Town of Enfield Renewable Energy Advisory Committee

March 6, 2018 Meeting Summary

In Attendance: Marcus Gingerich, Art Godin, Jude Lemke, Mimi Mehaffey, Not Present: Mike Carpenter (recovering from surgery), Walt Smithers, Dan Walker

At this meeting we read through the most current draft Solar Law beginning where we had left off at our last meeting and made a few changes which Jude incorporated into a final draft and immediately sent back out to the committee.

In conjunction with the meetings planned to present to Enfield residents the new Solar Law when approved by the Town Board, we discussed the importance of educating residents about the legalities involved in signing solar development leases, including the possibility of landowners taking on responsibility for decommissioning costs under some foreseeable scenarios. We might also solicit first-hand accounts of individuals who have lived in close proximity to commercial solar installations.

Mimi reported on her telephone conversation with a NYSERDA representative and his promise that our draft Solar Law would be reviewed by NYSERDA staff. Without knowing when NYSERDA's suggested changes would arrive, we discussed the possibility of meeting as a committee to integrate those suggestions, although this would likely mean not submitting the draft to the Town Board at its 3/14 meeting.

Mimi said she would ask NYSERDA whether and how community solar projects could be given explicit priority over commercial solar projects, having learned that the first organizational model would benefit the Town much more than the latter.

Not knowing when NYSERDA's input would be received, we did not set a date for our next meeting.

-Summary submitted by Art Godin.