

BORREGO SOLAR

ReJean DeVaux <rdevaux@borregosolar.com>

FW: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
To: Mike Schauffert <mschauffert@borregosolar.com>
Cc: ReJean DeVaux <rdevaux@borregosolar.com>

Tue, May 5, 2020 at 1:39 PM

Hi Mike,

Please see the email chain below from NYSDEC. I guess the attached letter was sent to Shumaker last week, I'm sure they've forwarded to you. The letter only references the bats so I asked them to confirm no impacts to the three bird species identified by NYNHP. It was confirmed in the email chain below. In the past this has sufficed for Borrego & your buyers, but let me know if you need something more formal.

Thanks,

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

GEI50

office: 607.216.8970 cell: 631.921.2948

1301 Trumansburg Road, Suite N, Ithaca, NY 14850



From: Baker, Nancy M (DEC) <nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Paul did not raise any species concerns for those, so you should be all set.

Nancy Baker

Regional Permit Administrator, Division of Environmental Permits

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

1130 North Westcott Rd, Schenectady, NY 12306

5/5/2020

Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. Mail - FW: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

P: (518) 357-2452 | F: (518) 357-2460 | nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov

From: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Baker, Nancy M (DEC) <nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

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Thank you. Sorry for any confusion. Borrego has been working with 2 different consultants to resolve the species concerns. As this letter does not reference the rare bird species identified by NYNHP (pied-billed grebe, sedge wren, and least bittern), can you confirm there are no anticipated impacts to them?

Thanks again,

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

GEI50

office: 607.216.8970 cell: 631.921.2948

1301 Trumansburg Road, Suite N, Ithaca, NY 14850



From: Baker, Nancy M (DEC) <nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

I sent the attached out on April 30

Nancy Baker

Regional Permit Administrator, Division of Environmental Permits

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

1130 North Westcott Rd, Schenectady, NY 12306

P: (518) 357-2452 | F: (518) 357-2460 | nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov

From: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Baker, Nancy M (DEC) <nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

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Hi Nancy,

I'm just following up on the inquiry for Altamont Road Solar Site (Borrego Solar Systems). Let me know if there's anything you need. Thanks!

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

GEI50

office: 607.216.8970 cell: 631.921.2948

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From: Novak, Paul G (DEC) <paul.novak@dec.ny.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Mallory,

I had everything I needed and sent my comments to Nancy Baker so you should hear from her.

Paul

Paul Novak

Wildlife Diversity Biologist

NYSDEC

1130 N. Westcott Rd

5/5/2020

Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. Mail - FW: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Schenectady, NY 12306

(518) 357-2071

paul.novak@dec.ny.gov

From: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Novak, Paul G (DEC) <paul.novak@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

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Hi Paul,

Just checking in to make sure you successfully located the site and have everything you need to review. Let me know if there's anything more. Thanks,

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

GEI50

office: 607.216.8970 cell: 631.921.2948

1301 Trumansburg Road, Suite N, Ithaca, NY 14850



From: Novak, Paul G (DEC) <paul.novak@dec.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 5:10 PM
To: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Mallory,

This comes in as a file where the aerial imagery and the road map are tiny and I cannot find the location. Can you send me those images in some other format?

Thank you.

Paul

Paul Novak

Wildlife Diversity Biologist

NYSDEC

1130 N. Westcott Rd

Schenectady, NY 12306

(518) 357-2071

paul.novak@dec.ny.gov

From: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:50 AM

To: dec.sm.DEP.R4 <R4DEP@dec.ny.gov>; Novak, Paul G (DEC) <paul.novak@dec.ny.gov>

Subject: RE: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

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Certainly. See the Site Use Plan attached. A location map is on the cover page and the proposed site layout is on page 4.

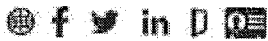
Thanks for your quick response. Best,

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

GEI50

office: 607.216.8970 cell: 631.921.2948

1301 Trumansburg Road, Suite N, Ithaca, NY 14850



From: dec.sm.DEP.R4 <R4DEP@dec.ny.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:47 AM

To: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>; Novak, Paul G (DEC) <paul.novak@dec.ny.gov>

Subject: [EXT] FW: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

Mallory, could you please provide a location map and site plan so that Paul Novak can review the project and respond?

Nancy Baker

Regional Permit Administrator, Division of Environmental Permits

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

1130 North Westcott Rd, Schenectady, NY 12306

P: (518) 357-2452 | F: (518) 357-2460 | nancy.baker@dec.ny.gov

From: Smith, Mallory <mssmith@geiconsultants.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:58 AM
To: dec.sm.DEP.R4 <R4DEP@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: Borrego Solar Systems - Altamont Road Solar Site

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing in response to the attached letter from the Natural Heritage Program regarding the proposed Altamont Road solar array. The letter identifies three state-listed birds which are potentially within the project area: least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), sedge wren (*Cistothorus platensis*), and pied-billed grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*). The northern long-eared bat is also identified, but considerations for this species are being handled separately.

As I understand it, all three of these bird species occur in marshes, wet meadows, and/or open water. The pied-billed grebe prefers deeper waterbodies, while the least bittern may tolerate a shallower inundation, and the sedge wren occurs in wet meadows or hay fields which may not be inundated at all. In 2019, Borrego contracted with Shumaker Consulting Engineering & Land Surveying (Shumaker) to conduct a wetland delineation at this site. No wetlands were observed. As wetlands were found to be absent, it is my understanding that suitable habitat is not present for the three listed bird species. Direct and indirect impacts to these species is not anticipated. If I am mistaken please let me know how anticipated impacts might be avoided and minimized.

Looking forward to your feedback. Thanks very much,

MALLORY SMITH
Project Professional

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2020.04.30 Altamont Rd NJ letter.pdf

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