

# Watertown Solar One Project FAQ Sheet

#### **Solar Photovoltaic**

How does a solar photovoltaic (PV) system work?

Solar panels absorb the sun's energy and convert it into DC electricity. The DC electricity is converted to AC electricity through inverters, which is then delivered to the local utility's infrastructure.

How much energy will the solar array generate?

Watertown Solar One will generate 3,574 mWh/year. This is enough renewable energy to power 428 homes for an entire year and offset 2,572 tons of carbon dioxide.

### **Local Benefits**

What are the local benefits of having solar generation?

In general, energy production takes place at power plants, which can be located a significant distance from where the electricity is used. Local energy production such as Watertown Solar One will help strengthen the electricity grid in Watertown through more reliable, advanced infrastructure. Additionally, solar generation is a renewable energy, which delivers locally produced power with zero emissions

What are the municipal benefits?

Once operational, the Town of Watertown will receive annual revenues from Verogy for an estimated 20 years. Additionally, there will be no burdens placed on municipal infrastructure or demands on Town of Watertown services.

# **Construction & Operation**

How long will construction take?

Following all state and local approvals, construction will take approximately six months.

How will the solar array be maintained?

Maintenance visits by Verogy staff will take place onsite every one to two months. Once the solar array is operational, Verogy will monitor energy production remotely.

What is the lifespan of this solar array?

Watertown Solar One has an overall lifespan of 35 years.

What will happen to the array at the end of its lifespan?

At the end of its lifespan, Watertown Solar One will be decommissioned and removed from the property.

#### **Location & Site Selection**

Why was this location chosen?

The site was selected due to its minimal impact to both neighboring property owners and the environmental conditions of the area. The array itself will not impact any wetlands and appropriate setbacks from neighboring properties have been incorporated into the project's site design. Additionally, the site is located in close proximity to the electrical grid, further limiting construction or operational impacts.

How much of the current property will be used for the project?

The total area of the property where Watertown Solar One is proposed is approximately 150 acres. When completed, the project will use an estimated 16 acres

Are there any dangers living near a solar array?

There are no known dangers or adverse effects of living near a solar array.

Will the project create glare or other visual impacts?

Solar panels are designed to absorb light in order to maximize their efficiency and generally reflect about 2% of sunlight. The panels that will be used at Watertown Solar One are about 10 feet tall; due to the existing vegetation and topography of the site, there will be limited views of the project. Additionally, Verogy will identify areas in the neighborhood that may experience visual impacts and use vegetative screening and other techniques to limit these impacts.

#### Watertown Solar One and the Environment

What will happen to the existing land, forest, and trees on the property currently?

This project was designed with the least possible impact on the existing environment of the property. When completed, the project will use an estimated 16 acres out of a total 150 acres

What measures will be taken to protect wildlife that visit or live on the property?

A full survey of the land will be conducted as part of the approval process. Verogy will be working with environmental professionals to conduct numerous studies on the property, including but not limited to:

- **Natural Diversity Database:** Identify the endangered, threatened and special concern species and significant natural communities on or nearby the property
- USFWS: Consultation in regard to Section 7 and 10 of the Endangered Species Act
- **Soil:** Identify the types of soil and their uses
- Wetlands: Identify any existing wetland areas in order to avoid impact

Verogy takes its commitment to sustainability and the environment very seriously. We will continue to work with our environmental engineers and other stakeholders to ensure that Watertown Solar One's impacts are as limited as possible.

# **Approval Process**

What is the approval process for Watertown Solar One?

Verogy requires approval from the Connecticut State Siting Council, which has jurisdiction over projects like Watertown Solar One. We will also be working closely with municipal departments in Watertown throughout the development of the project.

Residents with questions about the approval process can contact Verogy's Director of Development, Bryan Fitzgerald at <a href="mailto:development@verogy.com">development@verogy.com</a> or (203) 257-3375.

#### Contact Us

Verogy is committed to keeping members of the Watertown community informed about our projects. Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns.

Project Contact:
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(203) 257-3375

## **About Verogy**

Verogy is a Hartford-based solar developer focused on commercial, industrial and small utility scale projects. Built on 50+ years of combined industry experience, the professionals at Verogy have developed, financed and constructed hundreds of solar projects across the United States.

For more information, visit www.verogy.com/watertown-solar-one/