESS equipment will be replaced in kind or equivalent at the Applicant's expense. If equivalent BESS equipment is used as replacement the Town will be notified of the equivalent replacement. Additional training for the equivalent BESS equipment will be required and provided by the Applicant. The decommissioning fund does not include decommissioning costs and salvage value for emergency BESS decommissioning.

The cost of an emergency decommissioning event would be covered under the

proposed decommissioning fund, similar to any decommissioning event. If an emergency event occurred that required the utilization of decommissioning funds, then the Applicant would be required to post revised decommissioning funds with the Town of Duanesburg.

#### **Ongoing Battery Safety Training**

Amp and Powin will work with the Town of Duanesburg to design an appropriate ongoing safety training program based on industry best practices and requirements from the local fire department.

#### **Extended Power Outage**

There is the potential for an extended power outage, which would interrupt the battery's auxiliary power supply. A 24-hour uninterruptible power supply backs up the battery's digital monitoring and fire suppression system. However, the battery is designed to switch into standby mode and cease all charging and discharging after the loss of auxiliary power and or a power outage. While the batteries will still contain a charge during a power outage, a safety event is highly unlikely (even more improbable than normal) when the battery is in standby mode and not charging or discharging.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Oak Hill Solar 1 LLC and Oak Hill Solar 2 LLC By: AMP Solar Development Inc., its Manager

Nicole LeBlanc
Authorized Signatory
Displayers US Transportion

Director, US Transactions