

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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Bureau of Agriculture Development & Resource Conservation Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

Agrivoltaics Farm Plan

for Solar Energy Generating Facilities located in whole or in part on Prime Farmland

Provide an Agrivoltaics Farm Plan that includes the following. Clearly label any necessary attachments. If any elements are not applicable to the project, provide an explanation.

Property Information

- 1. Provide a description of the Parcel, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. Owner(s), farm name and location;
 - B. Identify past lessee name(s) and land use, if a tenant farmer was present in the last five years; and
 - C. Total Parcel acreage, identification of prime farmland soils & acreage;
 - a. Include appropriate maps and surveys to allow evaluation.
- 2. Provide an overview of the energy project, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. The size of the project in megawatts (MW);
 - B. The Project Site and Generation Footprint being proposed as it relates to prime farmland on the property;
 - C. Identify whether the project is participating in a state program (including SCEF, NRES, or any state procurement);
 - D. A description of infrastructure needed to support the project; and
 - E. The proposed lifetime of the project, including any extensions.
- 3. Provide a description of past agricultural activities on the Parcel, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. All production agriculture that has taken place both on the Parcel and within the proposed Generation Footprint during the past five years;
 - B. The approximate location of crops, livestock, farm buildings, etc. used to support the farming operation;
 - a. Include appropriate maps and surveys to allow evaluation; and
 - C. Describe overall how the project will impact production agriculture currently being conducted on the farm.

Property Management

1. Describe project plans to displace soil on the property including panel installation

methods, interconnections, grading, and soil stockpiling;

- 2. Identify whether the farmland has been used in production agriculture in the past five years;
- 3. Provide a detailed explanation of the agrivoltaics co-use proposed, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. Describe farm plan for all agricultural activities on the entire parcel, including planned crops and/or livestock grazing;
 - B. Seed Mix Identification: Identify any planned row crops, cover crops and/or vegetation mix, as appropriate;
 - C. Describe how planting of vegetative cover or crops will be conducted for each of the follow areas including the sequence of planting (which areas will be planted and when), planned month of planting, planting method (drilled, broadcast, bareroot or plugs), and equipment to be used;
 - a. Array Planting;
 - b. Border Area Planting;
 - c. Stormwater Detention Area Planting;
 - D. If grazing animals are proposed, DOAG's Requirements for Solar Grazing must be followed; A Grazing Plan is required and should include the following information:
 - a. The type and number of animals to be used;
 - b. The time and duration of grazing, and the decision making process for ensuring that vegetation is not over-grazed;
 - c. Forage and vegetation mix establishment and maintenance;
 - d. Plans for fencing;
 - e. Plans for a water source;
 - f. Plans for soil testing; and
 - g. Contingency plan for unforeseen climate events;

Design Specifications

- 1. Provide a description of the proposed modules, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. Panel height;
 - B. Panel dimensions;
 - C. Row width;
 - D. Module inter-row spacing; and
 - E. How this configuration will support the Dual Use selected;
- 2. Identify whether panels will be fixed, tracking, bifacial, vertical, and/or semitransparent;

- 3. If dual-use production agriculture is proposed, demonstrate how sunlight reduction from panels is based upon compatibility with the proposed agricultural activities;
 - A. Documentation must be provided to establish the maximum sunlight reduction from panel shading on every square foot of land directly beneath, behind, and in the areas adjacent to and within the array's design. Project proposals shall demonstrate how this sunlight reduction is based upon compatibility with the proposed agricultural products and will sustain continued productivity;
 - B. Growing Season/Time of Day Considerations: The typical growing season should be March/April through October/November, with sunlight reduction to be measured between 10AM and 5PM for March and October, and from 9AM to 6PM from April through September.

Additional Requirements & Attachments

- Provide contact information for the individual that will grant any person authorized by the State of Connecticut access to the Project Site for research and data collection purposes related to Agrivoltaics for the lifetime of the Project, with advance notice of site visits;
- 2. If the land is leased from a farmer or dual-use production agriculture in collaboration with a farmer is proposed, provide an attestation from the farmer confirming their input and involvement in the proposed project;
- 3. Provide comprehensive maps, site plans and surveys that include the following information:
 - A. Date prepared;
 - B. Parcel topography;
 - C. Soils classification;
 - D. North arrow;
 - E. Identification of Project Site and Generation Footprint; and
 - F. Identify and label location of agricultural activities, any proposed soil grading, stormwater basins, access roads, interconnections, and existing buildings and/or farm structures;
- 4. Provide photos of the Project Site and Parcel; and
- 5. Attest that, if the Bidder sells the solar project to another entity, Farm Plan Requirements and decommissioning responsibilities will carry over to the new owner.