

Section 248 TRORC Review Protocol – Preferred Site Letter of Support

Please provide a general site map at the town scale, and at the site scale, showing the entire parcel and lands/E911 structures within 100 meters. Provide other maps as requested. Maps should use public data when easily available.

ANR Atlas is found at <http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra5/>

Biofinder is found at <http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/BioFinder2016/>

FEMA Map Service Center <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>

TRORC will review requests for Preferred Site Letters of Support by completing the following table:

	Name of Project:	
	Date:	Size of solar project:
	Docket No:	
	Developer:	
	Owner:	
	Is the solar facility site affecting....	Yes/No
1	Provide FIRM map showing FEMA Floodway, if present. ANR Atlas does not have all FEMA maps, so outside of Windsor County use FEMA Map Service Center.	
	If yes and not on existing building, TRORC will NOT issue Preferred Site Letter of Support.	
2	Municipal letters of support from SB and PC, or in TP mapped preferred site?	
	If site does not have both, TRORC will NOT issue a Preferred Site Letter of Support.	
3	Provide FIRM map showing FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area, if present.	
	Describe. If yes, provide estimated lowest elevation of panels/inverters etc., floodproofing measures and BFE.	
4	ANR Atlas review – River Corridors	
	Describe distance to top of bank. Is river in active movement/site likely to erode?	
5	ANR Atlas review – Wetlands	
	Describe: Has a wetland delineation been done?	
6	ANR Atlas review – Prime Agricultural Soil	
	Describe: Is site in active agricultural use?	
7	BioFinder review – Provide map showing forest blocks and habitat connectors, if present	
	Describe:	

8	Aesthetic/Historic Siting review	
	Provide photo(s) from nearest public road. Is proposed facility visible from public roads or adjacent owners? Are any dwellings within 100 meters? Describe lighting, traffic, fencing, noise, glare. Describe any ground disturbance and tree cutting.	
9	Municipal concerns?	
	Describe any issues the town has raised.	
10	ANR Atlas review – Threatened and Endangered Species/significant natural community/deeryards/ critical habitat	
	Describe species and provide map.	
11	TRORC Regional Plan conformance?	
	Describe using Regional Plan and TRORC Energy Implementation Plan:	

TRORC will provide a Preferred Site Letter of Support for a renewable energy project when requested by the Town or the developer for projects:

1. That have a level of specificity enough for us to make determinations using the above checklist AND
2. That TRORC has determined there is minimal impact to human and natural resources as illustrated on the checklist AND
3. That have written municipal support from the Selectboard and Planning Commission AND
4. That TRORC finds in conformance with the TRORC Regional Plan

For projects lacking enough detail to make findings, TRORC is not able to issue the Preferred Site Letter of Support.

TRORC will provide a letter of Preferred Site status after completing a review above, finding the project and site in conformance with the Regional Plan, and receiving copies of Preferred Site Letters of Support from the Town SB and PC. Language in the Preferred Site letter will include: “Having made our review, the TRORC wishes to support the Project location as a designated “Preferred Site” under Net Metering Rule Section 5.103 (7). The TRORC does not take a position certifying or approving the Project’s compliance with any other applicable provisions of Vermont law. This letter is solely for the purpose of providing support for designating the site as a “Preferred Site” under Net Metering Rule Section 5.103 (7).