



## Bristol Sewer and Water Solar Project

### ***Frequently Asked Questions and Answers***

- Will the proposed Solar Project result in the increase in residents' taxes?
  - No, the goal is to reduce the cost of electricity for the waste water treatment facility, which will place downward pressure on sewer and water usage fees. The savings will be associated with reductions in the sewer and water fees.
- How is the project being paid for?
  - The project is capitalized by a third-party partner Barrington Power. They were chosen through an RFP process and selected as the best partner by the Energy Committee
- What is a PPA?
  - A Power Purchase Agreement is a long-term agreement with an energy supplier to purchase power at a pre-determined price and rate structure. The term is typically 20-25 years and the cost of power is defined up-front with a pre-determined increase each year.
- How much will the project cost?
  - The project cost is estimated to be approximately \$500k and will be supplied by our partner Barrington Power. This project does not require any investment from the Town of Bristol.
- Why is there a Warrant Article for the addition of the Solar Array if the town is not having to raise any money for the project?
  - Under state law, a municipal is not allowed to enter into a long term agreement without a 3/5 approval at a Town Meeting.
- Where is the Solar Array going to be located?
  - On the northern bank of the Pemigewasset River south of the Water and Sewer facility property located at 180 Ayers Island Road.
- What are the key benefits to the Solar Array?
  - The primary benefit to the town is the lowering of electricity costs for the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The second key benefit is the ability to better budget electricity costs by knowing exactly what the rate will be for the upcoming year. Other benefits include reducing the town's carbon footprint, and laying a foundation for improved resiliency in the case of a major power outage.
- When is the Solar Project expected to be completed?
  - In the fall of 2022
- How does the system work?
  - Please refer to the video provided above



- Will other town buildings benefit from the Solar Array Project?
  - No, the current state solar policy does not result in costs savings for group net meeting to other town buildings.
- How long will the Solar Array produce energy?
  - The solar array is expected to produce energy for at least 25 years, and likely more.
- Who maintains the Solar Array, and who is responsible for disassembling the array at the end of its life?
  - The company we establish the power contract with, Barrington Power
- Can batteries be added to the Solar Array to provide more “behind the meter” advantage?
  - Yes, this is a future plan we will be working on.
- What is the project and why do we need it?
  - The cost of power continues to rise, especially the cost of power transmission and delivery. This project will eliminate much of the delivery and transmission costs for the waste water treatment facility, and also provide a means for improved electricity forecasting and budgeting.
- Are we going to own the solar arrays and are what ongoing maintenance costs will the town incur?
  - No, Barrington Power will own the solar array and the town will purchase power from them instead of purchasing it from Eversource.
- What is a Purchase Power Agreement?
  - It is a long-term agreement to purchase power generated by a power provider at a pre-negotiated rate.
- What are the risks to the Town?
  - It is possible the solar provider could go out of business either prior to, or after the installation is complete. This will be part of the negotiation process to gain assurances against this event.
- Why is there an escalator cost and how can it be managed so as to not get out of control?
  - The escalation costs of electricity will be tied to a “fair market value” such that if the cost of power declines, so will the cost of power from the solar array.
- How will this project impact my house or business?
  - The project will not affect your local home or business, other than to potentially reduce the water and sewer usage fees by reducing the operating costs of that facility.