

Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
Special Meeting – Unitil Solar Array Project
9/14/2023

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm at the Kingston Town Hall

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Bob Smith, Jeff Sluder

Guests: Nick Golon, Principal Engineer, TFMoran
Jay Aube, Certified Wetland Scientist, TFMoran
Jake Dusling, Principal Engineer, Unitil

The purpose of this meeting was to clarify several outstanding questions so that Conservation could prepare comments on the project for the upcoming Planning Board meeting.

1. Evy requested clarification of the changes to the solar array layout in the most recent set of plans as it was difficult to determine what changes had been made. Mr. Golon explained that the solar arrays that border the southern edge of wetland #5 will be shifted away from the wetland buffer. There will be the same number of arrays. Mr. Golon added that this design had deleted 10's of thousands of SF along wetland buffers by purchasing the additional 3 acres.
2. He displayed a map to show us how thoroughly flagged the wetland boundaries are.
3. He reported that they intend to honor requests that Dennis Quintal made in his second engineering review, regarding preserving wetland buffers and handling any possible hazardous waste from the use of heavy machinery.
4. Evy expressed concerns about the border fence design. Mr. Aube admitted that for safety reasons, a 6" pass through had not been approved. He said that they were working with NH Fish & Game (Douglas) on a design that would provide adequate security for the solar field, while preserving the ability of small wildlife to enter and exit the solar field at fence intervals.
5. Mr. Golon reiterated that Unitil would not use herbicides for vegetation control, and provided some additional details on the proposed wildflower mix to be planted at the site.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary