

STATE OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
OFFICE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SITING
AND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS

Applicant: Hecate Energy Columbia County 1, LLC
621 W. Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60661
Attn: Matthew Levine
(312) 340-5603
Email: mlevine@hecateenergy.com

Facility Location: Town of Copake, Columbia County

Applicant's Attorney: Noah Shaw, Esq.
Foley Hoag LLP
1301 Avenue of the Americas, 25th Floor
New York, NY 10019
(518) 226-9602
Email: ncshaw@foleyhoag.com

ORES DMM Matter No.: 24-03041

Facility Description: Applicant applied to the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (Office or ORES) for a permit pursuant to Public Service Law article VIII to construct and operate a 42-megawatt (MW) solar energy facility known as the Shepherd's Run Solar Farm located in the Town of Copake, Columbia County. The facility would include, but is not limited to, photovoltaic ("PV") solar arrays; inverters; security fencing; access roads; a substation; and a point of interconnection ("POI") with the Craryville 115 kilovolt (kV) substation owned by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG).

Applicant filed the application with the Office on December 23, 2024. A notice of complete application was issued on September 19, 2025 (see <https://dps.ny.gov/ores-permit-applications>, click on Project DMM Matter Number 24-03041).

ORES staff published draft permit conditions on November 18, 2025. The draft permit conditions may be accessed at <https://dps.ny.gov/ores-permit-applications>, click on Project DMM Matter Number 24-03041.

ORES Staff Position: On issuing the draft permit conditions, ORES staff takes the position that the proposed facility, together with the uniform and site-specific standards and conditions contained in the draft permit condition, would comply with applicable laws and regulations. ORES staff recommends that the Office elect not to apply, in whole or in part, any local law or ordinance that as applied to the facility is unreasonably burdensome in view of the Climate

Leadership and Community Protection Act targets and the environmental benefits of the proposed facility.

Virtual Public Comment Hearings: Public comment hearings pursuant to 16 NYCRR part 1100 to hear and receive unsworn comments from the public will be held before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM. The hearings are being conducted electronically through the Webex electronic webinar platform and by telephone.**

In addition to the two virtual hearings, four in-person public comment hearings are also scheduled for 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, and Thursday, January 22, 2026. In addition, a written public comment period and the issues determination procedure on the application and draft permit conditions have been initiated for the facility. For information about how to attend the in-person public comment hearings, submit written comments, and participate in the issues conference and any adjudicatory proceedings conducted on the application, please see the combined notice of availability of draft permit conditions, public comment period and in-person public comment hearings, and commencement of issues determination procedure posted at <https://dps.ny.gov/ores-permit-applications>, click on Project DMM Matter Number 24-03041.

All persons, organizations, corporations, or government agencies who may be affected by the facility are invited to attend the hearings and comment on the application and the draft permit conditions. Instructions on how to attend the hearing electronically or by telephone are provided below. Lengthy comments will not be accepted and instead should be submitted in writing. Equal weight will be given to both oral and written comments. To ensure that all interested persons have an opportunity to speak, the ALJ may limit the time available for oral comments to three (3) minutes per person. It is not necessary to repeat oral comments at each of the hearing sessions. The ALJ will give priority to persons who have not spoken at a prior in-person or virtual session to assure that all interested persons are heard. The public comment hearings will be transcribed for inclusion in the administrative record.

In the event the virtual public comment hearing needs to be canceled, rescheduled, or postponed, notification of any change will be available at the ORES website at <https://dps.ny.gov/ores>.

Document Availability: Copies of all application materials and draft permit conditions are available for inspection from the Office's Albany office during normal business hours. Contact the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission, New York State Department of Public Service, Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3, 14th Floor, Albany, NY 12223-1350, (518) 473-4590, ores.hearings@dps.ny.gov. Electronic copies are available at <https://dps.ny.gov/ores-permit-applications>, click on Project Permit Application Number 24-03041.

Copies of all application materials are also available at the Roeliff Jansen Community Library, 9091 State Route 22, Hillsdale, NY 12529.

Statutory and Regulatory Provisions: The application is being processed and this proceeding is being conducted according to Public Service Law article VIII and 16 NYCRR part 1100.

Instructions for Attending the Virtual Public Comment Hearings:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a **virtual public comment hearing** will be held before the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) on:

DATE:	Tuesday, January 27, 2026
TIME:	2:00 P.M.
Electronic Access:	meetny-gov.webex.com
Event Number:	2823 585 8747
Password:	Jan27-2pm
Phone-Only Access:	1-929-251-9612
Access Code:	2823 585 8747
Password:	52627027

DATE:	Tuesday, January 27, 2026
TIME:	6:00 P.M.
Electronic Access:	meetny-gov.webex.com
Event Number:	2819 975 2820
Password:	Jan27-6pm
Phone-Only Access:	1-929-251-9612
Access Code:	2819 975 2820
Password:	52627067

Any person wishing to provide a public statement on the record during the virtual public statement hearings must register to do so by 12 noon on Monday, January 26, 2026, in accordance with the instructions set forth below.

To register and provide a statement electronically:

This option is for participants who would like to provide a statement and who will log in to a hearing electronically. Participants must register by the date indicated above by visiting the Department website at <https://dps.ny.gov/calendar>, clicking on the “View DPS Calendar Listings” button under “Calendars” section, scrolling to and clicking on the Hecate Energy Columbia County 1, LLC (Shepherd’s Run Solar) Virtual Public Comment Hearings for the particular hearing date, clicking the “Register” button, and providing all requested information. After registration is complete, registrants will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to join the hearing.

On the day of the hearing, when logging in to participate in the virtual hearing on the appropriate date and time, participants will be asked to “select audio system.” It is recommended that participants opt to have the system “call me” or “call using computer.” The “call me” option will require that participants enter their phone numbers.

To register and provide a statement by phone:

This option is for participants who are not able to log in to a virtual public comment hearing electronically. Call-in participants wishing to make a statement at a virtual public comment hearing must register to do so by the date indicated above by calling 1-800-342-3330, following the prompts to the appropriate hearing, and then providing the following information: first name and last name, address, and phone number.

On the day and time of the virtual public statement hearing, call-in registrants must dial 1-929-251-9612 and enter the access code and phone-in password listed above.

All participants will be muted upon entry into the virtual public comment hearing. The ALJ will call upon each person who has registered to make a statement and will continue each hearing until everyone who has registered to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements to submit comments into the record have been made. Reasonable time limits may be set for each speaker as necessary to afford all attendees an opportunity to be heard. It is recommended that lengthy comments be submitted in writing and summarized for oral presentation. A verbatim transcript of each public comment hearing will be made for inclusion in the record of these proceedings.

To listen to the hearings without making a statement:

Any interested person may listen to the hearings by calling 1-929-251-9612 and entering the appropriate access code and phone-in password listed above.

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should call the Department's Human Resources Management Office at 1-518-473-9463 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Persons with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Department at 1-800-342-3377 or email languageaccess@dps.ny.gov for free language assistance services regarding this Notice. To request a translator or sign language interpreter so that you can participate at a specific public statement hearing, please contact the Department at least 10 days before the hearing by calling 1-800-342-3377 or emailing your request to languageaccess@dps.ny.gov.

James T. McClymonds
Chief Administrative Law Judge for Article VIII Siting

November 18, 2025
Albany, New York