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February 25, 2020

Andrea Chaloux, Environmental Review Specialist
New York Natural Heritage Program – Information Services
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, 5th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-4757

Sent online via NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov

**Re: Garnet Energy Center, LLC
Garnet Energy Center Project
Town of Conquest, Cayuga County, New York
Project Review Request**

Dear Ms. Chaloux:

Garnet Energy Center, LLC proposes to construct a solar energy center in the Town of Conquest, Cayuga County, New York (See Figure 1 for area being evaluated for Project). Garnet Energy Center, LLC plans to submit an application to the NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment in pursuit of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct the Garnet Energy Center (the Project) under Article 10 of the Public Service Law (PSL). This request is being made in order to help prepare the Article 10 Application.

The proposed Project will have a generating capacity of 200 megawatts (MWs) of power and a 3.4 MW/4-hour duration energy storage system located on land leased from owners of private property. Proposed components include commercial-scale solar arrays, access roads, buried (and possibly overhead) electric collection lines, energy storage, fencing, inverters, a Project collection substation, and electrical interconnection facilities. Garnet Energy Center anticipates the interconnection facilities will include a 345-kV switchyard which will be transferred to the New York State Power Authority (NYPA) to own and operate. The final solar array specification, as well as locations of arrays, will be finalized as part of micro-siting efforts.

Land cover in the area being evaluated for the Project consists primarily of agricultural land, with portions of forestland, a transmission line right-of-way, aquatic habitat, and rural residential properties. The general location of the area being evaluated for the Project is identified on the enclosed map, Figure 1. The Project is planned to commence commercial operation in 2023.

TRC, on behalf of Garnet Energy Center, LLC, has consulted with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Environmental Resource Mapper (ERM) as a first step in determining the presence of rare or state-listed animals or plants, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats in the immediate vicinity of the Project. The results of the search revealed the area being evaluated for the Project is in vicinity of rare, threatened, and endangered species layers and significant natural communities (rich graminoid fen and floodplain forest).

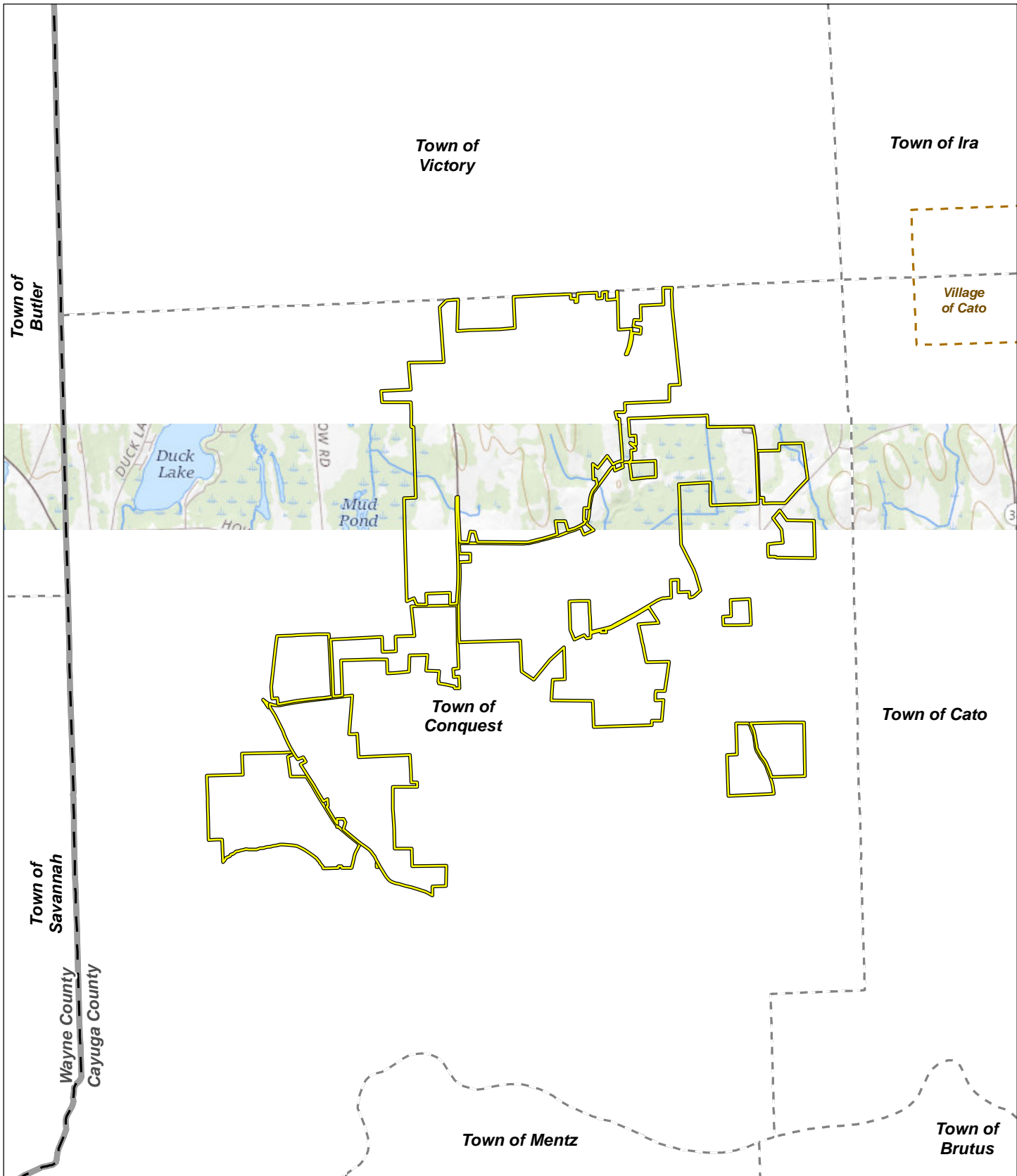
TRC is requesting herein a review and confirmation of the latest New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) – Information Service records for the presence of rare or state-listed plants or animals, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats in the vicinity of the Project. If you have any questions regarding the Project or the request herein, please contact me at TRC by calling (315) 362-2415 or via email at skranes@trccompanies.com.





Sincerely,

Samantha Kranes
Project Manager, TRC

cc: Bill Boer, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
Kris Scornavacca, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC

Attachments: Figure 1. Project Location Map



-  Area Being Evaluated for Project
-  Village Boundary
-  Municipal Boundary
-  County Boundary

MAP LOCATION



**PROJECT LOCATION MAP
GARNET ENERGY CENTER, LLC
TOWN OF CONQUEST, NY**

FIGURE 1 FEBRUARY 2020

Map Produced by

Base Map: USGS/The National Map 2020

