

# Chinook Solar Project Information Meeting

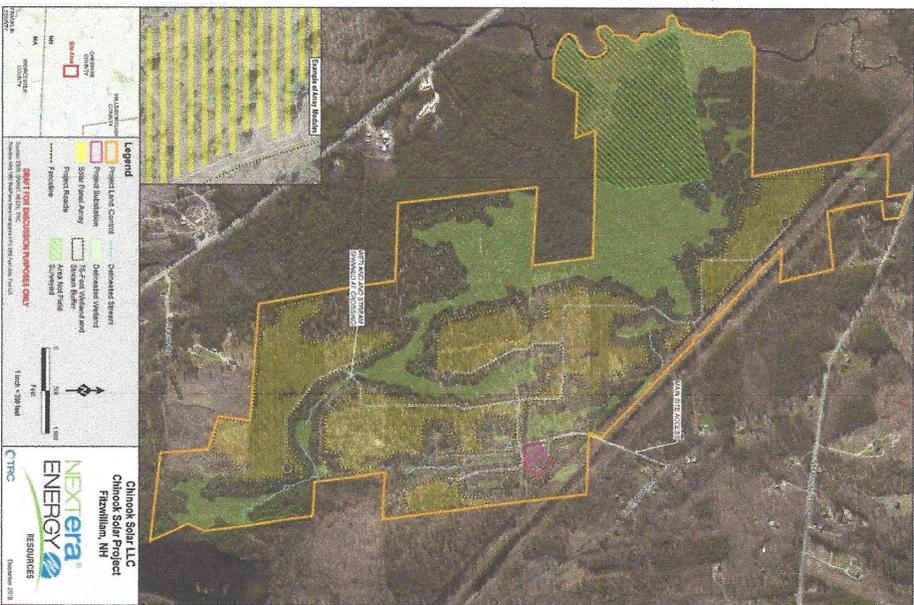
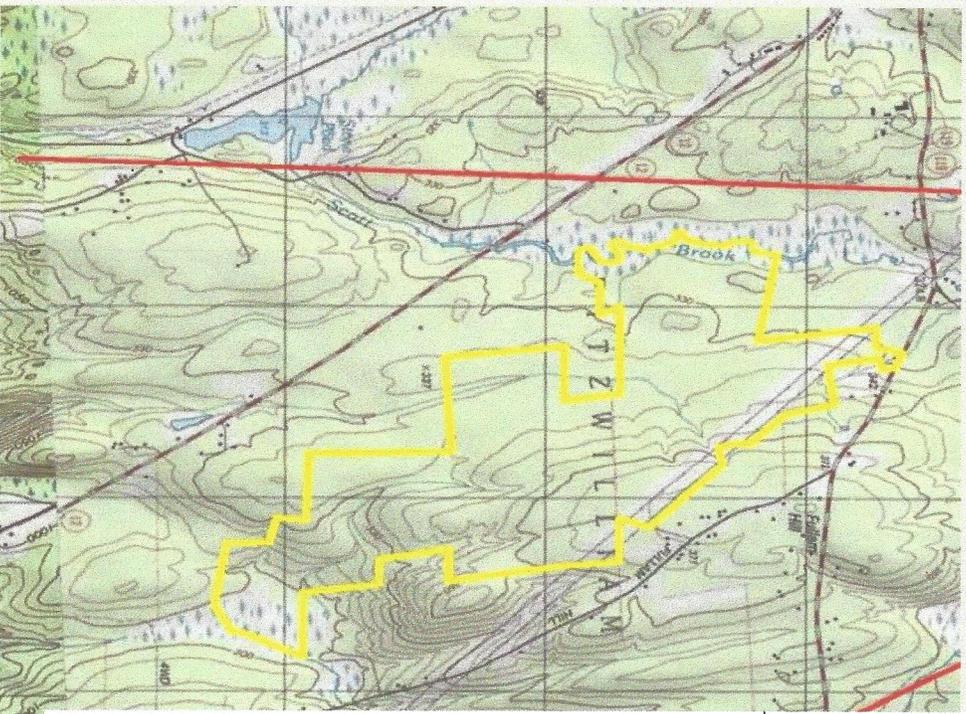
- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT
- NEW HAMPSHIRE SEC PROCESS
- ROLE OF THE TOWN
- Q AND A; NEXT STEPS

July 8, 2019

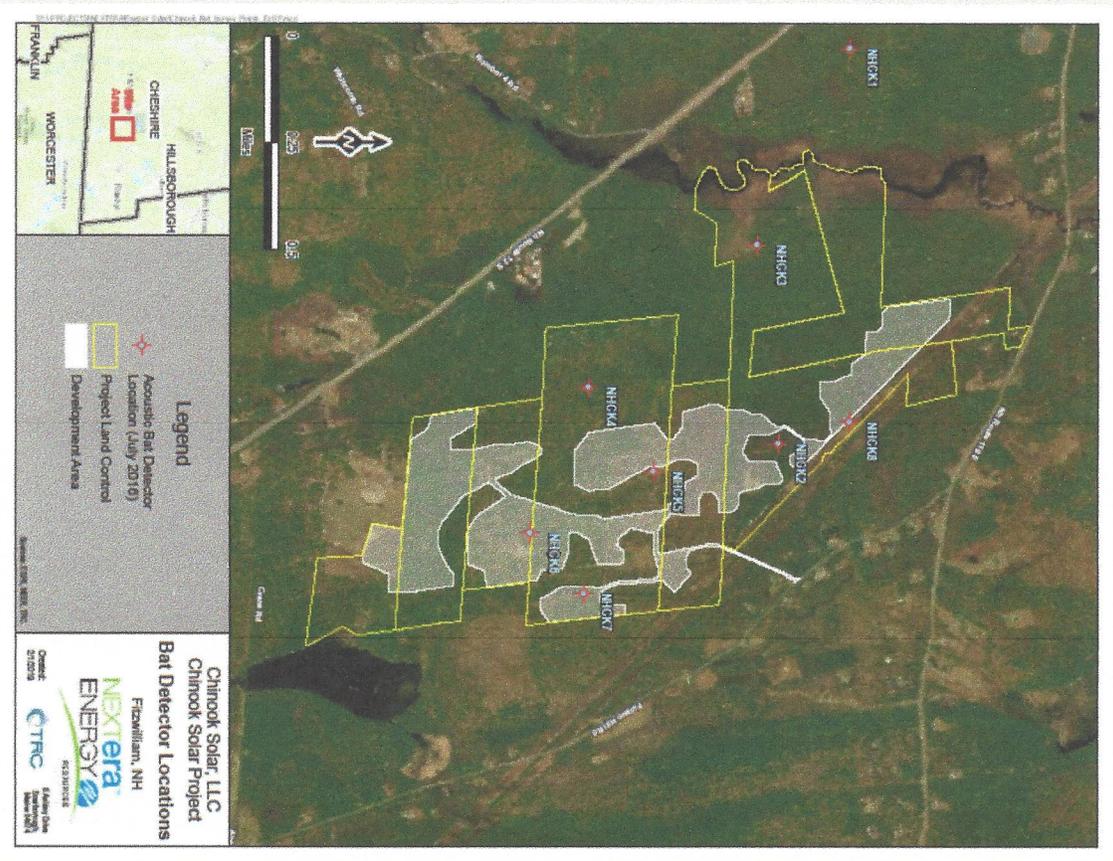
## **NextEra/Chinook Solar Proposal - Overview**

- Fullam Hill Road to Rte. 12 S (South of Route 119)
- 30 MG Utility Scale Solar Electric Generating Facility owned by NextEra
  - the world's largest utility company
  - generating facilities located in 32 states
  - based in Juno Beach, FL
- Over 400 acres to be bought or leased; 157 acres of disturbed land
  - Disturbed Land = Access Roads, Construction Area, Solar Panel Array
  - 111 Acres of Solar Panels
- Numerous studies have been completed by Nextera; available on Fitzwilliam Town website.  
[www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov](http://www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov)
- Construction planned for fall/winter 2020/2021; operational fall 2021
- The approval process is administered by the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee.  
(NH SEC) [www.nhsec.nh.gov](http://www.nhsec.nh.gov)
- Board of Selectmen hired Atty Amy Manzelli, BCM Environmental Land Law, NextEra's expense

# Proposed Fitzwilliam Solar Panel Installation from NextEra January 2019 presentation



# This Nextera diagram from Feb 2019 Long Eared Bat Study shows apprx. location of Chinook Solar Project



## Nextera Wetlands Study Map

Green=Wetlands

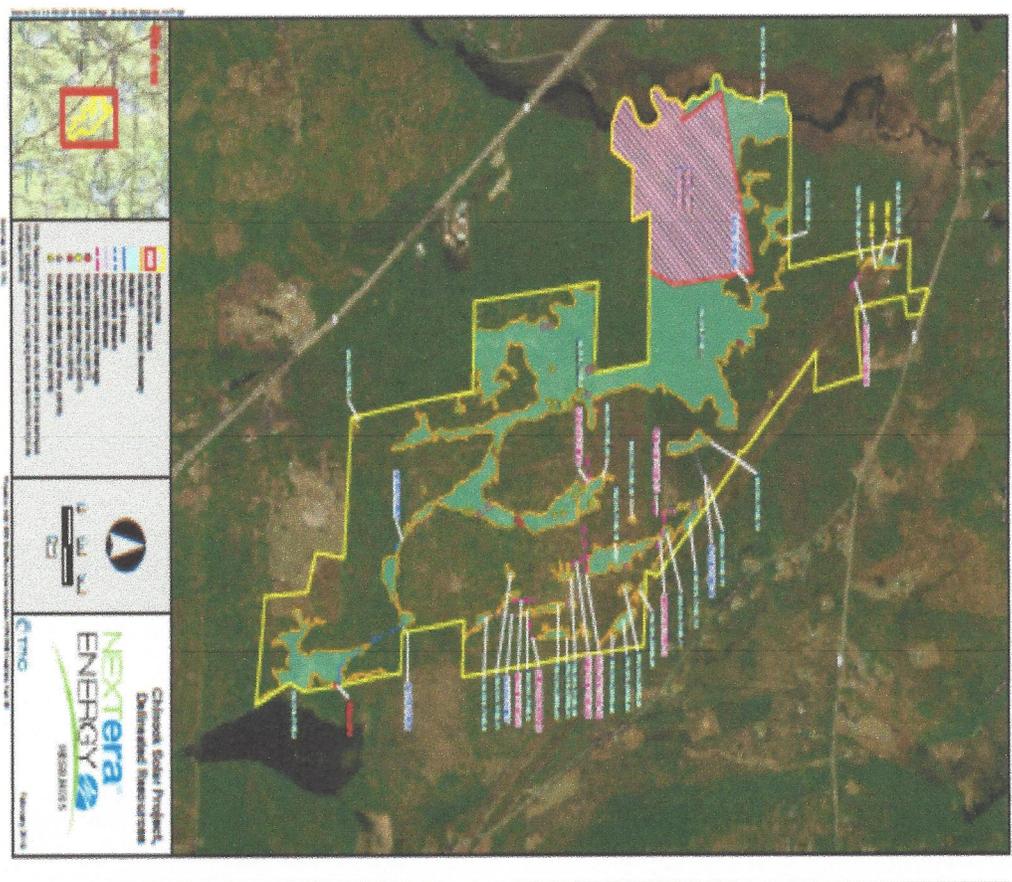
Red=Not Surveyed

- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Ephemeral Stream
- Non-Jurisdictional Drainage

## Wetlands

are a critical part of our natural environment. They reduce the impacts of floods, absorb pollutants and improve water quality. They provide habitat for animals and plants and many contain a wide diversity of life, supporting plants and animals that are found nowhere else.

Town of Fitz voted Scott Pond a Prime Wetland in 2016  
Scott Brook runs along west side of project area



Reports currently available at [www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov](http://www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov)  
Completed by Nextera Experts\*

Sound Survey

Long Eared Bat Survey

Wetland and Waterbody Delineation Report

Forest Study

Archeology Report

View Sheds

Meeting Minutes from

Planning Board January 15, 2019 and

Board of Selectmen February 19, 2019

There are still outstanding reports they have not completed;

Visual Impact; Greenhouse Gas Analysis, perhaps others.

\*Fitzwilliam has not hired experts review these studies nor do any independent studies, but has the right to do so at the expense of Nextera.

# NH SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE TIMELINE

EVENT	TIMEFRAME
Pre-Application Public Information Session (in each county where the proposed facility will be located)	At least 30 days prior to filing application with NH SEC
SEC Administrator forwards to NH Agencies with Jurisdiction	Expediently
Designation of a Subcommittee	Expediently
Preliminary Review by Subcommittee	Expediently after Application Received
Subcommittee determines if Application is Complete	Within 60 days of Filing Application
One Public Information Session (in each county)	Within 45 Days after Acceptance
One Joint Public Hearing (in each county where the proposed facility will be located) with other agencies (Subcommittee attends)	Within 90 days of acceptance
Agency preliminary reports with draft conditions	Within 150 days of acceptance
Agency Final Decisions	Within 240 days of acceptance
Adjudicative final hearings	After Agency Final Decisions
Decision Granting or Denying Certificate	Within 365 days after acceptance

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE SEC PROCESS**

- Pre-Filing Public Information Session-No SEC involvement; Post-Filing Public Information Session-Administrator and Applicant;
- Post-Filing Public Hearing-Subcommittee;
- Written Public Comments are accepted throughout the proceedings and are reviewed by the Subcommittee and posted on the website;
- Additional Public Statement Hearings may be held during the adjudicative phase; and
- Petitions to intervene in the adjudicative process.

## **ROLE OF TOWN IN THE SEC PROCESS**

- The committee is required to give due consideration to the views of municipal and regional planning commissions and municipal governing bodies.
- Consider the extent to which the siting, construction, and operation of proposed facility will affect land use, employment, and the economy of the region.

## **SEC COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC**

- Assistant Attorney General Appointed by the Attorney General.
- Represents the “public” in seeking to protect quality of the environment and in seeking to assure an adequate supply of energy.
- All rights, responsibilities and privileges of an attorney representing a party in a formal action.
- Can engage consultants and legal counsel and the applicant pays the cost.

## **SEC CRITERIA AND FINDINGS**

The site and facility will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on:

- Aesthetics;
- Historic Sites;
- Air and Water Quality;
- The Natural Environment; and
- Public Health and Safety

## **SEC CRITERIA AND FINDINGS**

**In order to issue a certificate, the committee must find that:**

- The applicant has adequate financial, technical, and managerial capability.
- The site and facility will not unduly interfere the orderly development of the region
- Due consideration given to the views of municipal and regional planning commissions and municipal governing bodies
- Issuance of a certificate will serve the public interest.

### **SEC CONTACT AND WEBSITE INFORMATION**

Pamela Monroe, Administrator

Pamela.Monroe@sec.nh.gov

(603) 271-2435

[www.nhsec.nh.gov](http://www.nhsec.nh.gov)

## Next Steps

- Attend July 18th Pre Application Public Information Hearing; 7 PM Town Hall
  - NextEra will be presenting their plan and expert reports
  - Facilitated by retired Judge Kathleen McGuire
- NextEra expert reports, complete outline of SEC process available at [www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov](http://www.fitzwilliam-nh.gov) (Updates; Solar Project) or in the Board of Selectmen's Office
  - Attend BOS, PB and Cons Comm meetings to ask questions, concerns, suggestions; send emails or letters  
[fitzlanduse@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:fitzlanduse@fitzwilliam-nh.gov); [fitzbos@fitzwilliam-nh.gov](mailto:fitzbos@fitzwilliam-nh.gov)
  - Review SEC Process; public input, schedule of hearings, etc.