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January 8, 2024

Mr. Houtan Moaveni
Executive Director
New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting
Albany, NY 12242

Re: Matter No. 21-02553

Dear Mr. Moaveni,

A week ago, we learned that Hecate Energy's initial proposal for the Shepherd's Run solar project is no longer feasible due to the loss of 59.77 acres. It would be counterproductive to proceed with the scheduled public statement hearings as the current proposal is now moot. Instead, Hecate has an important opportunity to introduce a revised plan, choosing a safer and more suitable location for Shepherd's Run. At which point, I believe ORES should schedule new hearings to gather community input. For these reasons, I believe the public commenting periods scheduled from January 9th through the 11th should be postponed and rescheduled if and when a new plan comes forward.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Hinchey".

Michelle Hinchey
New York State Senator, District 41