

# Orr&Reno

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Admitted in NH and MA

January 16, 2020

**Via Email**

Pamela Monroe, Administrator  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
c/o New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

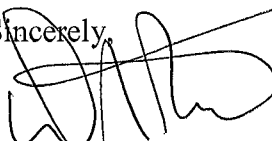
***Re: SEC Docket No. 2019-02, Application of Chinook Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Construction and Operation of a 30MW Solar Generating Facility in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire – Copy of Applicant's Slide Presentation from January 15, 2020 Public Information Session***

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed is a copy of the slide presentation which Chinook Solar, LLC used during the public information session held on January 15, 2020 at the Fitzwilliam Town Hall.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Douglas L. Patch

DLP/eac  
Enclosures

cc (via email): Service List in SEC Docket 2019-02

2652005\_1



# Chinook Solar, LLC

# Chinook Solar Project



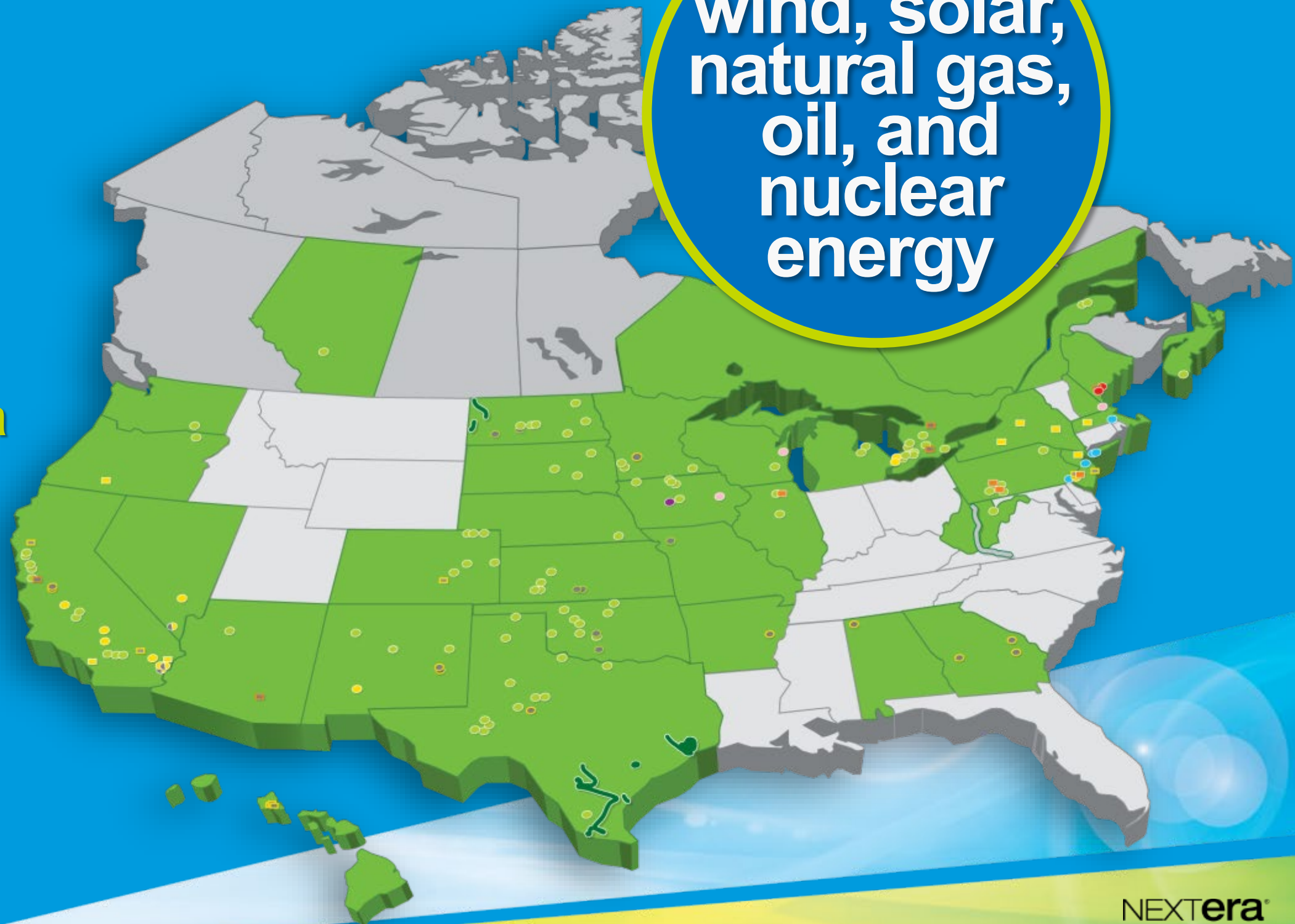
**Local Investment. Jobs. Clean Energy.**



# Our company

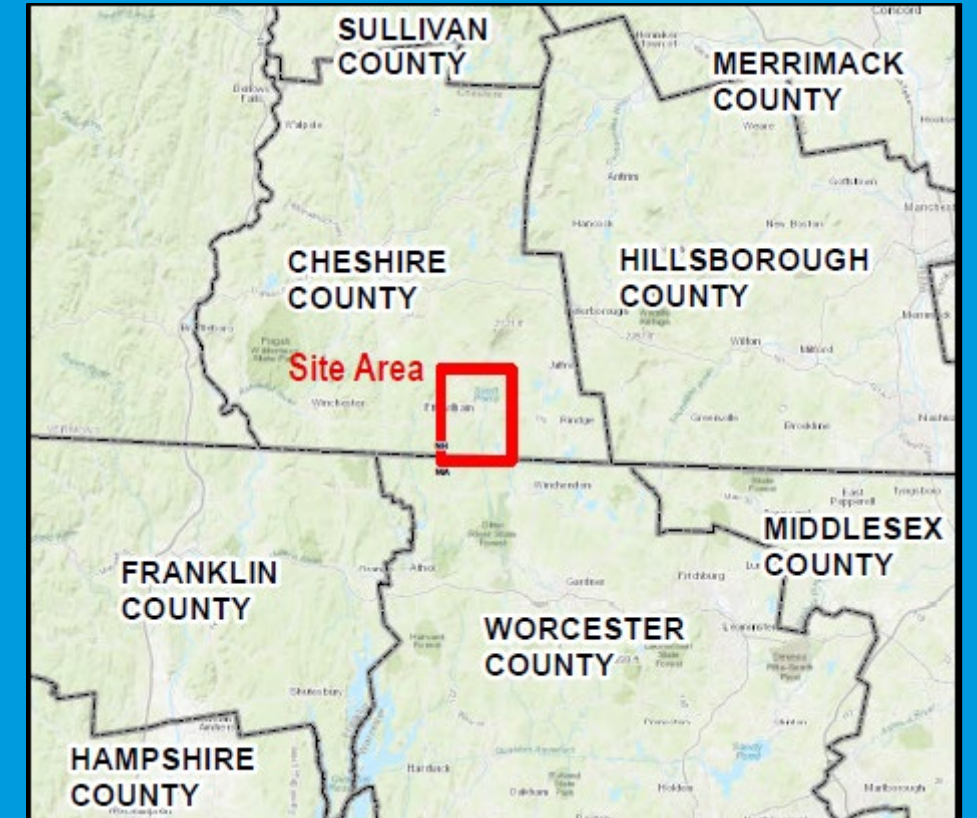
- ▶ **World's #1 generator of wind and solar energy**
- ▶ **American owned and operated**
- ▶ **Own over 90 solar projects in North America**
- ▶ **Investments in 36 states and Canada**
- ▶ **Invested more than \$85 billion in energy infrastructure since 2004**

wind, solar,  
natural gas,  
oil, and  
nuclear  
energy



# Chinook Project Overview

- ▶ **Location:** Town of Fitzwilliam, Cheshire County
  - » Actively harvested forest lands adjacent to 115 kV transmission corridor
- ▶ **Size & Technology:** 30 MW with fixed-tilt solar photovoltaic modules
- ▶ **Project Footprint:** 110 acres
- ▶ **Target Schedule:**
  - » Filed Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) application: October 2019
    - › Deemed Complete: December 2019
  - » Start of construction: Winter 2020-2021
  - » Commercial operation: October 2021





# Project Permitting Process

- ▶ **Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) jurisdiction due to Project size**
- ▶ **SEC process ensures that project meets state regulations**
- ▶ **The SEC gives due consideration to municipal and regional planning commissions and municipal governing bodies**
- ▶ **The SEC determination considers that the project must not have unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, water quality, natural environment, health and public safety, and must serve the public interest**
- ▶ **Various Public Information Sessions and Hearings in Fitzwilliam as part of SEC process**
- ▶ **Once Certificate is issued, construction will begin**

# Studying the Chinook Site

## ▶ **Natural & Cultural Resource Assessments**

- » Wetlands, streams, and vernal pool surveys
- » Bat survey
- » Forest composition survey
- » Rare plant, animal, and natural community assessment
- » Phase 1A and Phase 1B Archaeological Assessment
- » Site-specific soil survey

## ▶ **Engineering & Design Studies**

- » Geotech
- » Pile load testing
- » Boundary survey
- » Topographic survey

## ▶ **Other Studies**

- » Life cycle greenhouse gas analysis
- » User intercept survey on Mt. Monadnock
- » Visual impact assessment
- » Aboveground historic resource survey
- » Sound analysis
- » Economic impact analysis
- » Decommissioning plan
- » Emergency response and fire safety plan

# Agency Consultation

- ▶ New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee
  - » October 2017, February 2019 and June 2019
- ▶ Natural Heritage Bureau
  - » October 2017
- ▶ New Hampshire Fish & Game
  - » November 2017, May 2018 and March 2019
- ▶ Department of Environmental Services: Alteration of Terrain and Wetlands Bureau
  - » November 2017, March 2019, June 2019 and November 2019
- ▶ Division of Historical Resources
  - » January 2018, January 2019 and December 2019
- ▶ US Army Corps of Engineers
  - » January 2019

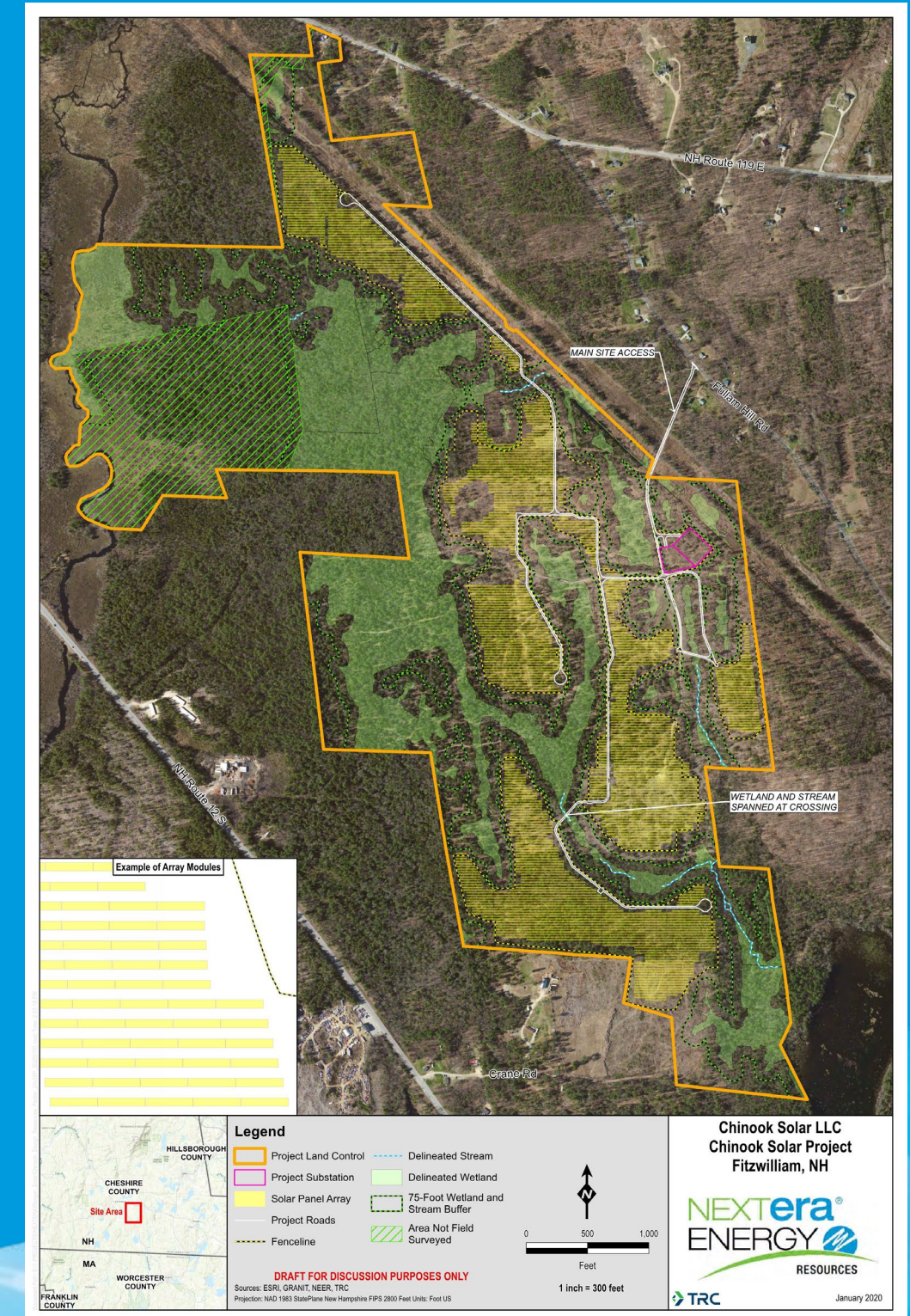
# Community Engagement

- ▶ Several meetings and presentations beginning in April 2016 with the Town of Fitzwilliam
  - » Initial introduction of Project
    - › Select Board - April 2016
    - › Planning Board - June 2016
  
  - » Planning Board - March 2018
  - » Abutters Event and Open House - May 2018
  - » Planning Board - Nov 2018
  - » Planning Board, Select Board, Conservation Commission - January 2019
  - » Planning Board and Select Board - February 2019
  - » Select Board - May 2019
  - » Public Information Sessions - July 2019 and January 2020
  - » SEC Prehearing Conference and Public Hearing – February 2020



# Optimizing Design

- ▶ Design Goal: avoid and minimize impact to natural resources
- ▶ No direct impact to wetlands or streams
- ▶ Tree clearing minimized through use of previously harvested forest land
- ▶ Sited adjacent to existing transmission infrastructure
- ▶ Use of existing road network to the extent possible
- ▶ Sited to avoid and minimize visual impacts
- ▶ Compatibility with local regulations





# Project Benefits

- ▶ **Delivers clean, competitively-priced renewable energy**
- ▶ **Creates substantial environmental benefits with minimal environmental impact**
- ▶ **Provides over 90 construction jobs**
- ▶ **Boosts economy in the Monadnock region with more than \$30 million in new capital investment**
- ▶ **Expected to generate millions of dollars in new property tax revenue over the life of the Project with very limited reliance on public infrastructure or services**
- ▶ **Helps region reach renewable energy goals**

