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Hecate Energy Refines Shepherd's Run Solar Project To Better Serve Local Priorities

-New, Improved Design Withdraws Battery Storage from Proposal and Reduces Land Use by over 25%-

Copake, NY— Hecate Energy, developer of the proposed 60-megawatt Shepherd's Run solar project in Columbia County, announced today that in response to public feedback, it will eliminate the battery storage component of the project. This comes less than a month after Hecate announced during its December virtual Informational Open House that it's also reducing the project's footprint from 500-acres to 360 acres, or by over 25 percent.

In June and December 2020, Hecate Energy held virtual informational open house sessions--which combined detailed project briefings with thorough question-and-answer sessions. In addition, Alex Campbell, the lead for the project's development, has held weekly public Zoom office hours for the past six months. Hundreds of individuals attended these open houses and office hours, and these announced changes reflect the feedback Hecate Energy received.

"Hecate Energy wants the citizens of Copake to know we are listening to their views and opinions, and that we value working with the community to site and develop the best possible project," said Campbell. "While we can't always satisfy every request, we intend for the elimination of the battery component and reduction of size by over 25 percent to demonstrate our good faith with the community."

According to Campbell, the changes in the Copake project will not reduce the previously committed \$5-7 million in new revenues for the school, local governments, and first responders the project promises to deliver. Part of the project plan is to place sufficient land into conservation easements that provide access to the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT). Hecate Energy hopes to work with the HVRT to connect this important portion of the trail. Campbell also noted that the construction process would create 200, mostly local, construction jobs and generate economic activity that will benefit area businesses.

"Today's announcement is part of Hecate's ongoing commitment to ensure that the development, construction and operation of Shepherd's Run solar project have tangible benefits for environment and the community while mitigating impacts to the greatest degree practicable," Campbell said. "We look forward to continuing to work with the community to make this a project that will serve this community and make the people proud for decades to come."

For more information, please visit the Hecate Energy website at www.ShepherdsRunSolar.com/

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About Hecate Energy

Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in California and Ohio, Hecate Energy (pronounced "HEK-uh-tee") is a developer of solar power plants, wind power plants, and energy storage solutions. Founded in 2012 by a team of energy industry veterans who have worked together for more than 25 years, Hecate Energy's team members have developed thousands of megawatts of electricity generation projects across the United States. For more information, please visit the Hecate Energy website at <http://www.hecateenergy.com/>