

Planning Board Recommendations for the 2150 Dryden Road Site Plan
Modification Application Consisting of the NYSEG Interconnection

1. The PB recommends that the TB push back on the developer and require the NYSEG interconnect be accomplished with pad mounted equipment and underground lines. There are two lines of reasoning. First is the belief that the community was told that the only overhead lines would be the short run across Virgil Creek. Second is based on the longer term view that NYSEG needs to offer an underground/low profile interconnect to help large scale solar stay on the positive side of community opinion. The overhead interconnection is an unnecessary blemish on the landscape.

In the event the interconnect must be overhead:

2. The trees and shrubs along the west side of George Road provide reasonably good visual screening to block the view of the NYSEG poles. The Town Board should take steps to insure these trees and shrubs are not disturbed by NYSEG or the developer during the installation of the interconnect, and that they are maintained for the life of the project.
3. The Town Board should consider requiring that the 100 foot +/- wide corridor across Virgil Creek be reduced in width. For example, the corridor can be reduced to a single pole line by using insulated medium voltage cable for the three circuits, similar to what is installed underground elsewhere on the site. Utilities frequently use insulated cable for overhead distribution when tight clearances are required.
4. The Town Board should require the developer to provide dimensioned construction documents showing locations and details of all interconnection equipment (including NYSEG equipment) and associated site clearings and corridors. The developer should provide site clearing, erosion control/drainage, and restoration/maintenance plans to ensure protection of the environmentally sensitive areas near Virgil Creek.
5. The Town Board should take steps to insure the site access drive to the interconnect area does not block access to the field for farm equipment and that as much of the field is preserved for agricultural use as is possible. One approach would be to move the interconnect to the northeast side of the field to be completely clear from the entrance to the site.
6. The TB should seek guidance from the Agricultural Advisory Committee and Conservation Committee including providing them access to the site to review the proposed work.
7. The PB would like an opportunity to review the final Site Plan Review submission.

9/24/20

Dryden Planning Board