



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

Purchasing Division

Tina M. Waterman, CPPB
Purchasing Manager

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Tina M. Waterman, Purchasing Manager

DATE: June 30, 2021

SUBJECT: Report to provide an update on RFP 01-20, Ground Mounted Solar PV Systems on City-Owned Parcels: Project Site – WWTF, 125 Hall Street

Discussion

As you may know, the New Hampshire Legislature recently passed House Bill 315 which authorizes municipalities to pursue energy producing projects with a generating capacity of up to five megawatts to take advantage of net metering. It is anticipated that the Governor will sign this bill which will enable the City to pursue, among other projects, a large-scale solar array project at its closed landfill on Old Turnpike Road. At this juncture, the City plans to issue a Request for Proposals at the Old Turnpike landfill for a solar array of up to five megawatts.

You may recall that in August of 2019, the City issued a Request for Proposals, contingent, in part, upon State legislation pending at that time, to evaluate the potential to construct various solar array facilities on City land of up to five megawatts for net metering. As you know this pending legislation did not pass, and, therefore, the City was left with researching options for much smaller facilities.

After nearly two years of working to bring a solar array to the City's Waste Water Treatment Plant ("WWTP"), we regret to inform you, that this project is not in the City's best interest. As you know, the City has been working with a third party to establish a contract, including a Power Purchase Agreement, Lease and Payment In Lieu of Taxes agreement to install a solar array at the WWTP. After considerable effort from both parties, we have determined, in consultation with the City's energy consultant, that the project, which is not a net metering project, does not constitute a fiscally viable project for the City to pursue. As such, we are recommending that the City cease discussions with the third party regarding this project, and pursue more a fiscally viable project to construct a solar array of up to five megawatts at the City's closed landfill on Old Turnpike Road.

Recommendation

Accept this report.