



TOWN OF LINCOLN

MIDDLESEX COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS

Timothy S. Higgins
Town Administrator

LINCOLN TOWN OFFICES
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July 10, 2024

**RE: Landfill Solar Project Update
July 23rd Presentation to Planning Board
7:00 p.m., Donaldson Conference Rm
Town Offices, 16 Lincoln Road
(Zoom link provided below)**

Dear Mill Street Resident,

We are pleased to report that project planning for the installation of solar at the Town's landfill is progressing nicely. The Select Board has awarded the contract to HESP Solar a New Jersey based solar development company that will own and operate the array and related infrastructure. HESP has been working with a Beacon Integrated Solutions, a solar consultant hired by the Town, to finalize the system design and to develop a site plan that will allow the system to operate efficiently while also minimizing impacts on the surrounding neighborhood. The plan for connecting the array to the grid will make use of the existing conduits that connect the Transfer Station to the power lines located on Mill Street thereby minimizing the need for any significant disturbance of the existing vegetation or tree clearing. The Town has asked HESP to design the interconnection in a manner that creates as little disturbance to the natural environment as is possible. At the same time, our plan must meet Eversource's basic engineering requirements. A site plan depicting the location of the required utility equipment on the Town's property at Mill Street, along with planned fencing and vegetative screening has been included in our application to the Planning Board.

As discussed during our initial project Informational Session in September of 2022, the plan that will be presented to the Planning Board includes the installation of a new pedestrian/cycling pathway that will be installed above or adjacent to the existing utility conduits. The pathway will connect Mill Street to the transfer station driveway outside of the access gate. The Town envisions a future pathway extension from the Transfer Station access gate running west and connecting to Bedford Road. Our Public Works, Conservation, and Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be working in concert to develop the Phase II path plan and to secure funding.

HESP is in the process of securing necessary local and state approvals, while simultaneously satisfying Eversource's requirements. We anticipate receiving all necessary approvals by the fall so that construction may begin later this year. The Town and its consultant will be working closely with HESP to organize construction activities in a manner that minimizes

impacts on residential abutters, the National Park, and the Transfer Station operation. If the schedule holds, construction will be completed in the spring of 2025 so that the system can begin producing power the summer of 2025.

This is an exciting step forward for the Town. When operational, the facility will have a power producing capacity of 700 KW, contributing significantly to the Town's renewable energy goals and creating annual financial benefits to the Town estimated conservatively at \$160,000.

We look forward to sharing our plan with the Planning Board and any interested abutters and other residents.

Folks are welcome to attend the Planning Board meeting in-person at Town Offices, or via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83459422292?pwd=XHtMTd7uEXoMXN450klCcOxZffg85k.1>

Meeting ID: 834 5942 2292

Passcode: 60974

Additional information about the project is available on the Town's website at:

[Landfill Solar Steering Committee | Lincoln, MA - Official Website \(lincolntown.org\)](https://www.lincolntown.org/landfill-solar-steering-committee)

Thank you,



Timothy S. Higgins

Town Administrator