

The Power NY Act of 2011 established a process for the siting of electric generating facilities and re-powering projects. As part of the process, a multi-agency Siting Board is charged with streamlining the permitting process for power plants of 25 megawatts (MW) or greater. The Power NY Act also encourages investments in clean power plants and affords communities more opportunities to participate in the siting process.

Who decides to approve an application for a major electric facility?

The New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment, "*Siting Board*", is a part of the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS).

The Siting Board consists of seven persons:

- » The Chair of the Siting Board is the New York Department of Public Service Chair.
- » Other members include:
 - Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner
 - Department of Health (DOH) Commissioner
 - New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Chair
 - Economic Development (Empire State Development) Commissioner
 - Two ad hoc public members, both of whom reside within the municipality in which the facility is proposed to be located.

The Siting Board must make findings about the nature of the environmental impacts related to construction and operation of the facility on:

- » Statewide electrical capacity
- » Ecology, air, ground and surface water, wildlife, and habitat
- » Public health and safety
- » Cultural, historical and recreational resources
- » Transportation, communication, utilities, etc.,
- » Cumulative impact of emissions on the local community,
- » Compliance with state and local laws and regulations $\,$
- » Construction and operation are in the public interest.

The project is in the *Pre-application Phase*. During the Pre-application Phase, Avangrid Renewables must file both a Public Involvement Program (PIP) Plan and a Public Scoping Statement (PSS). The PIP summarizes activities to educate, inform and involve the public in the process. The State and Avangrid Renewables must provide opportunities for public involvement throughout the process.

The Siting Board undertakes an intensive public process requiring a multiyear review of the project

Five Phases of the New York State Article 10 Process



2016 Pre-application

- » Engage, inform and involve the public.
- » Prepare and file a Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) listing studies to be conducted and potential impacts.
- » Opportunity for formal public comment and intervention.



Deer River case number 16-F-0267



2017 Application

- » An evaluation of safety, environmental and health impacts, environmental justice, alternatives.
- » Includes all studies, project designs and impacts.
- » Opportunity for formal public comment and intervention.

2018 Administrative Hearings

» Public Hearing by an Examiner for the Siting Board, held in the project area.



2018 Administrative Hearings

» Agency, public and intervenor comments received.



2018 Siting Board Decision

» Findings about the environmental impacts and how those impacts relate to electrical capacity; public health and safety; wildlife; cultural resources; infrastructure; compliance with local laws; and the general public interest.





Compliance

» Compliance with the requirements of the Siting Board decision before, during and after construction





How can the public participate in the process?

- » $\it Attend$ public meetings provided by the applicant
- » $\it Participate$ in Siting Board public meetings and hearings
- » Comment on a case. The public has an opportunity to comment on the preliminary scoping statement and the applicant is required to respond to the written public comments.
- » Become a party in the case
- » Subscribe to the case Service List
- » *Monitor* the case on the Siting Board's Web site
- » Register with the PSC's Document and Matter Management (DMM) System http://www.dps.ny.gov/DMM_Registeration.html

For more information on Article 10:

- » Contact *James Denn*, Public Information Coordinator, at: (518) 474-7080 or james.denn@dps.ny.gov
- » Find information online at the Siting Board's Web site: www.dps.ny.gov/SitingBoard
- » Review applications or cases online at the PSC's Web site: www.dps.ny.gov
- » Visit AskPSC.com
- » Contact *Jenny Briot*, Avangrid Renewables, at: (315) 399-0486 or DeerRiverWind@avangrid.com

