Gaines Town Board

May 13th, 2019

Agenda

- Pledge to the Flag and moment of silence
- Organizational Meeting Items
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- Town Clerk's Report
- Supervisor's Report
- Highway Superintendent's Report
- Approval of Abstracts

Agenda

- Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Farms
- Other New Business
- Privilege of the Floor

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the April 8th Board Meeting

Town Clerk's Report

• Zoning and Building Permits	$379.00
• Dog Licenses	$324.00
• Conservation	$0.00
• Birth and Death Certificates	$100.00
• Marriage Certificates and Licenses	$27.50
• Other Fees	$4.50
• Total Remitted to other entities	$88.50
• Total Remitted to Town	$835.00

Supervisor's Report

- General Fund – Town wide
  - $366,467.76
- General Fund – Outside Village
  - $69,324.53
- Highway Fund – Town wide
  - $394,762.58
- Highway Fund – Outside Village
  - $167,240.88

- Water District 1: $27,559.69
- Water District 2: $41,410.78
- Water District 3: $33,261.24
- Water District 4: $161,034.31
- Water District 5: $194,899.01
- Water District 6: $8,226.86
- Water District 7: $45,583.01
- Water District 8: $73,441.08
- Water District 9: $71,841.12
- Water District 10: $83,492.92

Highway Superintendent's Report

Approval of Abstracts

General Fund	**$13,718.12**
Highway Fund	**$39,914.92**
Water Fund	**$71,612.90**

Solar Energy Local Law

- Local law developed with assistance from LaBella Associates.
- Utilized samples from other towns, including Albion
- Collected feedback from ZBA and others to make modifications to draft local law
- ZBA Reviewed and recommended moving forward with this draft

Other New Business from the Board

Privilege of the Floor

Adjournment

- Next meeting of the Gaines Town Board will be held on **Monday, June 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM**.
- Thank you for your attendance!

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Identification of Potential Project Impacts

Part 2 is to be completed by the lead agency. Part 2 is designed to help the lead agency inventory all potential resources that could be affected by a proposed project or action. We recognize that the lead agency's reviewer(s) will not necessarily be environmental professionals. So, the questions are designed to walk a reviewer through the assessment process by providing a series of questions that can be answered using the information found in Part 1. To further assist the lead agency in completing Part 2, the form identifies the most relevant questions in Part 1 that will provide the information needed to answer the Part 2 question. When Part 2 is completed, the lead agency will have identified the relevant environmental areas that may be impacted by the proposed activity.

If the lead agency is a state agency **and** the action is in any Coastal Area, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

Tips for completing Part 2:

- Review all of the information provided in Part 1.
- Review any application, maps, supporting materials and the Full EAF Workbook.
- Answer each of the 18 questions in Part 2.
- If you answer "**Yes"** to a numbered question, please complete all the questions that follow in that section.
- If you answer "**No"** to a numbered question, move on to the next numbered question.
- Check appropriate column to indicate the anticipated size of the impact.
- Proposed projects that would exceed a numeric threshold contained in a question should result in the reviewing agency checking the box "Moderate to large impact may occur."
- The reviewer is not expected to be an expert in environmental analysis.
- If you are not sure or undecided about the size of an impact, it may help to review the sub-questions for the general question and consult the workbook.
- When answering a question consider all components of the proposed activity, that is, the "whole action".
- Consider the possibility for long-term and cumulative impacts as well as direct impacts.
- Answer the question in a reasonable manner considering the scale and context of the project.

1. Impact on Land
Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. (See Part 1. D.1)
If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 2.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet.	E2d	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.	E2f	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.	E2a	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material.	D2a	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases.	D1e	☐	☐
f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides).	D2e, D2q	☐	☐
g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area.	B1i	☐	☐
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

2. Impact on Geological Features

The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). (See Part 1. E.2.g) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", move on to Section 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Identify the specific land form(s) attached: _____ _____	E2g	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may affect or is adjacent to a geological feature listed as a registered National Natural Landmark. Specific feature: _____	E3c	☐	☐
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

3. Impacts on Surface Water

The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface water bodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). (See Part 1. D.2, E.2.h) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - l. If "No", move on to Section 4.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may create a new water body.	D2b, D1h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water.	D2b	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or water body.	D2a	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body.	E2h	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediments.	D2a, D2h	☐	☐
f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water.	D2c	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s).	D2d	☐	☐
h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving water bodies.	D2e	☐	☐
i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any water bodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action.	E2h	☐	☐
j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any water body.	D2q, E2h	☐	☐
k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities.	D1a, D2d	☐	☐

l. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□

4. Impact on groundwater

The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. (See Part 1. D.2.a, D.2.c, D.2.d, D.2.p, D.2.q, D.2.t)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 5.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells.	D2c	□	□
b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. Cite Source: _____	D2c	□	□
c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services.	D1a, D2c	□	□
d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater.	D2d, E2l	□	□
e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated.	D2c, E1f, E1g, E1h	□	□
f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer.	D2p, E2l	□	□
g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources.	E2h, D2q, E2l, D2c	□	□
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□

5. Impact on Flooding

The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. (See Part 1. E.2)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", move on to Section 6.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway.	E2i	□	□
b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100 year floodplain.	E2j	□	□
c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500 year floodplain.	E2k	□	□
d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns.	D2b, D2e	□	□
e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding.	D2b, E2i, E2j, E2k	□	□
f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade?	E1e	□	□

g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

6. Impacts on Air

The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.f., D,2,h, D.2.g)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", move on to Section 7.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases at or above the following levels:			
i. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide (CO_2)	D2g	☐	☐
ii. More than 3.5 tons/year of nitrous oxide (N_2O)	D2g	☐	☐
iii. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon equivalent of perfluorocarbons (PFCs)	D2g	☐	☐
iv. More than .045 tons/year of sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6)	D2g	☐	☐
v. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent of hydrochloroflourocarbons (HFCs) emissions	D2g	☐	☐
vi. 43 tons/year or more of methane	D2h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants.	D2g	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.	D2f, D2g	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above.	D2g	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.	D2s	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

7. Impact on Plants and Animals

The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. (See Part 1. E.2. m.-q.) ☑ NO ☐ YES
If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 8.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2o	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government.	E2o	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population, or loss of individuals, of any species of special concern or conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2p	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government.	E2p	☐	☐

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect.	E3c	□	□
f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. Source: _____	E2n	□	□
g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding, foraging, or over-wintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site.	E2m	□	□
h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Habitat type & information source: _____ _____	E1b	□	□
i. Proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves use of herbicides or pesticides.	D2q	□	□
j. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□

8. Impact on Agricultural Resources

The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. (See Part 1. E.3.a. and b.) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 9.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	**No, or small impact may occur**	**Moderate to large impact may occur**
a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System.	E2c, E3b	□	□
b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc).	E1a, Elb	□	□
c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land.	E3b	□	□
d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District.	E1b, E3a	□	□
e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system.	El a, E1b	□	□
f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland.	C2c, C3, D2c, D2d	□	□
g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan.	C2c	□	□
h. Other impacts: _____		□	□

9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources

The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. (Part 1. E.1.a, E.1.b, E.3.h.)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 10.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views.	E3h, C2b	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points: i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons) ii. Year round	E3h	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is: i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work ii. Recreational or tourism based activities	E3h E2q, E1c	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile ½ -3 mile 3-5 mile 5+ mile	D1a, E1a, D1f, D1g	☐	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources

The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. (Part 1. E.3.e, f. and g.)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 11.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places.	E3e	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.	E3f	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Source: _____	E3g	☐	☐

d. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□
e. If any of the above (a-d) are answered "Yes", continue with the following questions to help support conclusions in Part 3:			
i. The proposed action may result in the destruction or alteration of all or part of the site or property.	E3e, E3g, E3f	□	□
ii. The proposed action may result in the alteration of the property's setting or integrity.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E1a, E1b	□	□
iii. The proposed action may result in the introduction of visual elements which are out of character with the site or property, or may alter its setting.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E3h, C2, C3	□	□

11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation

The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan.
(See Part 1. C.2.c, E.1.c., E.2.q.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 12.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or "ecosystem services", provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat.	D2e, E1b E2h, E2m, E2o, E2n, E2p	□	□
b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource.	C2a, E1c, C2c, E2q	□	□
c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources.	C2a, C2c E1c, E2q	□	□
d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource.	C2c, E1c	□	□
e. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□

12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas

The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). (See Part 1. E.3.d)
If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", go to Section 13.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	□	□
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quality of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	□	□
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		□	□

13. Impact on Transportation

The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.j)
If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 14.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network.	D2j	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles.	D2j	☐	☐
c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access.	D2j	☐	☐
d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.	D2j	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods.	D2j	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

14. Impact on Energy

The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.k)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 15.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation.	D2k	☐	☐
b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use.	D1f, D1q, D2k	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity.	D2k	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed.	D1g	☐	☐
e. Other Impacts: _____ _____			

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light

The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. ☑ NO ☐ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.m., n., and o.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 16.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation.	D2m	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.	D2m, E1d	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day.	D2o	☐	☐

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties.	D2n	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions.	D2n, E1a	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

16. Impact on Human Health

The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. (See Part 1.D.2.q., E.1. d. f. g. and h.) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - m. If "No", go to Section 17.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No,or small impact may cccur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home or retirement community.	E1d	☐	☐
b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation.	E1g, E1h	☐	☐
c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action.	E1g, E1h	☐	☐
d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction).	E1g, E1h	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health.	E1g, E1h	☐	☐
f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health.	D2t	☐	☐
g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility.	D2q, E1f	☐	☐
h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste.	D2q, E1f	☐	☐
i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste.	D2r, D2s	☐	☐
j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.	E1f, E1g E1h	☐	☐
k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures.	E1f, E1g	☐	☐
l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site.	D2s, E1f, D2r	☐	☐
m. Other impacts: _____ _____			

17. Consistency with Community Plans

The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use plans. ☑ NO ☐ YES

(See Part 1. C.1, C.2. and C.3.)

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", go to Section 18.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action's land use components may be different from, or in sharp contrast to, current surrounding land use pattern(s).	C2, C3, D1a E1a, E1b	☐	☐
b. The proposed action will cause the permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located to grow by more than 5%.	C2	☐	☐
c. The proposed action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.	C2, C2, C3	☐	☐
d. The proposed action is inconsistent with any County plans, or other regional land use plans.	C2, C2	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may cause a change in the density of development that is not supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.	C3, D1c, D1d, D1f, D1d, Elb	☐	☐
f. The proposed action is located in an area characterized by low density development that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.	C4, D2c, D2d D2j	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may induce secondary development impacts (e.g., residential or commercial development not included in the proposed action)	C2a	☐	☐
h. Other: _____ _____		☐	☐

18. Consistency with Community Character

The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. ☑ NO ☐ YES

(See Part 1. C.2, C.3, D.2, E.3)

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", proceed to Part 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures, or areas of historic importance to the community.	E3e, E3f, E3g	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire)	C4	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may displace affordable or low-income housing in an area where there is a shortage of such housing.	C2, C3, D1f D1g, E1a	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may interfere with the use or enjoyment of officially recognized or designated public resources.	C2, E3	☐	☐
e. The proposed action is inconsistent with the predominant architectural scale and character.	C2, C3	☐	☐
f. Proposed action is inconsistent with the character of the existing natural landscape.	C2, C3 E1a, E1b E2g, E2h	☐	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

PRINT FULL FORM

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 1 - Project and Setting

Instructions for Completing Part 1

Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1is accurate and complete.

A. Project and Sponsor Information.

Name of Action or Project: **Town of Gaines - Adoption Solar Energy Systems Local Law**		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map): **Town of Gaines**		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need): **The Town of Gaines intends to adopt a local law to regulate solar energy systems, including rooftop systems, on-site ground mounted systems, and solar farms. The proposed law includes definitions, review and approval procedures and standards for setbacks, lot coverage, abandonment and decommissioning.**		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor: **Gaines Town Board**	Telephone: E-Mail:	
Address: **14087 Ridge Road**		
City/PO: **Albion**	State: **New York**	Zip Code: **14411**
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role): **Joseph Grube, Supervisor**	Telephone: **585-589-4592 x 14** E-Mail: **supervisor@townofgaines.org**	
Address: **14087 Ridge Road**		
City/PO: **Albion**	State: **New York**	Zip Code: **14411**
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor): **NA**	Telephone: E-Mail:	
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

B. Government Approvals

B. Government Approvals Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, or Village Board of Trustees ☑Yes ☐No	**Gaines Town Board Local Law Adoption**	**June 2019 (projected)**
b. City, Town or Village Planning Board or Commission ☐Yes ☐No		
c. City Council, Town or Village Zoning Board of Appeals ☐Yes ☐No		
d. Other local agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
e. County agencies ☑Yes ☐No	**NYS GML 239 Review**	**May 2019 (projected)**
f. Regional agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
g. State agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
h. Federal agencies ☐Yes ☐No		

i. Coastal Resources.
i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes,
ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program? ☐Yes ☑No
iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area? ☐Yes ☑No

C. Planning and Zoning

C.1. Planning and zoning actions.

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☑Yes ☐No

- **If Yes,** complete sections C, F and G.
- **If No,** proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

C.2. Adopted land use plans.

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☑Yes ☐No
If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☐Yes ☑No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes, identify the plan(s):

_____
_____
_____

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes, identify the plan(s):

_____
_____
_____

C.3. Zoning

a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance. ☑ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?
Agricultural/ Residential; Commercial

b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit? ☐ Yes ☑ No

c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes,
i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site? _____

C.4. Existing community services.

a. In what school district is the project site located? **Albion Central School District**

b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?
Orleans County Sheriff

c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?
Albion Fire Department

d. What parks serve the project site?
Erie Canal Recreationway

D. Project Details Not applicable - Proposed action is a local law and not site-specific.

D.1. Proposed and Potential Development

a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)?

b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres

c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use? ☐ Yes ☐ No
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % _____ Units: _____

d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes,
i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)
ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
iii. Number of lots proposed? _____
iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum _____ Maximum _____

e. Will proposed action be constructed in multiple phases? ☐ Yes ☐ No
i. If No, anticipated period of construction: _____ months
ii. If Yes:
- Total number of phases anticipated _____
- Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) _____ month _____ year
- Anticipated completion date of final phase _____ month _____year
- Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases: _____

f. Does the project include new residential uses? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.

	One Family	Two Family	Three Family	Multiple Family (four or more)
Initial Phase	_____	_____	_____	_____
At completion of all phases	_____	_____	_____	_____

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes,

i. Total number of structures _____

ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____height; _____width; and _____ length

iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes,

i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____

ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: ☐ Ground water ☐ Surface water streams ☐Other specify:

_____

iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source.

_____

iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres

v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length

vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete):

_____

D.2. Project Operations

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? ☐Yes ☐No
(Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite)

If Yes:

i .What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____

ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site?

- Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____
- Over what duration of time? _____

iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them.

_____

_____

i*v.* Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? ☐Yes ☐No
If yes, describe. _____

_____

v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____acres

vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres

vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet

viii. Will the excavation require blasting? ☐Yes ☐No

ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____

_____

_____

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): _____

_____

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

_____

_____

_____

_____

iii. Will proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, describe: _____

iv. Will proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed _____
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed _____
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access):

  _____
- proposed method of plant removal: _____
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): _____

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: _____

_____

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: _____
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

  _____
- Source(s) of supply for the district: _____

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If, Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: _____

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: _____

_____

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), maximum pumping capacity: _____ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): _____

_____

_____

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: _____
- Name of district: _____
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No
- Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? ☐Yes ☐No

  If Yes:
  - Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

  _____

  _____

iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:
- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____

v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge, or describe subsurface disposal plans):

_____

_____

vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____

_____

_____

e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel?

_____ Square feet or _____ acres (impervious surface)

_____ Square feet or _____ acres (parcel size)

ii. Describe types of new point sources. _____

_____

iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)?

_____

_____

- If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____

  _____

  _____
- Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? ☐Yes ☐No

iv. Does proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? ☐Yes ☐No

f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes, identify:

i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles)

_____

ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers)

_____

iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation)

_____

g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) ☐Yes ☐No

ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate:
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N_2O)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydroflourocarbons (HFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____

ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____

_____

i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust):

_____

_____

j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): ☐ Morning ☐ Evening ☐Weekend

☐ Randomly between hours of _____ to _____.

ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of semi-trailer truck trips/day: _____

iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____

iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? ☐Yes ☐No

v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe:

_____

_____

_____

vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within ½ mile of the proposed site? ☐Yes ☐No

vii Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? ☐Yes ☐No

viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? ☐Yes ☐No

k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____

_____

ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other):

_____

iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade to, an existing substation? ☐Yes ☐No

l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.

i. During Construction:

- Monday - Friday: _____
- Saturday: _____
- Sunday: _____
- Holidays: _____

ii. During Operations:

- Monday - Friday: _____
- Saturday: _____
- Sunday: _____
- Holidays: _____

m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration:

_____

_____

ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe: _____

_____

n.. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures:

_____

_____

ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe: _____

_____

o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____

_____

_____

p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products (185 gallons in above ground storage or an amount in underground storage)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Product(s) to be stored _____

ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year)

iii. Generally describe proposed storage facilities: _____

_____

q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe proposed treatment(s):

_____

_____

_____

_____

ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? ☐ Yes ☐ No

r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility:

- Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)
- Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)

ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste:

- Construction: _____

  _____
- Operation: _____

  _____

iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site:

- Construction: _____

  _____
- Operation: _____

  _____

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): _____

ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:

- _____ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
- _____ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment

iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: _____ years

t. Will proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: _____

_____

_____

ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: _____

_____

_____

iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated _____ tons/month

iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: _____

_____

_____

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: provide name and location of facility: _____

_____

If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility:

_____

_____

E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site

a. Existing land uses.

i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.

☐ Urban ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Residential (suburban) ☐ Rural (non-farm)

☐ Forest ☐ Agriculture ☐ Aquatic ☐ Other (specify): _____

ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:

_____

_____

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: _____ _____			

c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation? ☐Yes ☐No

i. If Yes: explain: _____

d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes,

i. Identify Facilities:

_____

_____

e. Does the project site contain an existing dam? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:

- Dam height: _____ feet
- Dam length: _____ feet
- Surface area: _____ acres
- Volume impounded: _____ gallons OR acre-feet

ii. Dam's existing hazard classification: _____

iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:

_____

_____

f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Has the facility been formally closed? ☐Yes ☐ No

- If yes, cite sources/documentation: _____

ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility:

_____

_____

iii. Describe any development constraints due to the prior solid waste activities: _____

_____

g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred:

_____

_____

h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site? ☐Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply: ☐Yes ☐No

☐ Yes – Spills Incidents database Provide DEC ID number(s): _____

☐ Yes – Environmental Site Remediation database Provide DEC ID number(s): _____

☐ Neither database

ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures:_____

_____

_____

iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, provide DEC ID number(s): _____

iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):

_____

_____

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, DEC site ID number: _____
- Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____
- Describe any use limitations: _____
- Describe any engineering controls: _____
- Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Explain: _____

_____

_____

E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site

a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? _____ feet

b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____%

c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site: _____ _____%
_____ _____%
_____ _____%

d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: _____ feet

e. Drainage status of project site soils: ☐ Well Drained: _____% of site
☐ Moderately Well Drained: _____% of site
☐ Poorly Drained _____% of site

f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes: ☐ 0-10%: _____% of site
☐ 10-15%: _____% of site
☐ 15% or greater: _____% of site

g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, describe: _____

_____

h. Surface water features.

i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes to either *i* or *ii*, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.

iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:

- Streams: Name _____ Classification _____
- Lakes or Ponds: Name _____ Classification _____
- Wetlands: Name _____ Approximate Size _____
- Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) _____

v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____

_____

i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? ☐ Yes ☐ No

j. Is the project site in the 100 year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☐ No

k. Is the project site in the 500 year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☐ No

l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

i. Name of aquifer: _____

m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site: _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): _____

_____

ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation: _____

iii. Extent of community/habitat:

- Currently: _____ acres
- Following completion of project as proposed: _____ acres
- Gain or loss (indicate + or -): _____ acres

o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? ☐ Yes ☐ No

p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? ☐ Yes ☐ No

q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: _____

_____

E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site

a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide county plus district name/number: _____

b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? ☐ Yes ☐ No

i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? _____

ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): _____

c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of the natural landmark: ☐ Biological Community ☐ Geological Feature

ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent: _____

_____

_____

d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. CEA name: _____

ii. Basis for designation: _____

iii. Designating agency and date: _____

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on, or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on, the State or National Register of Historic Places? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of historic/archaeological resource: ☐ Archaeological Site ☐ Historic Building or District

ii. Name: _____

iii. Brief description of attributes on which listing is based:

_____

f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe possible resource(s): _____

ii. Basis for identification: _____

h. Is the project site within five miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Identify resource: _____

ii. Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): _____

iii. Distance between project and resource: _____ miles.

i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____

ii. Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No

F. Additional Information

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

See attached summary of proposed local law and analysis of potential environmental impacts.

G. Verification

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name **Gaines Town Board** Date **May 13, 2019**

Signature_____ Title_____

PRINT FORM

Town of Gaines
Proposed Local Law - Solar Energy Systems

Summary of Provisions and ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The proposed Town of Gaines "Solar Energy Systems" Local Law is intended to accommodate, with reasonable restrictions, the installation of solar energy facilities within the Town. This local law was based on the NYS Model Solar Energy Local Law that was published as part of the NY-Sun initiative.

Summary of Provisions

The proposed Town Gaines Solar Energy Systems local law includes provisions for various types of solar energy systems. It also requires large systems to provide a plan, supported by financial surety, for removal when the system ceases to operate.

Provisions for various types of systems

1) Systems integrated into building components such as roofs, windows or facades are permitted without any additional review

2) Systems mounted on rooftops of legally permitted buildings are permitted accessory uses in all zoning districts

3) Ground-mounted systems are permitted as accessory structures, subject to setback, lot coverage and height limits

4) Large-scale systems (>=4,000 sq. ft. lot coverage) are allowed in the Agricultural Residential and Commercial districts subject to site plan review. Minimum lot size, lot coverage, setback and height requirements apply.

5) Special Use Permit required for systems with 40,000 sq. ft. lot coverage or more.

6) Solar farms (primarily for off-site use) are subject to the following provisions:

    - Minimum lot size of 3 acres for systems with 4,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage
    - site plan review required for systems of 4,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage
    - Special use permit required for systems with 40,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage
    - Minimum requirements for lot size, setbacks, lot coverage and height
    - Fencing for mechanical equipment
    - Vegetated buffer for screening
    - Signage identifying operator contact information and voltage warnings
    - Glare prevention
    - Operation and maintenance plan

Town of Gaines
Proposed Local Law - Solar Energy Systems

Summary of Provisions and ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Abandonment and Decommissioning

- All applications for large-scale systems and solar farms need to include a plan for removal when they are no longer in use

- Bond or other financial security is required

Analysis of Potential Impacts

The proposed local law includes provisions to minimize the environmental and aesthetic impacts of future solar energy systems on the Town. The proposed regulations address location, screening setbacks and decommissioning upon abandonment.

Large scale systems (4,000 sq. ft. of lot coverage or larger) will require site plan review. Systems with 40,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage will require a special use permit and site plan review. The review process will evaluate potential impacts and require mitigation.

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§ 1. Title

This Local Law will be referred to as "Local Law No. ___ of 2019, “Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Farms."

§ 2. Legislative authority

This chapter is adopted pursuant to the legislative authority in Municipal Home Rule Law § 10, Town Law §§ 261 through 264, General Municipal Law § 96-a and § 119-dd and Public Service Law, Article 10.

§ 3. Purpose and intent

A. The purpose of this Solar Energy Systems Local Law is to advance and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Gaines by regulating the installation and use of solar energy generating systems and equipment, with the following objectives:

1) To take advantage of a safe, abundant, renewable and non-polluting energy resource;

2) To decrease the cost of electricity to the owners of residential and commercial properties, including single-family houses;

3) To increase employment and business development in the Town of Gaines, to the extent reasonably practical, by furthering the installation of Solar Energy Systems; and

4) To mitigate the impacts of Solar Energy Systems on environmental resources and agricultural land.

§ 4. Definitions

BUILDING-INTEGRATED PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM: A combination of Solar Panels and Solar Energy Equipment integrated into any building envelope system such as vertical facades, semitransparent skylight systems, roofing materials, or shading over windows, which produce electricity for onsite consumption.

GLARE: The effect by reflections of light with intensity sufficient as determined in a commercially reasonable manner to cause annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility in any material respects.

GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM: A solar energy system that is anchored to the ground and attached to a pole or other mounting system that is detached from any other structure and which generates electricity for onsite or offsite consumption.

LARGE-SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM: A solar energy system that is ground-mounted and produces energy primarily for the purpose of on-site usage or consumption, with lot coverage of more than 4,000 sq. ft.

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LOT COVERAGE: The land area occupied by a ground-mounted solar energy system. Lot coverage encompasses the entire area of the solar array, including spaces between the solar panels, as well as all fences, roadways, parking, structures and equipment.

ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM: A solar energy system, located on the roof of any legally permitted building or structure, which produces electricity for on-site or off-site consumption.

SOLAR ENERGY EQUIPMENT: Electrical energy storage devices, material, hardware, inverters, conduit, storage devices, or other electrical photovoltaic equipment associated with the production of electrical energy.

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM: An electrical generating system composed of a combination of both solar panels and solar energy equipment.

SOLAR FARM: A Solar Energy System that generates electricity primarily for off-site sale, usage or consumption.

SOLAR PANEL: A photovoltaic device capable of collecting and converting solar energy into electrical energy.

STORAGE BATTERY: A device that stores energy and makes it available in an electrical form.

§ 5. Applicability

A. The requirements of this Local Law apply to all solar energy systems and/or solar farms proposed, installed, operated, maintained, modified or constructed in Gaines after the effective date of this Local Law, excluding general maintenance and repair.

B. Solar Energy Systems constructed or installed prior to the effective date of this Local Law are not required to meet the requirements of this Local Law.

C. All Solar Energy Systems must be designed, erected, and installed in accordance with all applicable codes, regulations, and industry standards as referenced in the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code ("Building Code"), the NYS Energy Conservation Code ("Energy Code"), and the Town of Gaines local laws and ordinances.

§ 6. Solar energy systems as an accessory use or structure

A. Roof-mounted solar energy systems.

(1) Roof-mounted solar energy systems are permitted as an accessory use in all zoning districts when attached to any lawfully permitted building or structure.

(2) Height. Roof-mounted solar energy systems must not exceed the maximum height restrictions for buildings in the zoning district within which they are located and are provided the same height exemptions granted to building-mounted mechanical devices or equipment.

(3) Aesthetics. Roof-mounted solar energy system installations must incorporate, when feasible, the following design requirements: panels facing the front yard must be mounted at the same angle as the roof's surface with a maximum distance of 18 inches between the roof and highest edge of the system.

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(4) Roof-mounted solar energy systems that use the energy on-site are not subject to Site Plan Review pursuant to the Town's zoning regulations.

(5) Roof-mounted installations may be installed on buildings in all zoning districts, subject to applicable permit requirements and New York State building codes.

B. Ground-mounted solar energy systems as an accessory use.

(1) Ground-mounted solar energy systems that use the electricity primarily on site are permitted as accessory structures and must be installed to the side or rear of the principal building on the lot.

(2) Height and setback. Ground-mounted solar energy systems must adhere to the setback requirements for principal buildings of the zoning district in which they are located. Ground-mounted panels must not exceed 20 feet in height at maximum tilt.

(3) Lot coverage. Lot coverage for solar energy systems, plus the area occupied by any other structure, driveway, or paved or impervious surface, must not exceed 80% of the lot area.

(4) Ground-mounted solar energy systems are permitted in all zoning districts.

(5) Site Plan Review is required for ground-mounted solar energy systems with lot coverage of 4,000 sq. ft. or more

§ 7. Application and approval standards for large-scale solar energy systems

A. Solar energy systems with lot coverage of 4,000 sq. ft. or more but less than 40,000 sq. ft. are permitted in the AR Agricultural Residential and C Commercial zoning districts subject to Site Plan Review in accordance with the Town of Gaines Zoning Ordinance.

B. Solar energy systems with lot coverage of 40,000 sq. ft. or more are permitted in the AR Agricultural Residential and C Commercial Zoning Districts, subject to a Special Use Permit in accordance with the Town of Gaines Zoning Ordinance.

C. Application requirements. Any application for a large scale solar energy system must include the following documentation:

(1) If the property of the proposed project is to be leased, legal consent between all parties specifying the use(s) of the land for the duration of the project, including easements and other agreements, must be submitted.

(2) Blueprints showing the layout of the solar energy system signed by a professional engineer or registered architect are required.

(3) The equipment specification sheets must be documented and submitted for all photovoltaic panels, significant components, mounting systems and inverters that are to be installed.

(4) Property operations and maintenance plan. Such plan must describe continuing photovoltaic maintenance property upkeep such as mowing and trimming.

D. Standards.

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(1) Height and setback. Large-scale solar energy systems must adhere to the setback requirements for principal buildings in the zoning district in which it is located.

(2) Lot size. Large-scale solar energy systems must be located on lots with a minimum lot size of three (3) acres.

(3) Lot coverage. The lot coverage of a large-scale solar energy system that is ground-mounted must not exceed 80% of the lot on which it is installed. The lot coverage of any ground-mounted solar energy system includes all equipment and site improvements necessary or required for the system, including but not limited to the solar array, spaces between the solar panels, fences, roadways, driveways, and parking areas.

(4) All large-scale energy systems must be enclosed by fencing to prevent unauthorized access. Warning signs with the owner's contact information must be placed on the entrance and perimeter of the fencing. The type of fencing must be specified in the application. The Zoning Board of Appeals may require additional screening, fencing or landscaping to avoid adverse aesthetic impacts.

(5) All applications must comply with all applicable Site Plan Review requirements specified in the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

(6) The Zoning Board of Appeals may impose conditions on its approval of a the Site Plan as needed to enforce the standards in this local law or to mitigate or minimize any potential environmental impacts identified during the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process.

§ 8. Additional Requirements for Solar Farms

A. This section establishes standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of Solar Farms.

B. In addition to any site plan approval required by the Gaines Zoning Board of Appeals for systems with 4,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage, a special use permit is required for a solar farm with 40,000 sq. ft. or more of lot coverage. The Zoning Board of Appeals will evaluate each proposed solar farm on a case-by-case basis and will consider neighborhood characteristics, topography, and potential impact to residents, business and community character in determining whether to issue the Special Use Permit.

C. The following application information is required to be submitted with an application for a Solar Farm:

(1) Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a licensed professional engineer showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures.

(2) Proposed changes to the landscape of site, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures.

(3) A description of the solar farm facility and the technical, economic and other reasons for the proposed location and design. Certification prepared and signed by a licensed professional engineer that the solar farm complies with all applicable federal and state standards.

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(4) One- or three-phase line electrical diagram detailing the solar farm layout, solar collector installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices.

(5) Documentation of the major system components to be used, including the PV panels, mounting system and inverter.

(6) An operation and maintenance plan which must include measures for maintaining safe access to the installation, stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation.

(7) Information on noise (inverter) and reflectivity/glare of solar panels and identify potential impacts to abutters.

(8) If the property of the proposed project is to be leased, legal consent between all parties specifying the use(s) of the land for the duration of the project, including easements and other agreements must be submitted.

D. The following standards are minimum requirements for solar farms:

(1) For solar farms with lot coverage of 4,000 sq. ft. or more, the minimum lot size is three (3) acres.

(2) All solar energy system components must meet the setback requirements for principal structures in the zoning district in which they are located

(3) The maximum height for ground-mounted solar systems is 20 feet at maximum tilt.

(4) All mechanical equipment on a solar farm, including any structure for batteries or storage cells, must be completely enclosed by a minimum eight-foot-high fence with a self-locking gate.

(5) The lot coverage of the solar farm must not exceed 80% of the total parcel area.

(6) A vegetated perimeter buffer must provide year-round screening of the system from adjacent properties.

(7) All solar energy production systems must be designed and located to prevent reflective glare toward any habitable buildings, as well as toward streets, driveways and vehicular access rights-of-way.

(8) All on-site utility and transmission lines must be, to the extent feasible, placed underground.

(9) The installation of a clearly visible warning sign concerning voltage must be placed at the base of all pad-mounted transformers and substations.

(10) The system must be designed and situated to be compatible with the existing uses on adjacent and nearby properties.

(11) Solar modular panels must not contain hazardous materials.

(12) All appurtenant structures, including but not limited to equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, must be architecturally compatible with each other and must be screened from view from neighboring parcels and streets.

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(13) Lighting of solar farms must be consistent with all state and federal laws. Lighting of appurtenant structures will be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes and must be reasonably shielded from abutting properties. Where feasible, lighting must be directed downward and must incorporate full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution.

(14) No signs are permitted except announcement signs, such as "no trespassing" signs or signs required to warn of danger. A sign no larger than eight (8) sq. ft. in area is required that identifies the owner and operator with an emergency telephone number where the owner and operator can be reached on a twenty-four-hour basis. Signage provisions in the Town Zoning or other laws, regulations and/or ordinances, State building code requirements, and Federal standards including the National Electrical Code and/or Emergency Services, will prevail over the requirements in this subsection in the event that a conflict arises.

(15) A minimum of one parking space must be provided in connection with the maintenance of the solar energy facility and the site. However, it must not be used for the permanent storage of vehicles.

E. Safety and Maintenance Requirements

(1) The solar farm owner or operator must provide a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic and site plan to the local Fire Chief. Upon request, the owner or operator must cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the solar farm facility must be clearly marked. The owner or operator must identify a responsible person for public inquiries through the life of the installation.

(2) No solar farm will be approved or constructed until evidence has been given to Gaines that the utility company operating the electrical grid where the installation is to be located has authorized the interconnected customer-owner generator.

(3) A solar farm owner or operator must maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance must include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs and integrity of security measures. Site access must be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and emergency medical services. The owner or operator must be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar farm and any access road(s), unless accepted as a public way.

§ 9. Abandonment and decommissioning

A. A large-scale solar energy systems and/or solar energy farm will be considered abandoned after six months without electrical energy generation and must be removed from the property. The Gaines Zoning Board of Appeals may grant an extension for a period of up to six months after such abandonment.

B. All applications for any large-scale solar energy system and/or solar energy farm must include a decommissioning plan that includes the following components:

(1) An affirmative obligation that after any large-scale solar energy system and/or solar energy farm can no longer be used it will be removed by the applicant and/or any subsequent owner.

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(2) Description of how the removal of all infrastructure and the remediation of soil and vegetation will be conducted to return the parcel to its original state prior to construction. Include an expected time line for execution and completion.

(3) A cost estimate detailing the projected expense of executing the decommissioning plan, prepared by a professional engineer or registered architect.

(4) Obligate the owner, operator and/or successors in interest to remove any ground-mounted solar collectors which have reached the end of their useful life or have been abandoned; they must physically remove the installation no more than six months after the date of discontinued operations and they must notify Gaines by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal.

(5) An obligation to physically removal all ground-mounted solar collectors, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site.

(6) An obligation to dispose of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state and federal waste disposal regulations.

C. Upon cessation of electricity generation of a Solar Farm or Large Scale Solar Facility on a continuous basis for 6 months, the Gaines Zoning Board of Appeals will notify and instruct the owner and/or operator of the Solar Energy System to implement the decommissioning plan. The decommissioning plan must be completed within six months of notification. If the owner or operator of any large-scale solar energy system and/or any solar farm fails to remove the installation in accordance with the decommissioning plan within six months of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, Gaines may enter the property and physically remove the installation upon application to a court of appropriate jurisdiction to obtain access to the property for that purpose.

D. If the Gaines Zoning Board of Appeals approves an application for a solar farm, the applicant must provide or establish a bond, surety bond, financial deposit, undertaking, financial escrow or other financial security to ensure that sufficient funds are available to remove the installation and restore landscaping in the event that the applicant fails to comply with its decommissioning obligations. The Zoning Board of Appeals will review the form and amount of financial security annually. To assist in this review, the owner or operator must provide financial documentation, financial statements or any other information requested by said Board to ensure the sufficiency of the financial security. Gaines reserves the right to request reasonable access to the property upon notice and consent.

§ 10. Enforcement

Any violation of this chapter will be subject to the same civil and criminal penalties provided for in the Gaines Town Code, including any applicable zoning regulations, and/or the laws of the State of New York.

§ 11. Severability and/or validity

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, is found by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment will not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but will be confined to the clause, sentence, paragraph,

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subdivision, section or part of this chapter, or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which said order or judgment will be rendered.

§ 12. Effective Date

This chapter will take effect upon the date it is filed in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law § 27.