A landscape photograph showing a paved road that curves to the right. The road is bordered by a lush green field on the left and a dense line of trees on the right. The sky is filled with large, dramatic, grey and white clouds, with some blue visible. The overall scene is bright and natural.

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# TOWN OF LINCOLN COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

**DRAFT**

Slide 1

# Clean Energy Legislation

## *Roadmap to Address Climate Policy*

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- ❖ On March 26, 2021, Governor Baker signed into Law groundbreaking Climate Legislation to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Protect Environmental Justice Communities.
- ❖ Under the Climate Law, the Commonwealth must achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050 by implementing strategies and programs to combat climate change and protect vulnerable communities.
- ❖ The Climate Law established new interim goals for emissions reductions, significantly increased protections for Environmental Justice communities across Massachusetts, authorized the Baker Administration to implement new voluntary energy efficient building codes for municipalities, and allowed the Commonwealth to procure an additional 2,400 megawatts of clean, reliable offshore wind energy by 2027.

# Lincoln Clean Energy Initiatives

## *Long-term Strategies*

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- ❖ Elimination of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.
- ❖ Adoption of renewable energy through town-wide electricity purchase.
- ❖ Programs for residential and renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- ❖ Investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency in municipal buildings and operations.

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Capped Landfill*

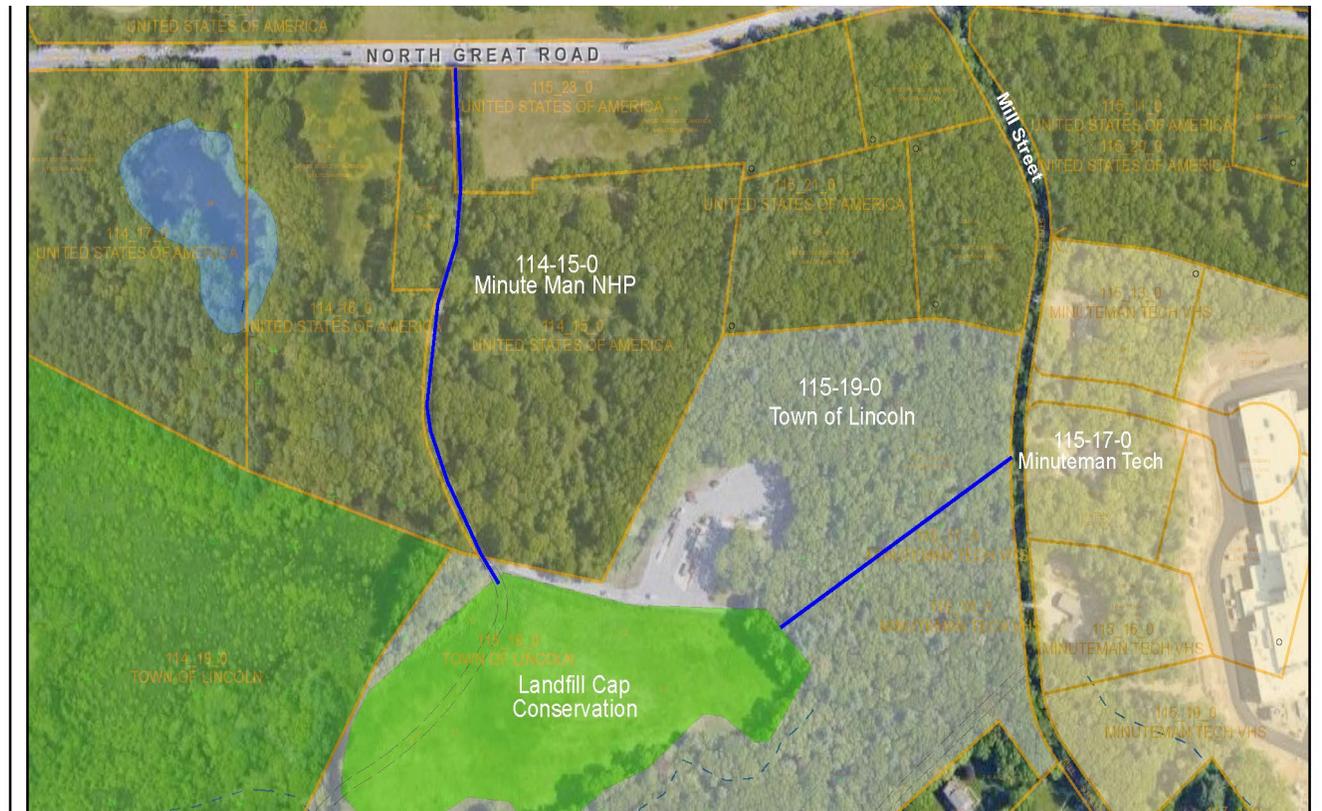
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- ❖ Currently an unusable parcel due to its environmental restriction except for renewable development that does not penetrate the cap or open space.
- ❖ Cleared parcel with beneficial solar orientation.
- ❖ Type of property that is eligible for attractive incentives for solar generation.
- ❖ Enables the Town to take a significant step forward in achieving its renewable energy goals.

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

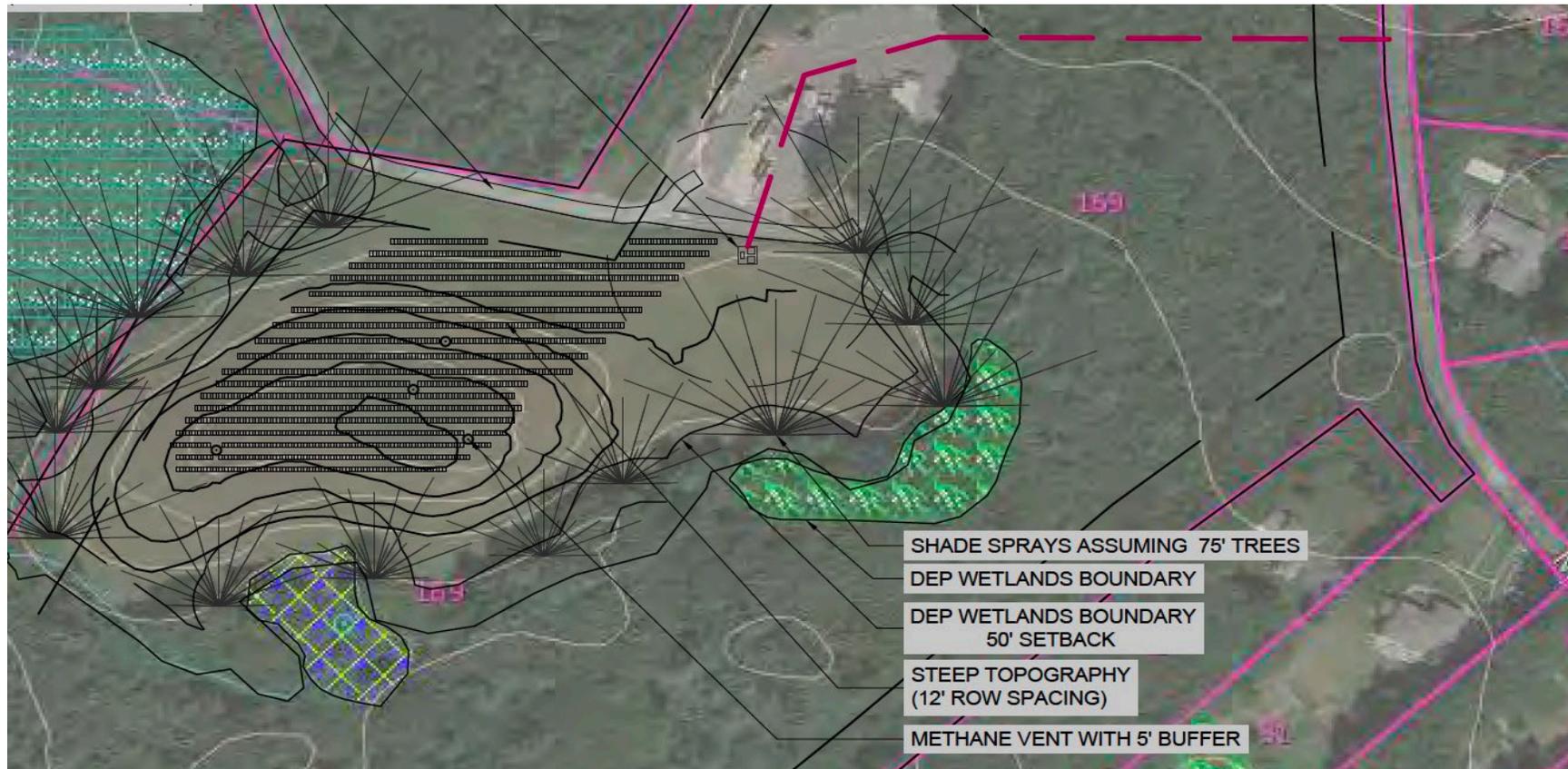
## *Capped Landfill – Parcel Overview*

- ❖ Surrounded by the Minute Man National Historical Park.
- ❖ Bordered to the south and west by wetlands.
- ❖ Situated in a heavily wooded area.



# Initial Renewable Energy Target

*Capped Landfill – Conceptual Design*



# Progress to Date

## *Capped Landfill*

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### ❖ Town Meeting Vote in 2017:

- Land Lease
- Power Purchase Agreement
- Tax Agreement

### ❖ Legislative Authorization to Transfer Land Out of Conservation in Fall 2017:

- Conservation Commission Due Diligence and Vote of Support
- Town-side Study of Potential Solar Sites
- Landfill Habitat Assessment
- Conservation Land Acquired as Offset
- Town Meeting Votes in Support of Above Actions
- Chapter 90 of the Acts of 2017 signed by the Governor in Fall 2017

### ❖ Wetlands Survey Completed

# Progress to Date

## *Capped Landfill*

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### ❖ Significant Knowledge Gained:

- ❑ Confirmation of Existing Infrastructure
- ❑ Clarification of Easement Rights
- ❑ Clarification of National Park Service Permitting Requirements for Use of Access Road
- ❑ Clarification of Eversource's Interconnection Requirements
- ❑ Initial Evaluation of Likely Developer Requirements
- ❑ Thorough Assessment of Access Options

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Capped Landfill – Access Options and Considerations*

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Via Route 2A



Via Mill Street



# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Access Options and Considerations – Route 2A*

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### Pros

- ❑ Town Meeting Authorization Urges Reasonable Efforts to Create Access Via Route 2A
- ❑ Makes Use of Existing Driveway
- ❑ Less Impact on Landscape

### Cons

- ❑ Complicated NPS Permitting Process
  - Design Plans In Advance
  - Archeological Assessment and Construction Supervision
  - Section 106 Review Process
  - Sign-off at Multiple NPS Levels
  - Separate Eversource Easements for Poles and Infrastructure Outside Driveway, including new and taller poles on both sides of Route 2A
  - Time & Resources to File and Secure Approvals
- ❑ NPS Permit Restrictions
  - Rights to Terminate during Term create financing risk
  - 10-Year Permit Limitation
- ❑ Likely More Costly Route

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Access Options and Considerations – Mill Street*

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### **Pros**

- ❑ Town Owns Land
- ❑ No Easements Required
- ❑ Make use of existing path through woods
- ❑ Install conduits within existing path, either above or below ground
- ❑ Three-Phase Power Previously Extended on Mill Street
- ❑ Lower-Level Permit from NPS for use during conservation and for maintenance
- ❑ Ability to Screen/Mitigate Visual Impacts at Mill Street
- ❑ Likely Lower Construction Cost

### **Cons**

- ❑ Some Tree Clearing along existing path depending on conduit run strategy
- ❑ Installation of Pad Mounted Transformer, Metering and Control Equipment at Mill Street

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Potential Neighborhood Impacts*

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### ❖ Potential Impacts During Mobilization, Equipment Delivery and Construction

- ❑ Noise
- ❑ Traffic
- ❑ Access
- ❑ Transfer Station Disruption
- ❑ Visual

### ❖ Potential Impacts During Long-Term Operations

- ❑ Visual
- ❑ Noise
- ❑ Operations and Maintenance Activities

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Precautions and Neighborhood Impact Mitigation During Construction*

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- ❖ Installing low noise emitting equipment
  - ❑ Inverters operate only during the sunlight hours
  - ❑ Energy storage facilities require climate control equipment like home outdoor A/C condensers
- ❖ Locating equipment strategically to minimize impacts
  - ❑ All major equipment is expected to be installed off the landfill cap adjacent to the Transfer Station.
- ❖ Vegetative Screening planned along the access path and at Mill Street to screen the utility Transformer, Metering and Control Equipment.
- ❖ Utilization of existing pathway for utility interconnection of the solar array.
  - ❑ Path options shall include buried conduit or aboveground conduit buried under vegetated berm.
  - ❑ Minimal additional vegetative clearing is anticipated.

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Precautions and Neighborhood Impact Mitigation During Construction (Continued)*

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### ❖ Project Entitlement Activities

- ❑ MassDEP permitting required for re-use of capped landfill. Significant due diligence is required.
- ❑ Local permitting with the Lincoln Planning Board and Lincoln Conservation Commission is required.

❖ Community outreach and neighborhood update sessions are planned.

❖ Town Website information portal.

# Initial Renewable Energy Target

*Illustrative Rendering*

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# Initial Renewable Energy Target

*Illustrative Rendering*

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# Initial Renewable Energy Target

## *Neighborhood Discussion*

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- ❖ Review and Discussion of Access Plan
- ❖ Landscape Mitigation Discussion
- ❖ Walking Path Options Discussion
- ❖ Public Education Opportunities
- ❖ Next Steps:
  - ❑ Issue competitive procurement for the most advantage solar development and partner
  - ❑ Conduct due diligence and present recommendations to Select Board
  - ❑ Community presentations and neighborhood outreach sessions
  - ❑ Permitting:
    - Local permitting including Lincoln Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Building Department
    - State permitting with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
    - Federal permitting with National Park Service

# Thank You

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Questions

**DRAFT**