

**EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
ARTICLE 10 EXHIBIT 24**

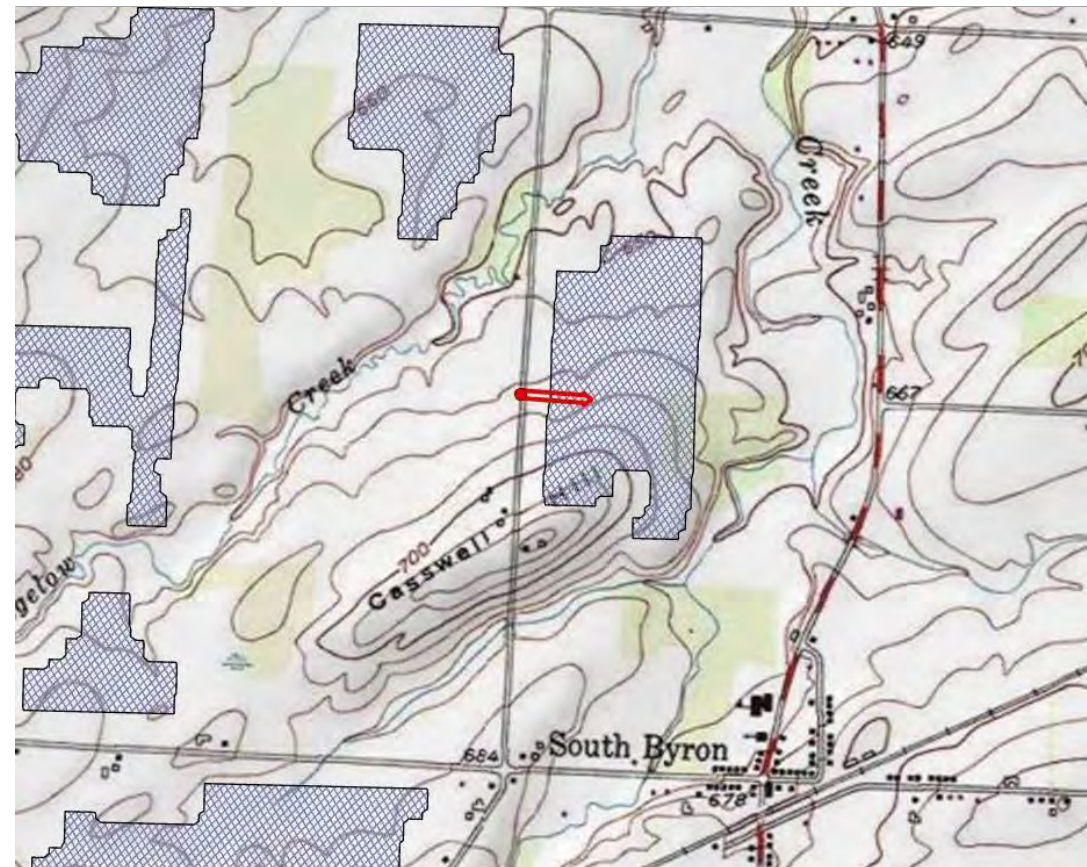
SIMULATIONS AND LINES OF SIGHT

ATTACHMENT 4



Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1284482.3 E 1114332.3 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	675
Distance to Fence Line	209 ft
Direction of View	E
Date/Time	12/13/19 11:21 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions





Viewpoint Location Aerial



Viewpoint Location Topo



<i>Viewpoint Coordinates in</i>	1274773.8 E
<i>NY State Plane West</i>	1111392.2 N
<i>Town</i>	Byron
<i>Viewer Elevation (ft msl)</i>	731
<i>Distance to Fence Line</i>	326 ft
<i>Direction of View</i>	NE
<i>Date/Time</i>	12/13/19 11:39 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
 Byron, New York
 Visual Simulation of Project
 August 2020

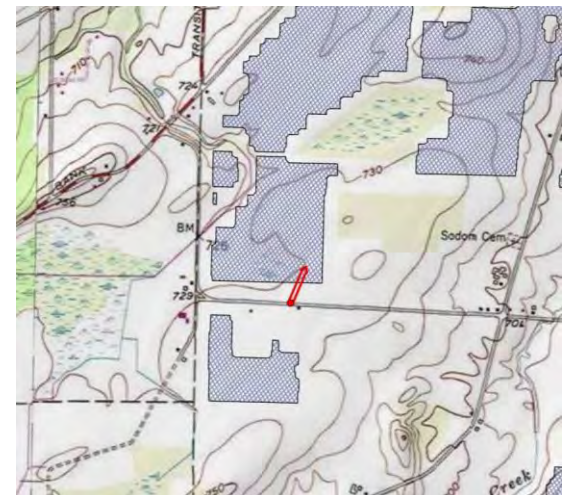




Viewpoint Location Aerial



Viewpoint Location Topo



<i>Viewpoint Coordinates in</i>	1274773.8 E
<i>NY State Plane West</i>	1111392.2 N
<i>Town</i>	Byron
<i>Viewer Elevation (ft msl)</i>	731
<i>Distance to Fence Line</i>	326 ft
<i>Direction of View</i>	NE
<i>Date/Time</i>	12/13/19 11:39 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
 Byron, New York
 Visual Simulation of Project
 August 2020





Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1274184.1 E 1111409.4 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	730
Distance to Fence Line	270 ft
Direction of View	N
Date/Time	12/13/19 11:46 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



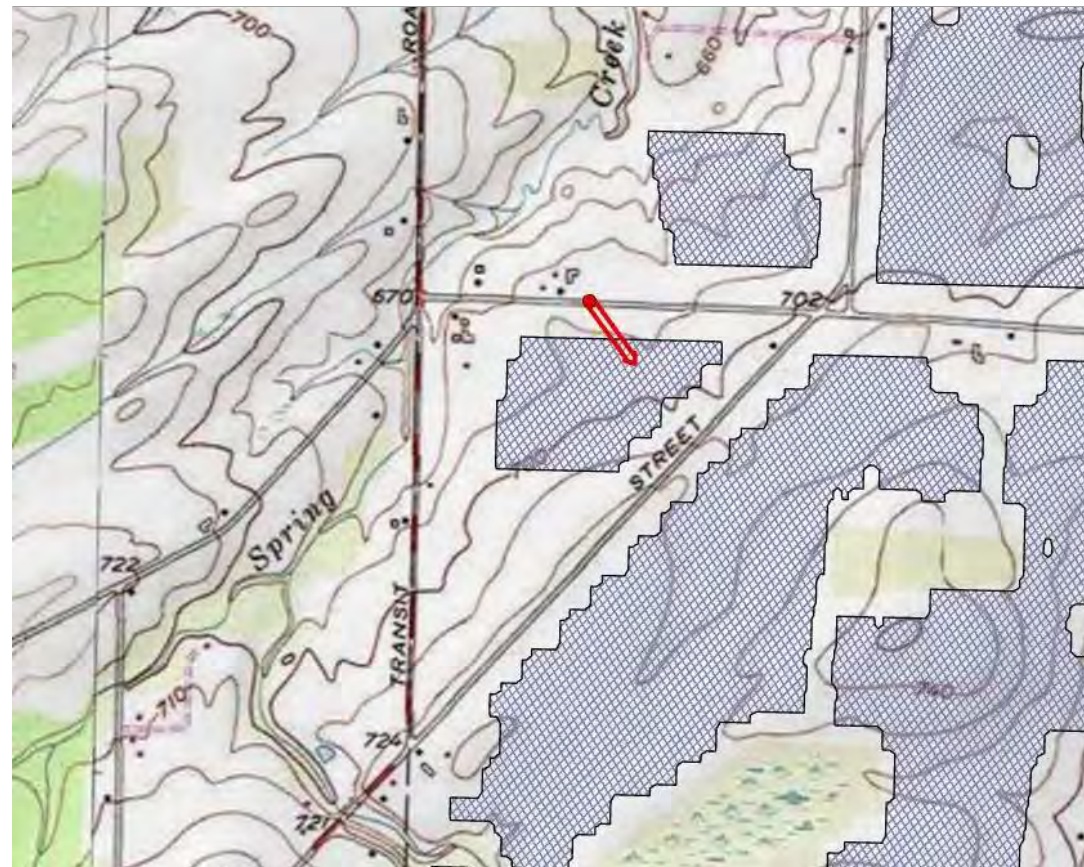
Simulation Proposed Conditions





Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1274684.7 E 1118167.6 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	689
Distance to Fence Line	293 ft
Direction of View	SE
Date/Time	12/13/19 11:15 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



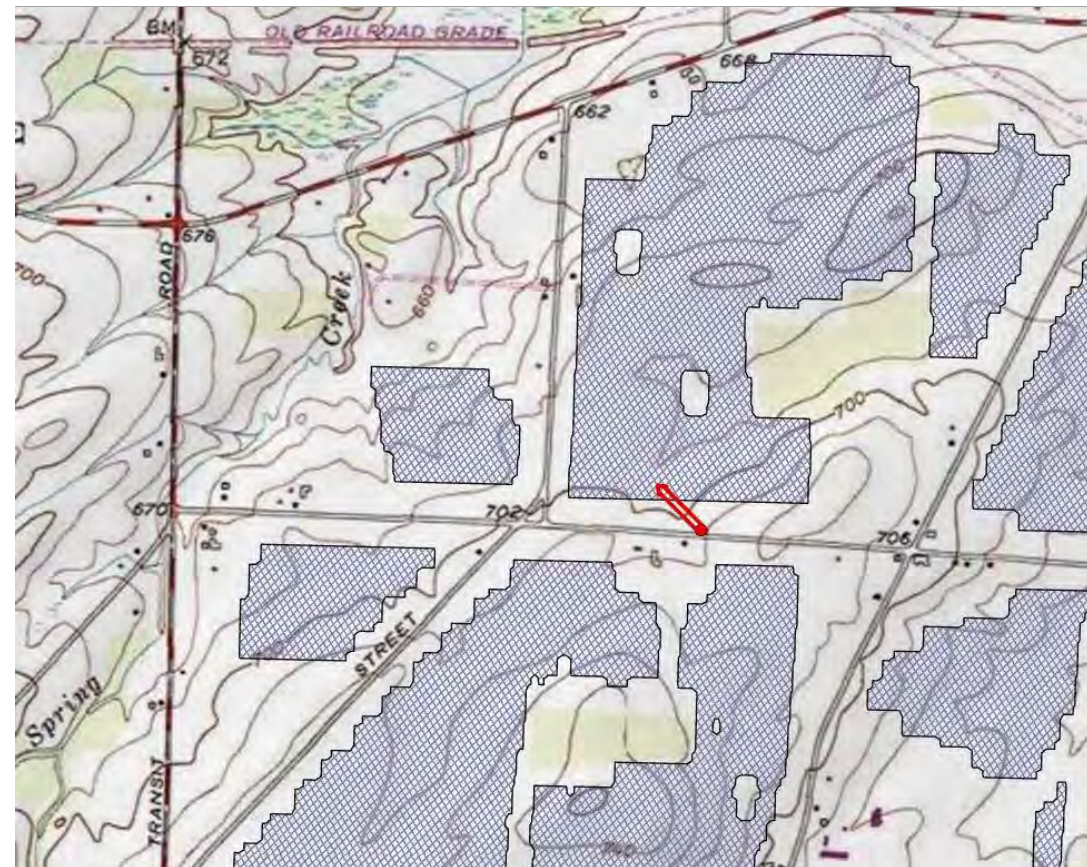
Simulation Mitigation at 5 years





Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1278157.4 E 1118100.3 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	707
Distance to Fence Line	407 ft
Direction of View	NW
Date/Time	12/13/19 11:06 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



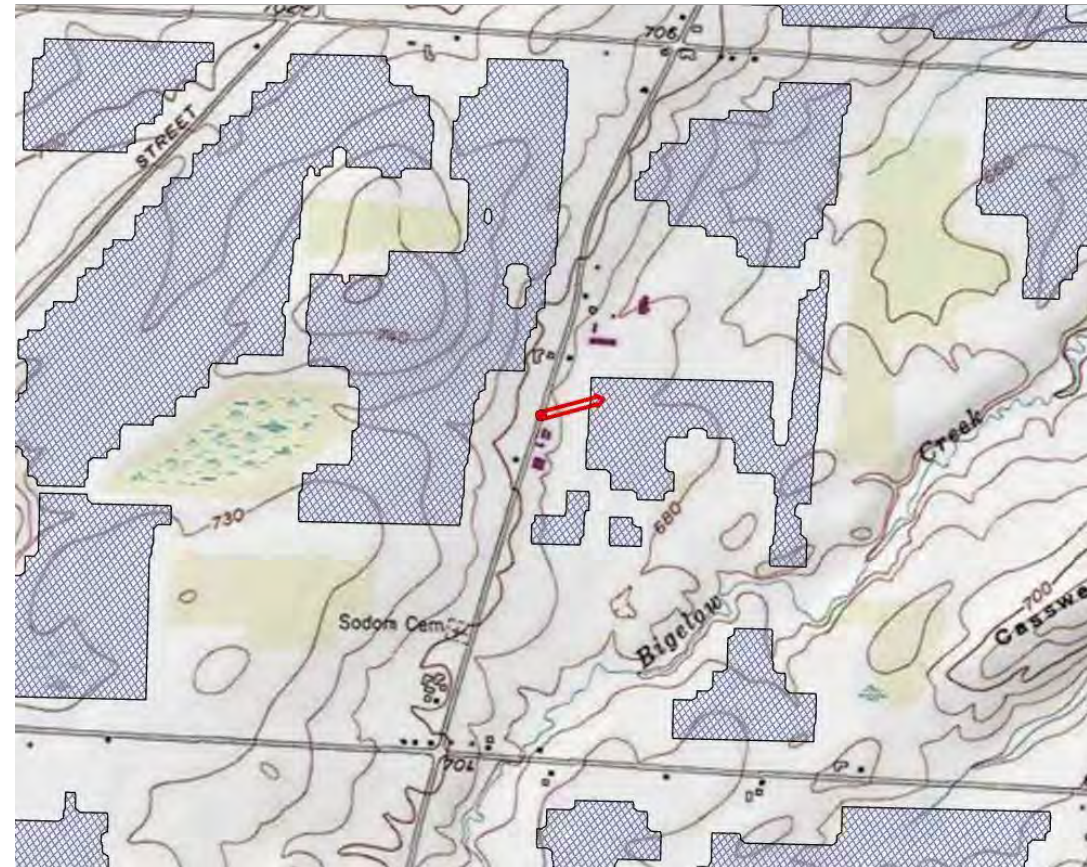
Simulation Mitigation at 5 years





Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1278887.4 E 11114454.7 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	695
Distance to Fence Line	302 ft
Direction of View	NE
Date/Time	12/13/19 2:18 PM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



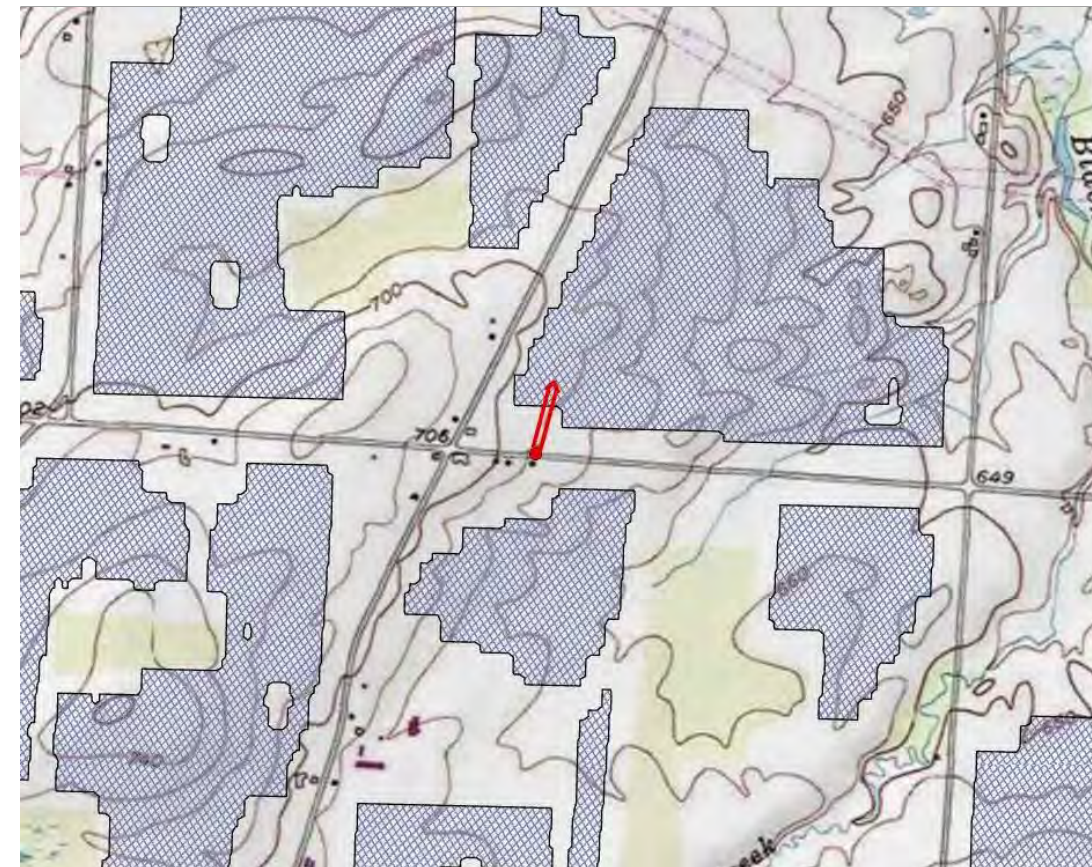
Simulation Proposed Conditions





Viewpoint Location Aerial

Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1280837.7 E 1117930.8 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	685
Distance to Fence Line	288 ft
Direction of View	N
Date/Time	12/13/19 10:42 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



Simulation Mitigation at 5 years

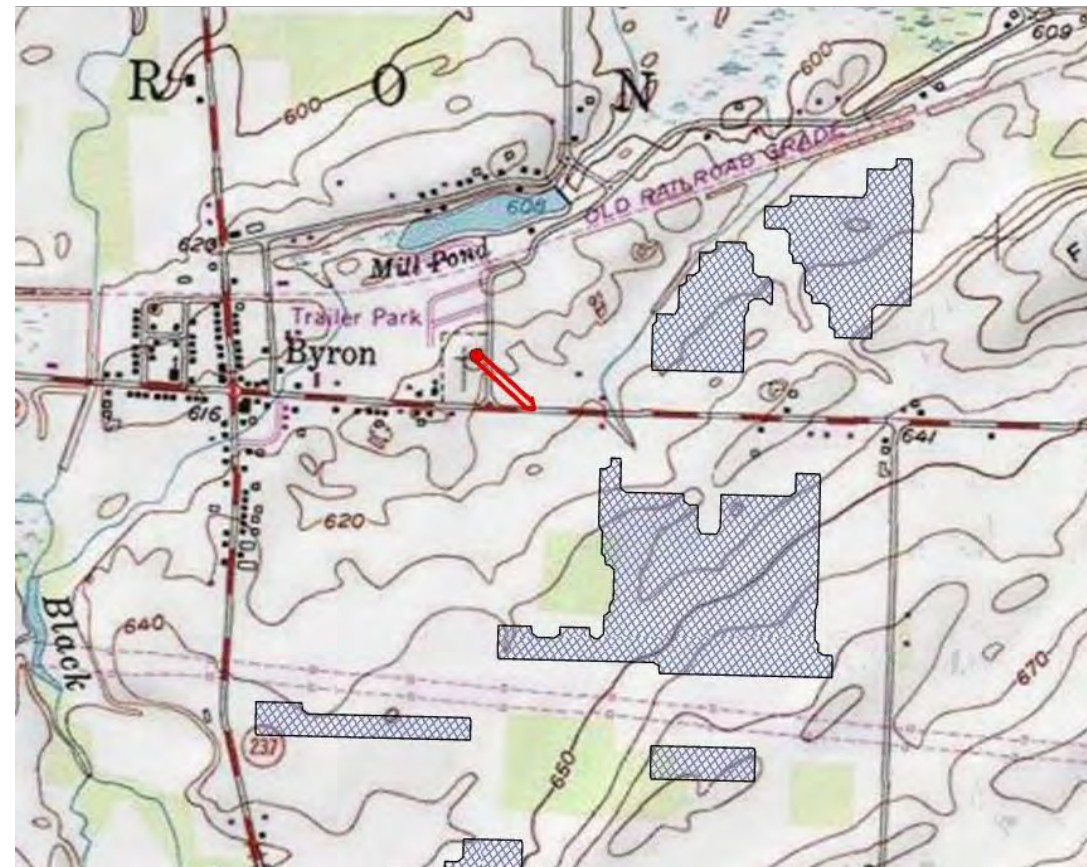




Viewpoint Location Aerial



Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1288920.8 E 1122864.7 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	636
Distance to Fence Line	1327 ft
Direction of View	SE
Date/Time	12/13/19 10:22 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions

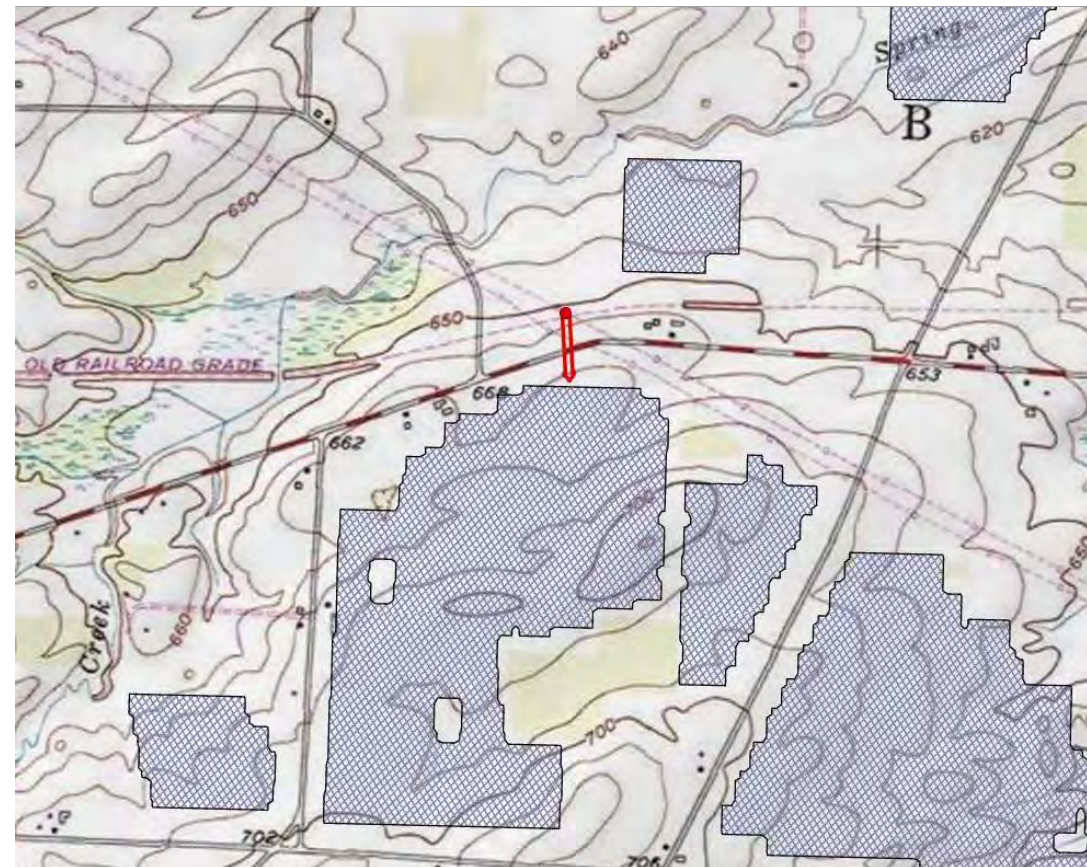




Viewpoint Location Aerial



Viewpoint Location Topo



Viewpoint Coordinates in NY State Plane West	1279072.5 E 1123151.3 N
Town	Byron
Viewer Elevation (ft msl)	651
Distance to Fence Line	655 ft
Direction of View	S
Date/Time	3/24/20 10:01 AM

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Visual Simulation of Project
August 2020

Existing Conditions



Simulation Proposed Conditions



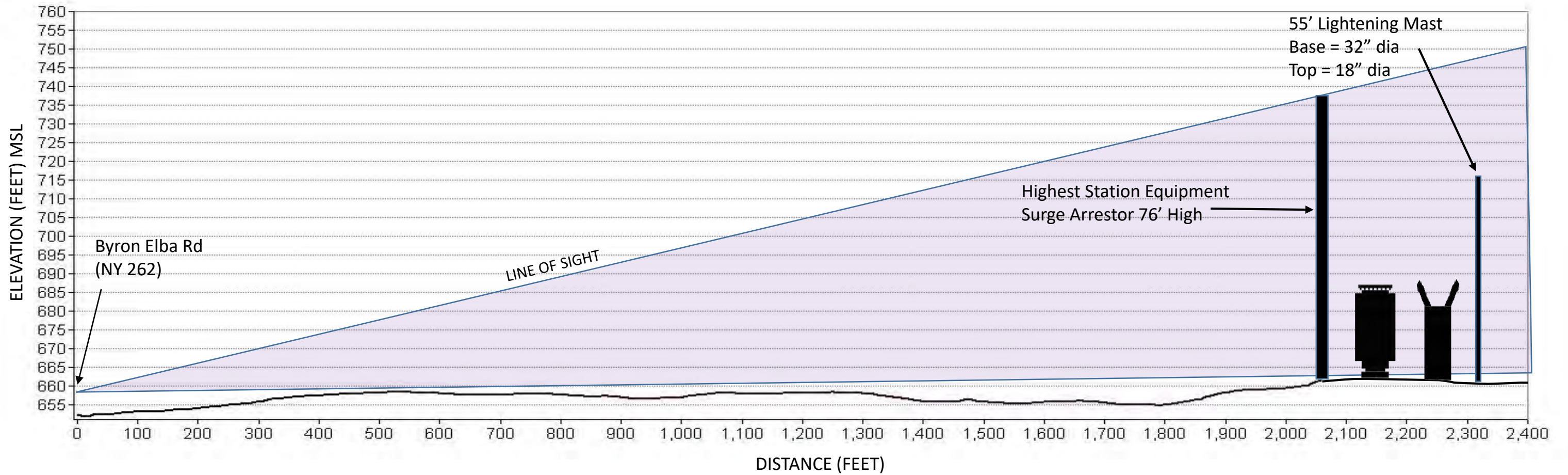
Simulation Proposed Conditions



Simulation Mitigation at 5 years



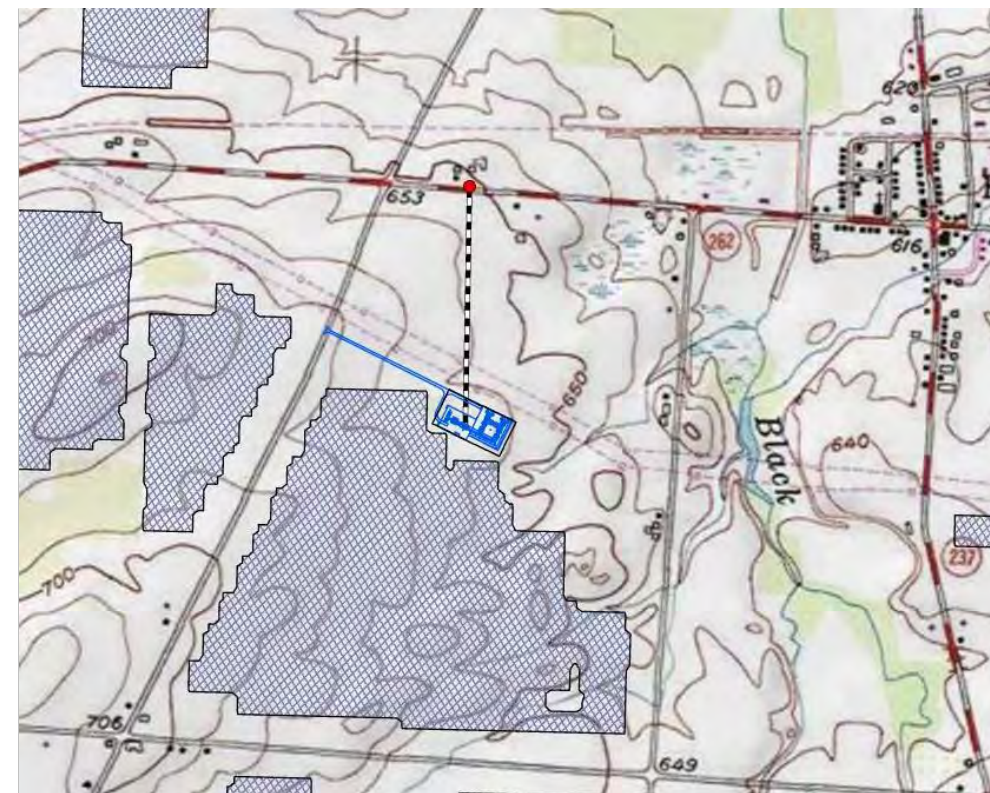
L1 - LINE OF SIGHT FROM – BYRON ELBA ROAD (NY 262) TO COLLECTION SUBSTATION



Viewpoint Location Aerial



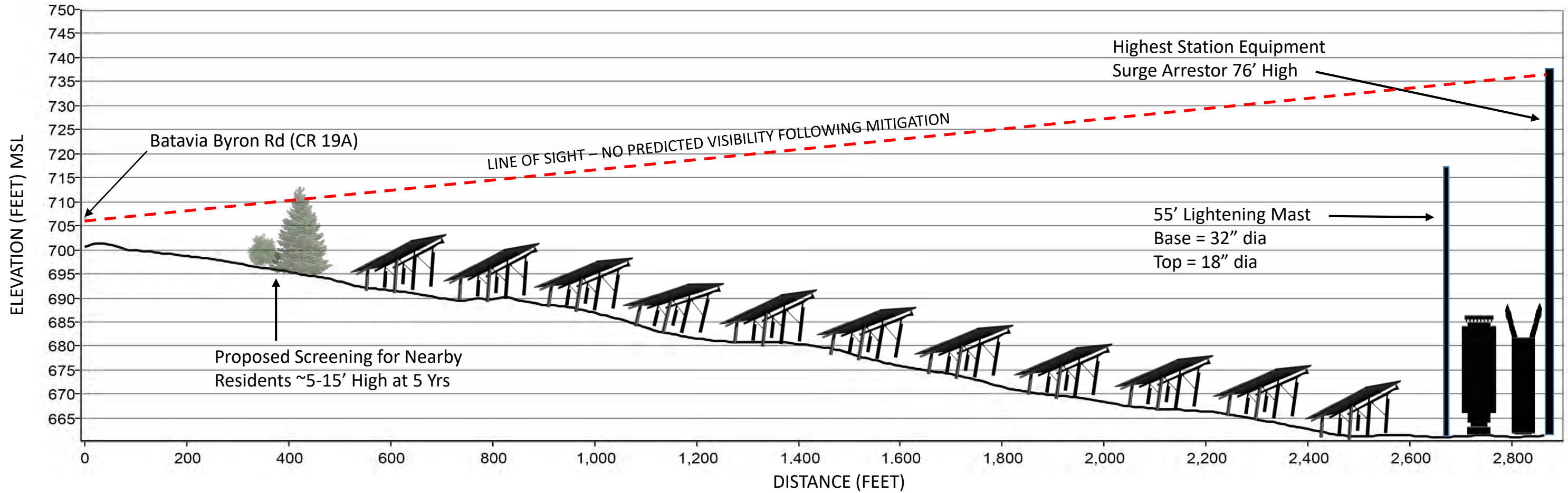
Viewpoint Location Topo



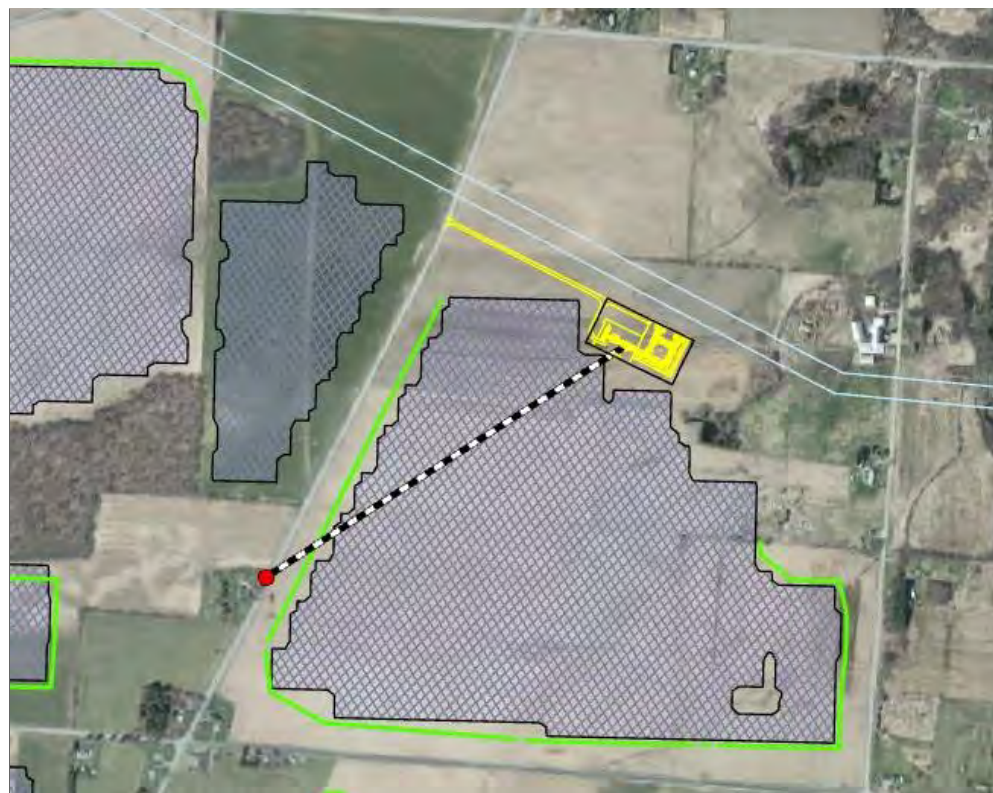
Viewpoint Coordinates in	1282961.6
NY State Plane East	1122766.1
Viewpoint Location	NY 262
Distance to Object	0.35 miles
Direction of View	S

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Line of Sight
August 2020

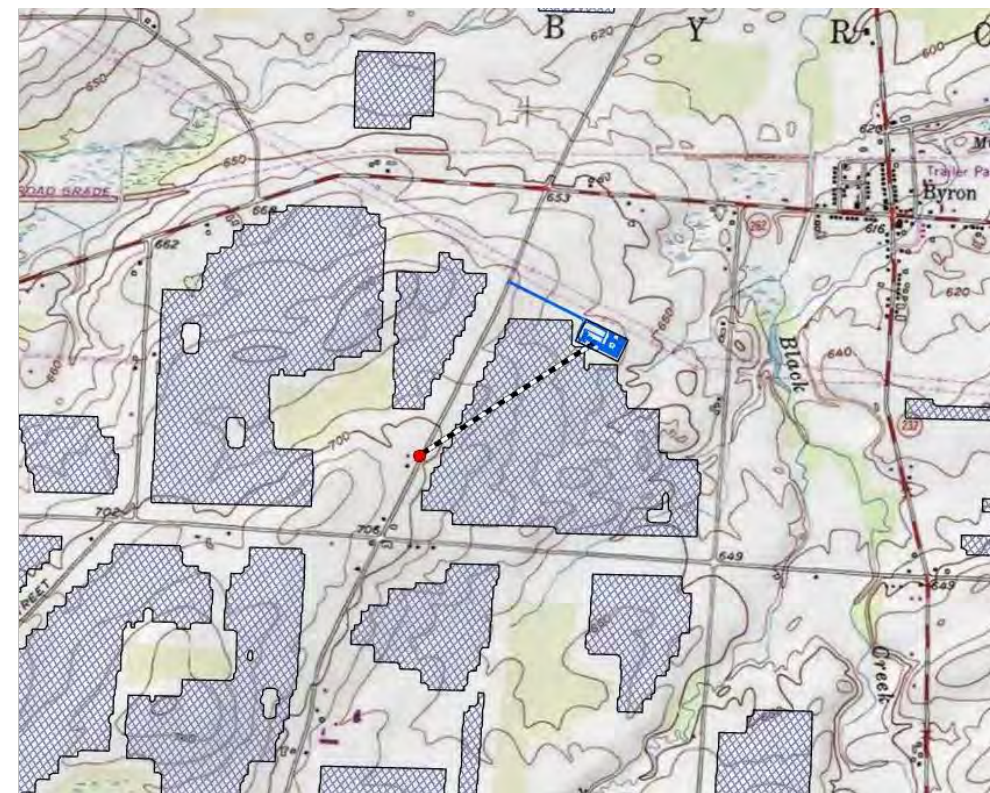
L2 - LINE OF SIGHT FROM – BATAVIA BYRON RD (CR 19A) TO COLLECTION SUBSTATION



Viewpoint Location Aerial



Viewpoint Location Topo



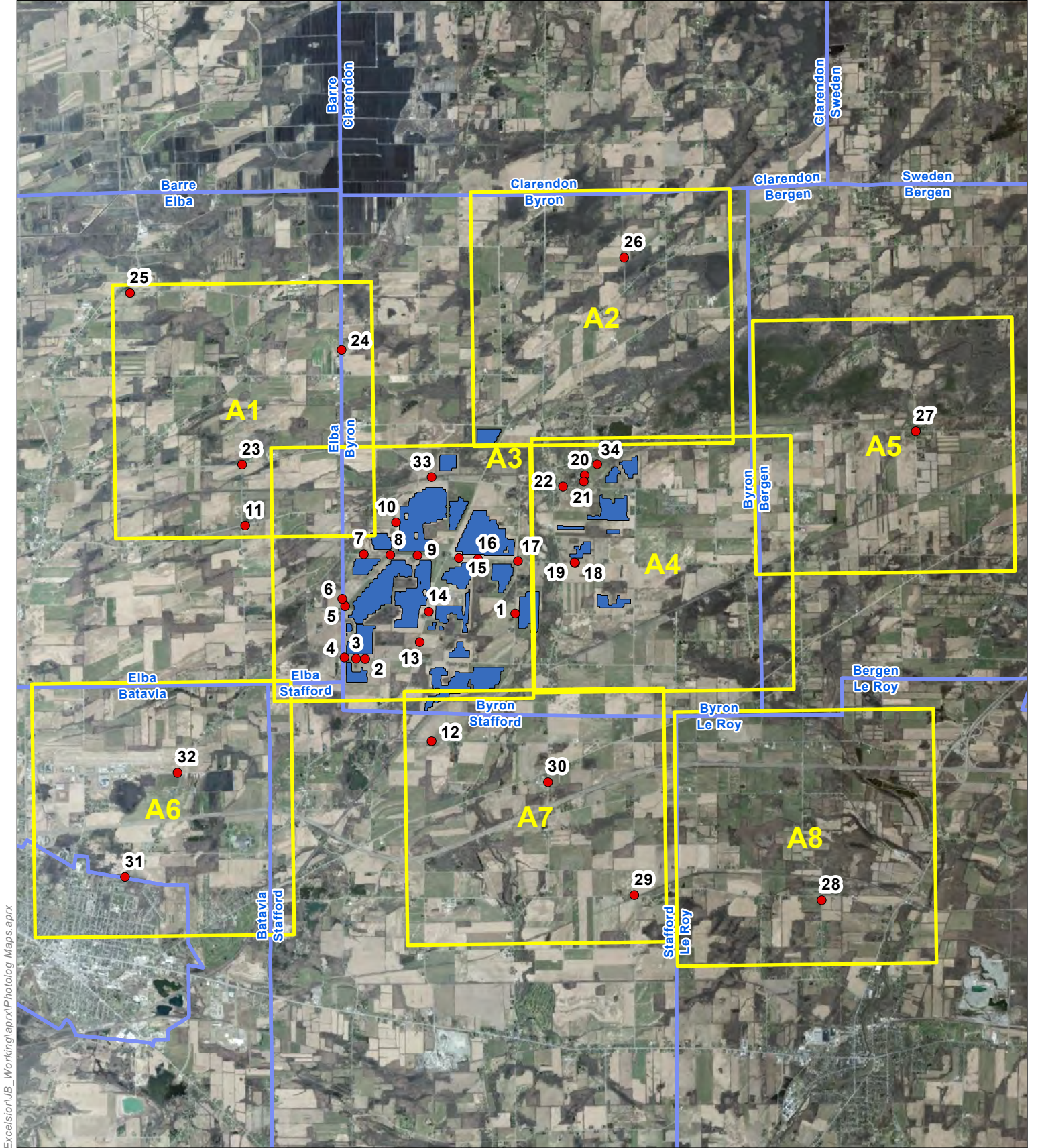
Viewpoint Coordinates in	1280589.6
NY State Plane East	1119092.5
Viewpoint Location	CR 19A
Distance to Object	0.5 miles
Direction of View	NE

Excelsior Energy Center
Byron, New York
Line of Sight
August 2020

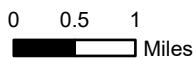
**EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
ARTICLE 10 EXHIBIT 24**

PHOTOLOG

ATTACHMENT 5



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



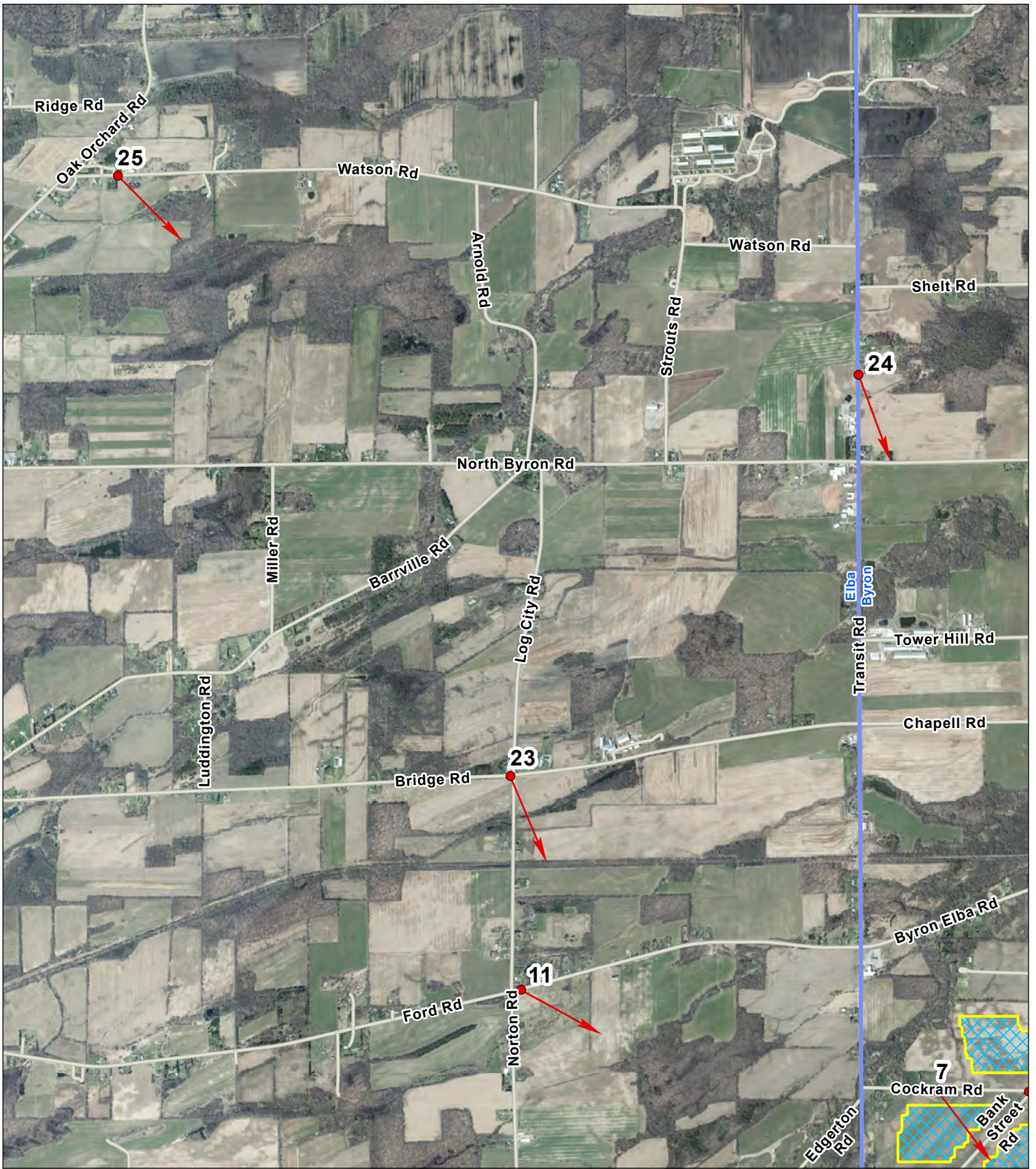
EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

OVERVIEW MAP

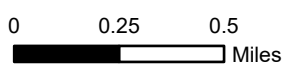
Date : 9/2/2020

C:\Users\jbartos\Work\Docs\328808_Excelsior\JB_Working\aprx\Photolog Maps.aprx

C:\Users\jbartos\Work\Does1328808_Excelsior\JB_Working\aprx\Photolog Maps.aprx



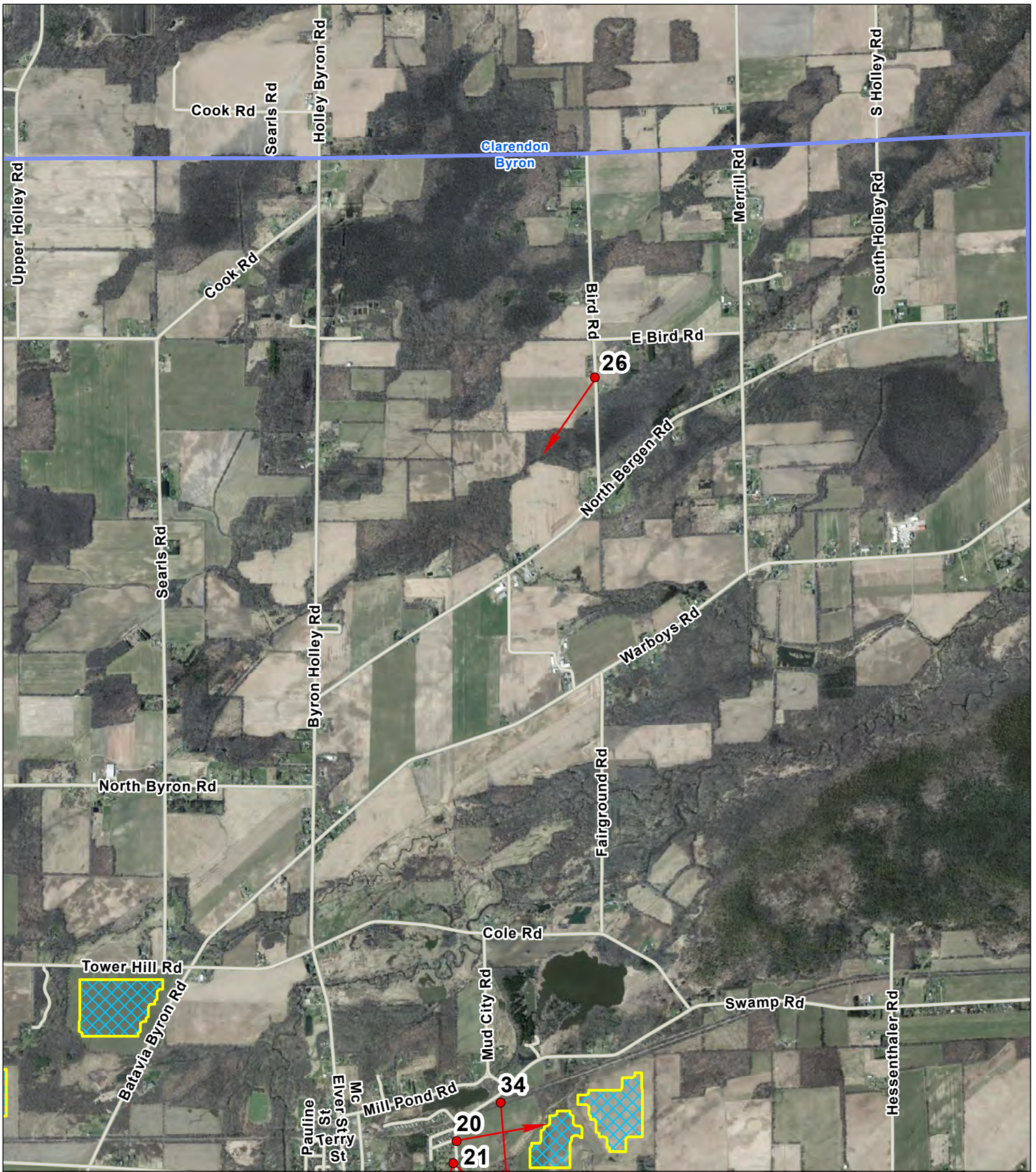
- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ➔ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- XX PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



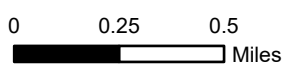
EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A1

Date : 9/2/2020



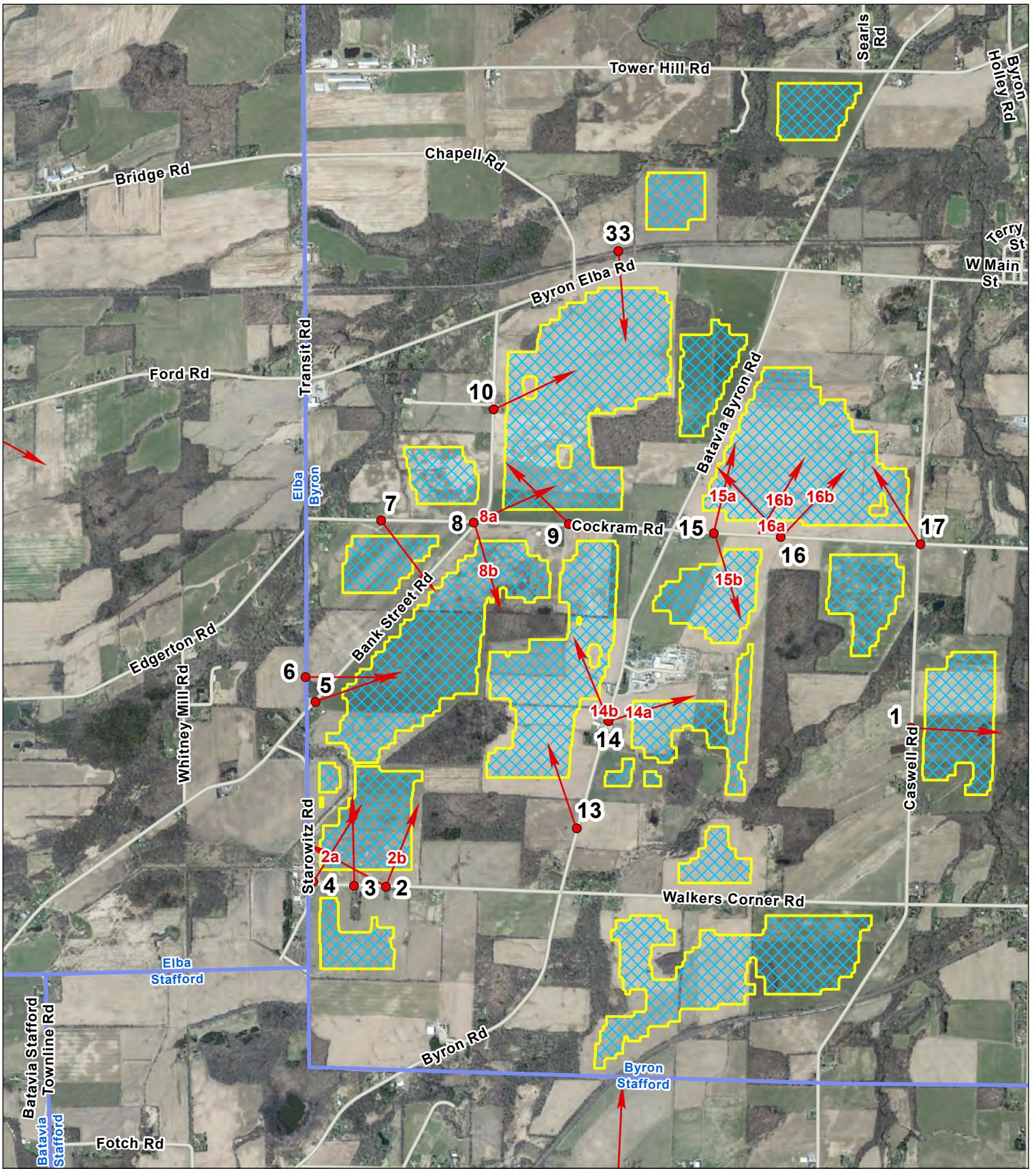
- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ▶ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



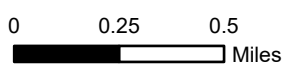
EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A2

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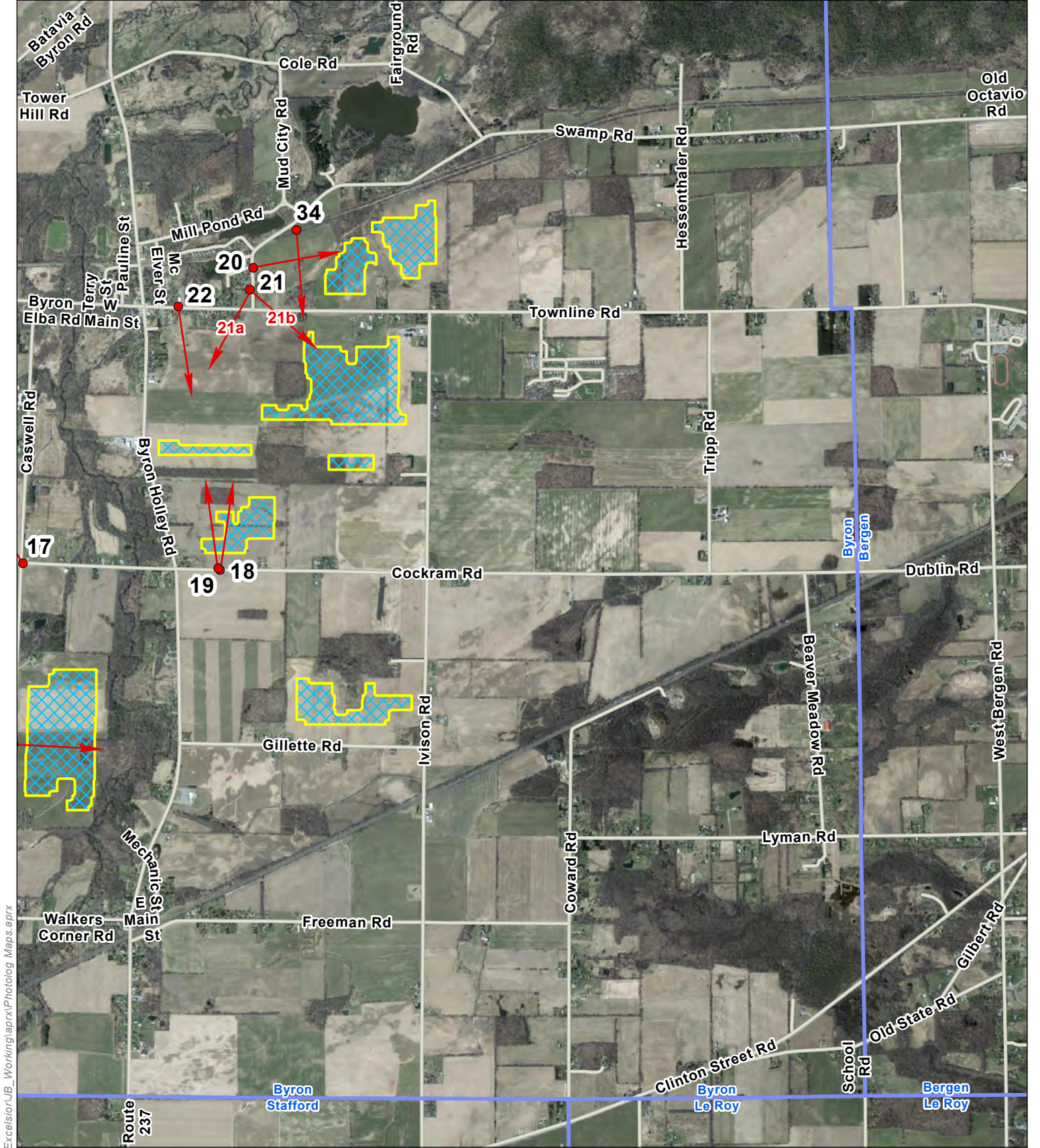
- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ➔ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- ▨ PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

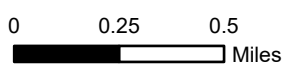
Page Name: A3

Date : 9/2/2020



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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ▶ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- X PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS

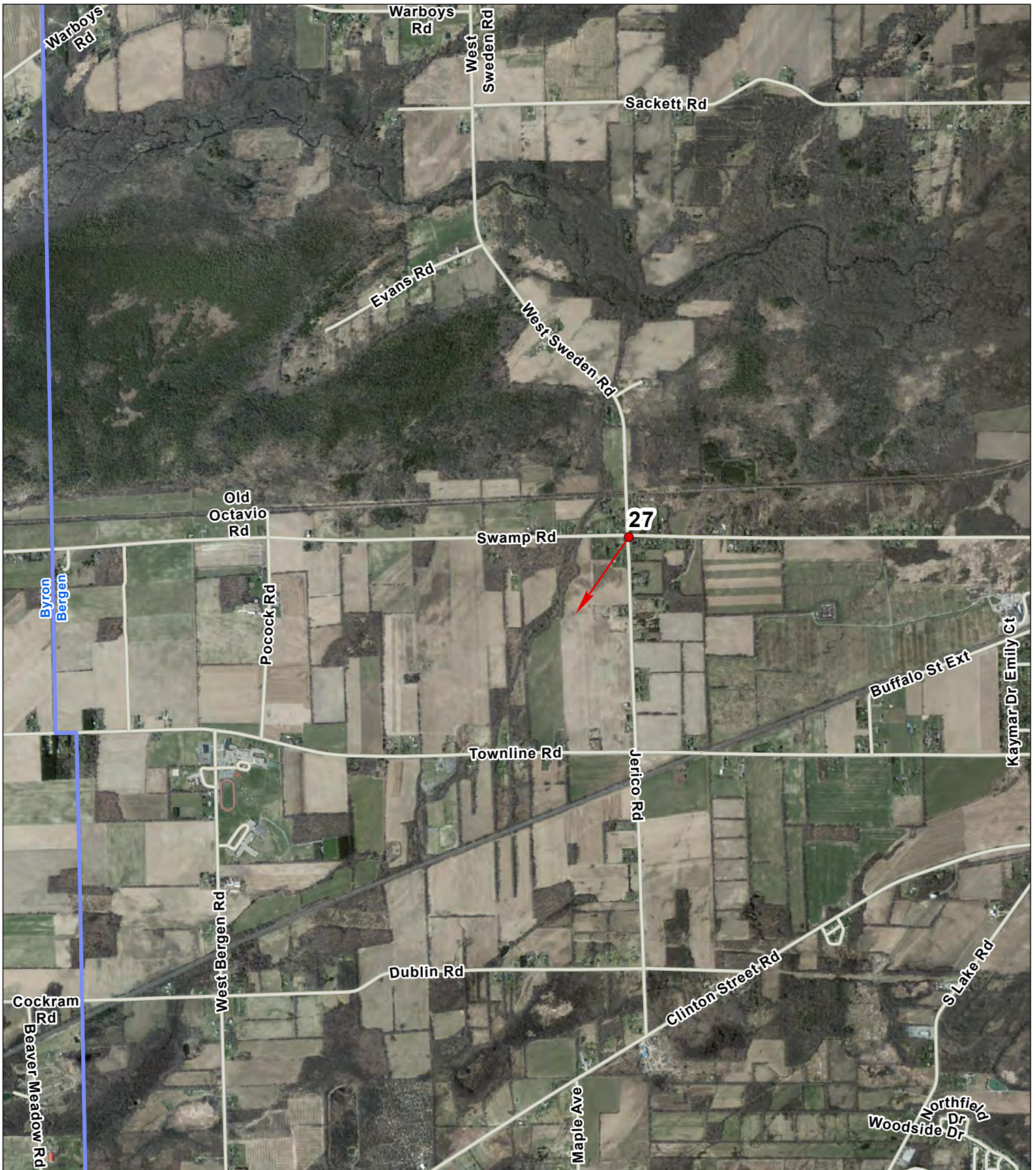


EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

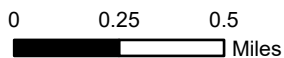
Page Name: A4

Date : 9/2/2020

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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ➔ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- XX PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS

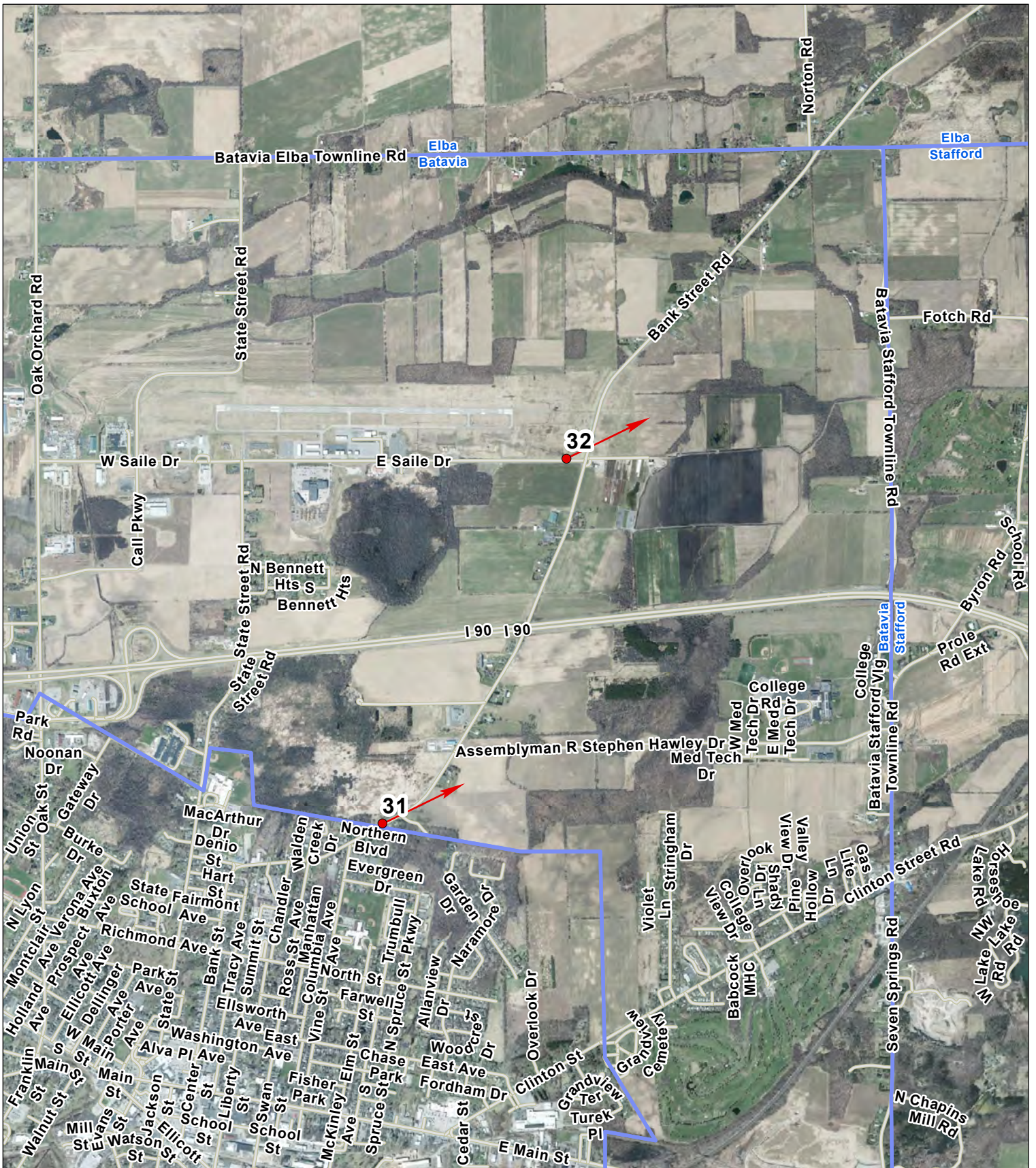


EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A5

Date : 9/2/2020

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- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ➔ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- X PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



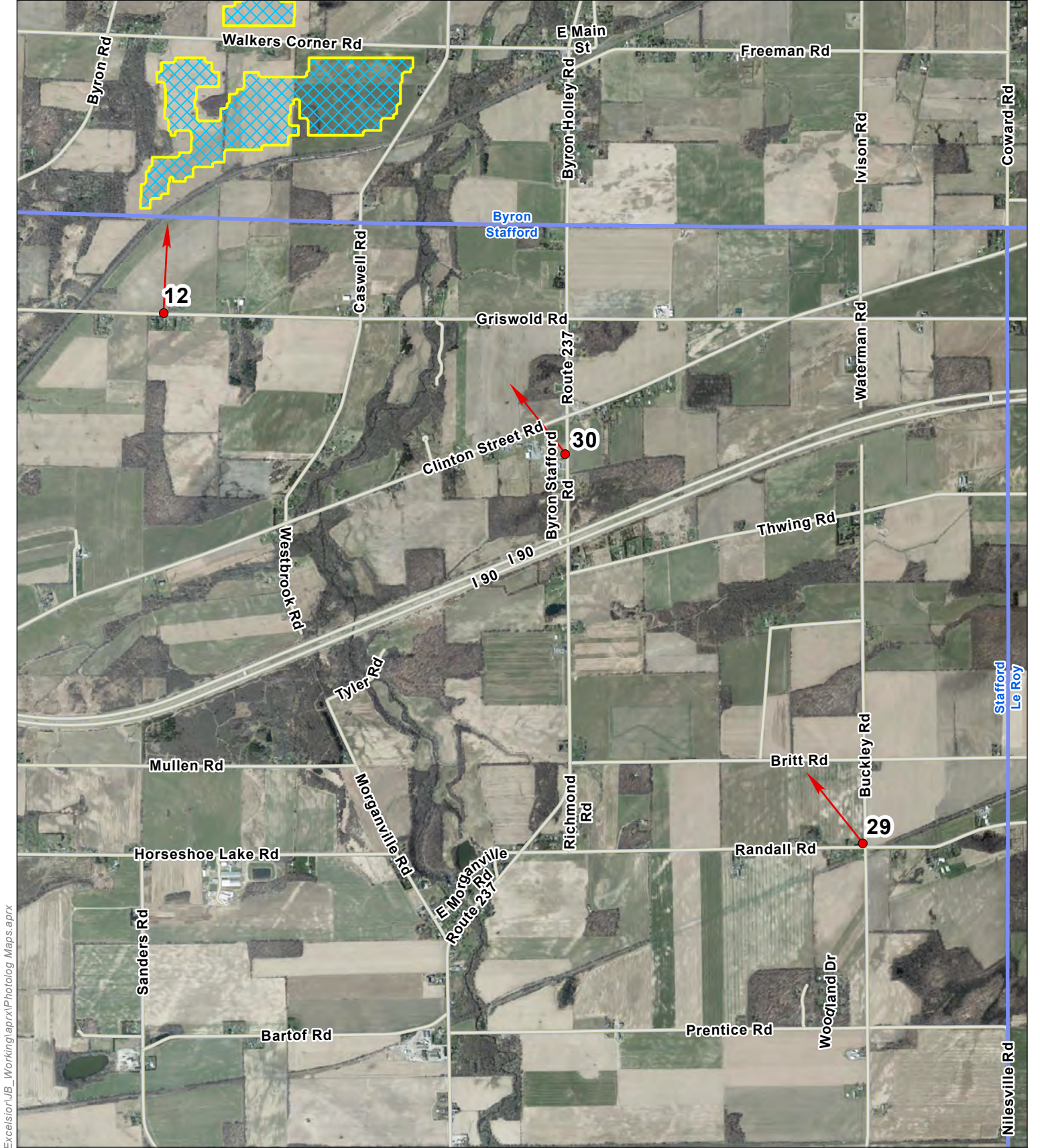
0 0.25 0.5
 Miles



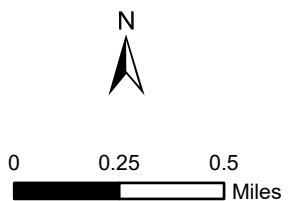
EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
 PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A6

Date : 9/2/2020



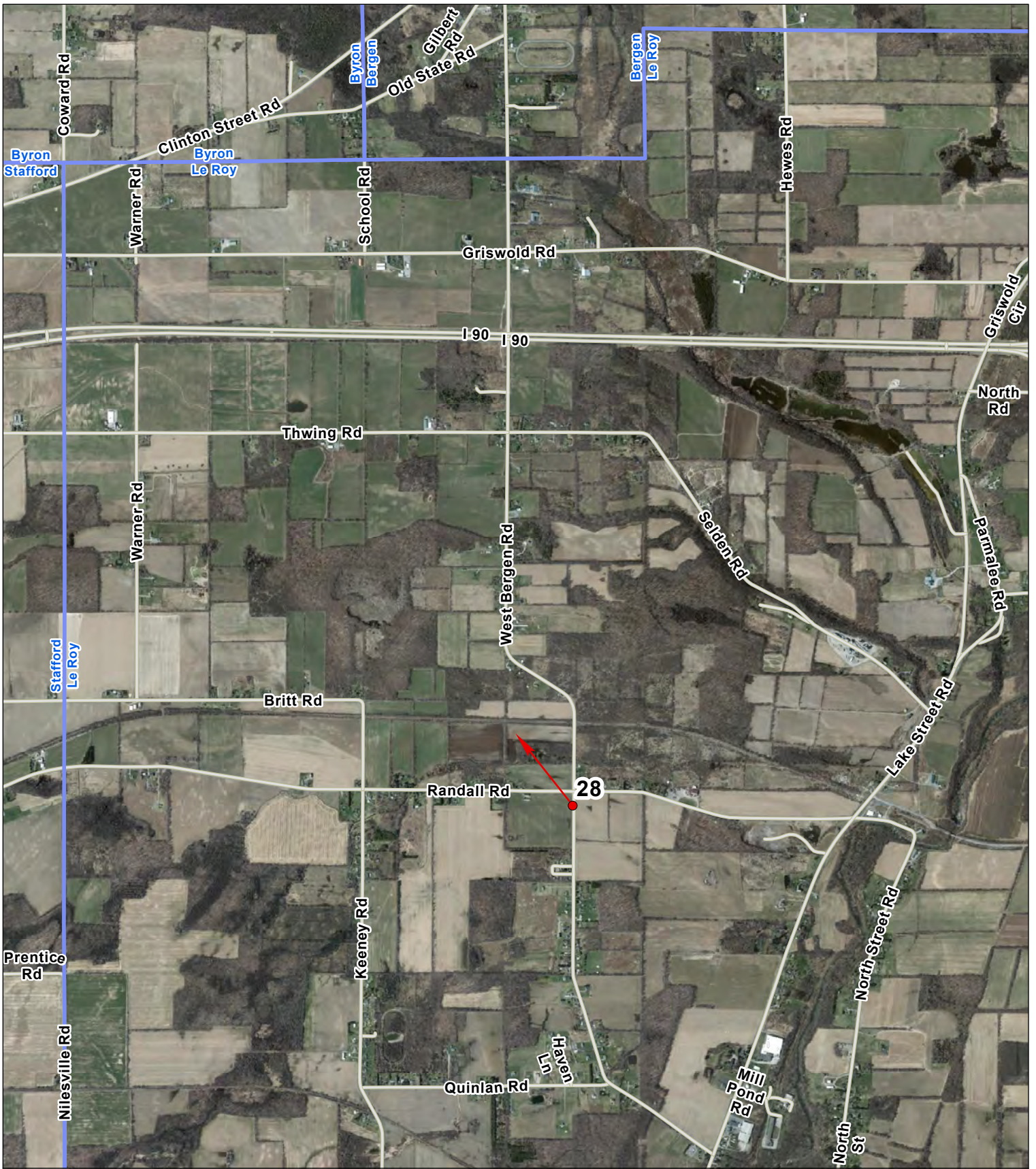
- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ▶ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- X PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



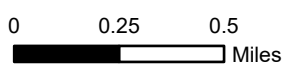
EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A7

Date : 9/2/2020



- PHOTO VIEWPOINT
- ➔ CAMERA ORIENTATION
- X PROPOSED SOLAR ARRAYS



EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
PHOTO VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

Page Name: A8

Date : 9/2/2020



Viewpoint 1

VP1_p 1-2 E series

Location
Caswell Rd

LSZ: 1
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: E



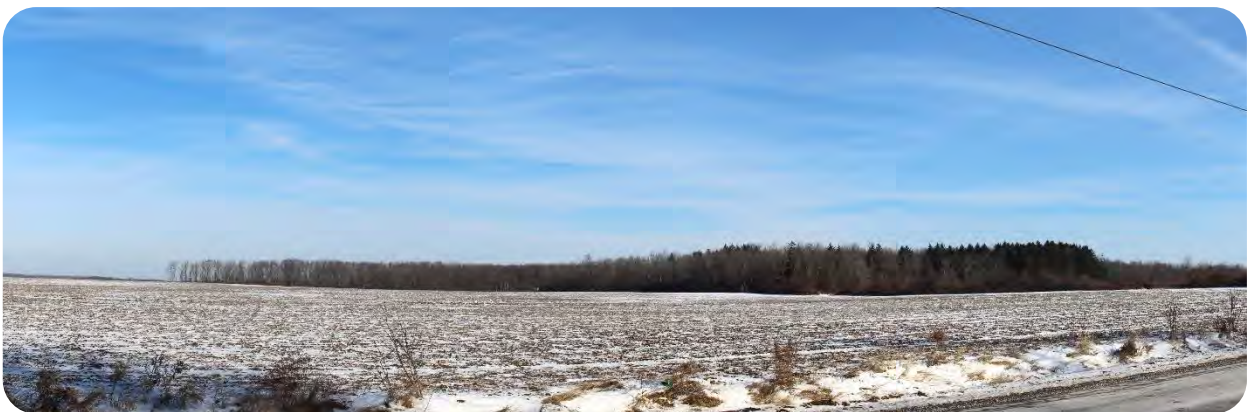
Viewpoint 2a

VP2_p3-4 N series

Location
Walkers Corner Rd (CR 19)

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 2b

VP2_p3-4 N series

Location
Walkers Corner Rd (CR 19)

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: NE



Viewpoint 3

VP3_p5-7 N series

Location

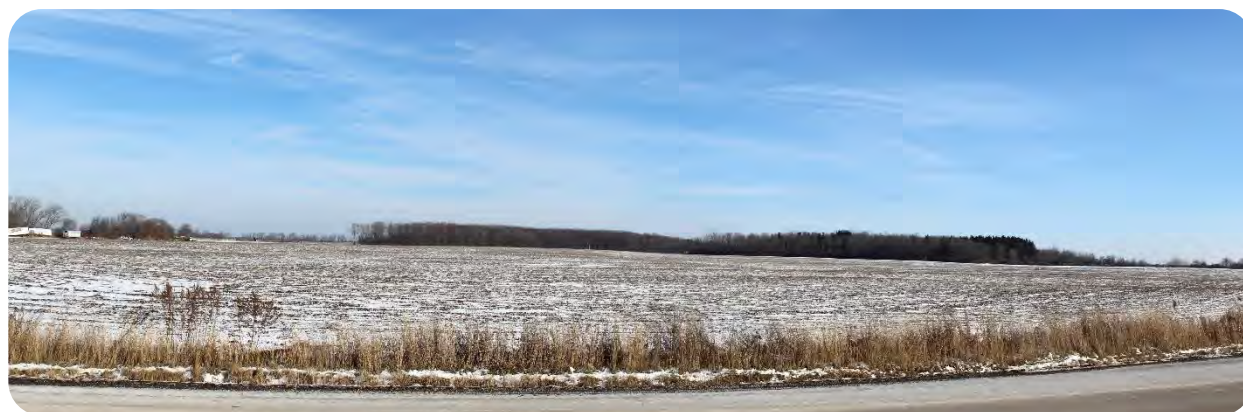
Walkers Corner Rd (CR 19)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: N



Viewpoint 4

VP4_p8 NE series

Location

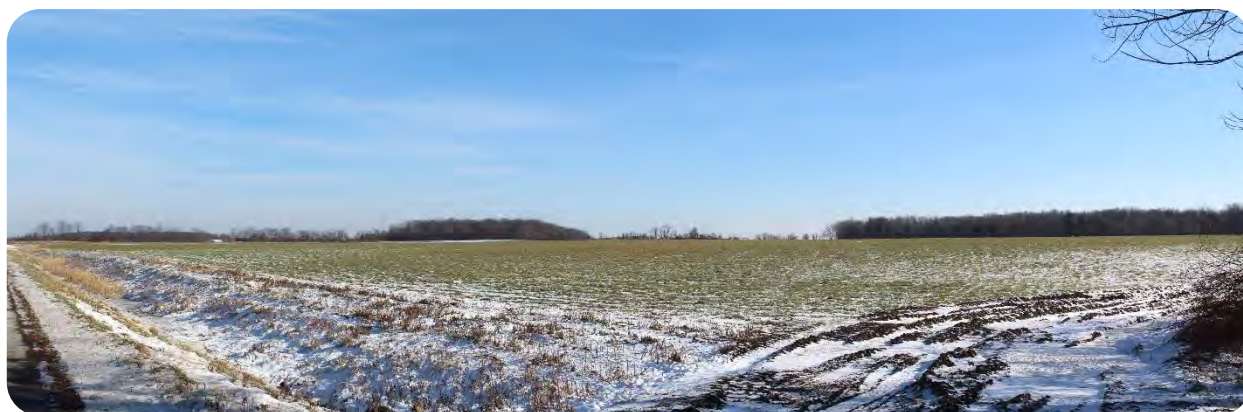
Walkers Corner Rd (CR 19)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: NE



Viewpoint 5

VP5_p9 NE series

Location

Bank Street Rd (CR 13)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: NE



Viewpoint 6

VP6_p10-13 E series

Location
Transit Rd (CR 42)

LSZ: 1

Town: Elba

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: E



Viewpoint 7

VP7_p14-15 NE-S series

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 8a

VP8_p16-20 360 series

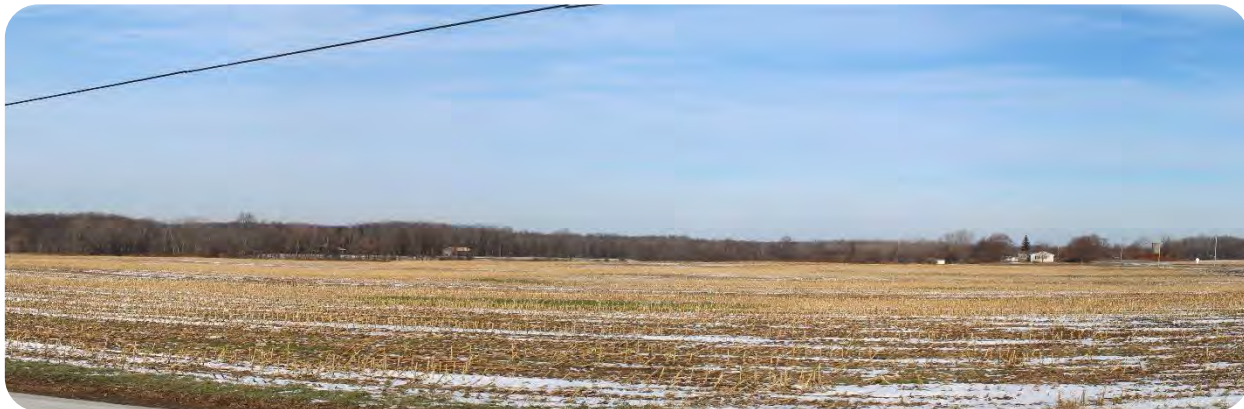
Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: E



Viewpoint 8b

VP8_p16-20 360 series

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 2
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/14/19
Orientation: S



Viewpoint 9

VP9_p21-23 NW series

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 10

VP10_p24-25 NW series

Location
Bank Street Road (CR 13)

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 11

VP11_p26 SE series

Location
Route 262

LSZ: 1
Town: Elba

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: SE



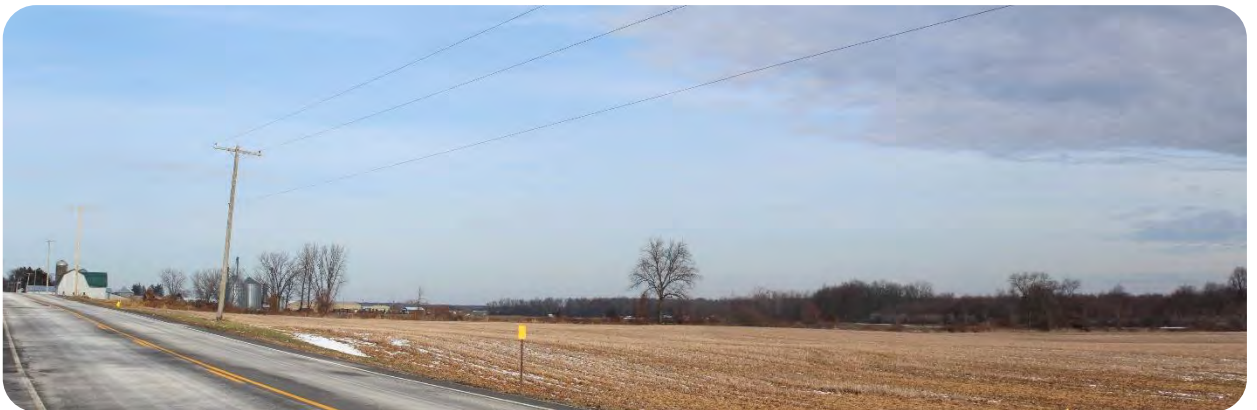
Viewpoint 12

VP12_p27 N series

Location
Griswold Rd

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Stafford

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: N



Viewpoint 13

VP13_p28-30 N series

Location
Batavia Byron Rd (CR 19A)

LSZ: 1
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: N



Viewpoint 14a

Location
Batavia Byron Rd (CR 19A)

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: NE

VP14_p31-32 N series



Viewpoint 14b

Location
Batavia Byron Rd (CR 19A)

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/14/19
Orientation: N

VP14_p31-32 N series



Viewpoint 15a

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1,3
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19
Orientation: N

VP15_p33-35 series



Viewpoint 15b

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Photo Date: 12/14/19

VP15_p33-35 series

Town: Byron

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 16a

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP16_p36-38 SE_NE series

Town: Byron

Orientation: N



Viewpoint 16b

Location
Cockram Rd

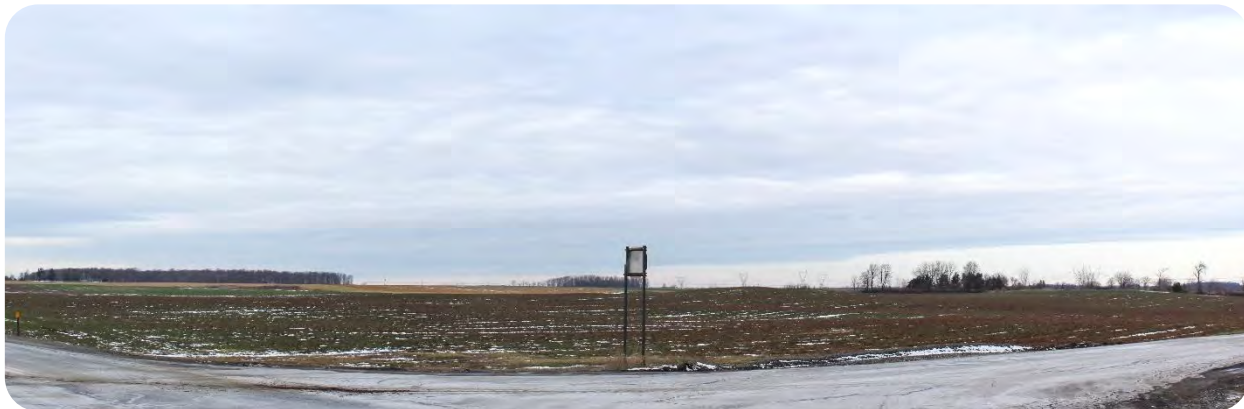
LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 12/14/19

VP16_p36-38 SE_NE series

Town: Byron

Orientation: N



Viewpoint 17

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP17_p39-40 NW series

Town: Byron

Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 18

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP18_p41 N series

Town: Byron

Orientation: N



Viewpoint 19

Location
Cockram Rd

LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP19_p42-44 N series

Town: Byron

Orientation: N



Viewpoint 20

Location
Swamp Rd

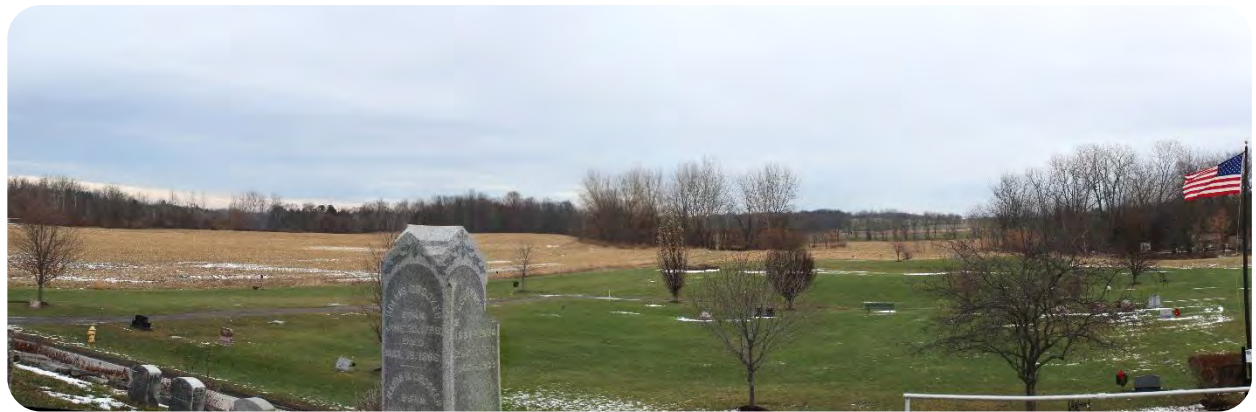
LSZ: 1,3

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP20_p45-48 E series

Town: Byron

Orientation: E



Viewpoint 21a

Location
Swamp Rd

LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP21_p49 S_NE series

Town: Byron

Orientation: SW



Viewpoint 21b

Location
Swamp Rd

LSZ: 2

Photo Date: 12/13/19

VP21_p49 S_NE series

Town: Byron

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 22

VP22_p50 S series

Location

Townline Rd (NY 262)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 12/13/19

Orientation: SW



Viewpoint 23

VP23 series

Location

Bridge Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Elba

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 24

VP24 series

Location

Transit Rd (CR 42)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 25

VP25 series

Location
Watson Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Elba

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SE



Viewpoint 26

VP26 series

Location
Bird Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Byron

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SW



Viewpoint 27

VP27 series

Location
W Sweden Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Bergen

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SW



Viewpoint 28

VP28 series

Location
W Bergen Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: LeRoy

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 29

VP29 series

Location
Buckley Rd

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Stafford

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: SW



Viewpoint 30

VP30 series

Location
Byron-Stafford Rd (NY 237)

LSZ: 1,3

Town: Stafford

Photo Date: 1/15/20

Orientation: NW



Viewpoint 31

Location
Bank Street Road (CR 31)

LSZ: 3

Photo Date: 1/15/20

VP31 series

Town: Batavia

Orientation: NE



Viewpoint 32

Location
E Saile Drive

LSZ: 1

Photo Date: 1/15/20

VP32 series

Town: Batavia

Orientation: NE



Viewpoint 33

Location
West Shore Trail

LSZ: 1,4

Photo Date: 3/24/2020

VP33 series

Town: Byron

Orientation: S



Viewpoint 34

VP 34 series

Location
Wes Shore Trail

LSZ: 1,4
Town: Byron

Photo Date: 3/24/2020
Orientation: NE

Viewpoint

Location

LSZ:
Town:

Photo Date:
Orientation:

Viewpoint

Location

LSZ:
Town:

Photo Date:
Orientation:

**EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
ARTICLE 10 EXHIBIT 24**

OUTREACH CORRESPONDENCE

ATTACHMENT 6

Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Andrew.Davis@dps.ny.gov
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - DPS.pdf

Mr. Davis,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trccompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by June 30, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR OFFICE HAS MOVED – NEW ADDRESS BELOW



1090 Union Road, Suite 280, West Seneca, NY 14224
T 716-221-4128 | C 716-289-2409
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#) | TRCcompanies.com

19-F-0299 Excelsior Solar Energy Center
Visual Impact Survey Request
DPS Comments
June 14, 2020

General Comments:

1. Some of the labels on the map cover areas of potential visibility. For future visual studies, DPS staff request that all the GIS shape files be provided for review purposes.
2. DPS Staff advises in relation to the Table 2. Preliminary Photosimulation Candidate Locations that the expected visibility of the Project should be noted in this table the same as it is listed in Table 1a. Preliminary Inventory of Visual Resources within Five Miles.
3. DPS Staff notes that it is not possible for every photo location to have Project visibility, but it is important that places with possible views are used as viewpoint locations where applicable.
4. DPS Staff requests that any resources listed in the tables that are used as a photo location be labeled with the viewpoint number. This includes tables listed on map legends.

Review resources in 1a and 1b of the Progress report for completeness:

1. DPS Staff identified the following resources for Federal, State, County, Municipal Recreation Lands.
 - a. Genesee County Fish and Game
 - b. Village of Bergen Disc Golf Course
 - c. War of 1812 Bicentennial Peace Garden

These resources do not appear to have Project visibility based on the Figure 4 maps, so they are not a priority for viewpoint locations. However, these resources should be listed in Table 1a. Preliminary Inventory of Visual Resources within Five Miles.

Review candidate viewpoints listed in Table 2 and shown in Figures 2 and 4 in attachment 1:

1. There is a section of I-90 with predicted visibility near Waterman Road (to the East of Viewpoint 30). DPS staff recommends this area as a potential viewpoint as it represents the view that travelers will have driving through the area and as a major transportation corridor, the interstate will have a higher number of motorist viewers than local roads.
2. The Genesee Community College has predicted visibility according to the Figure 2 Overview Map. DPS staff recommends the college as a potential viewpoint location due to the duration of views and number of viewers from this area.
3. The North Byron Cemetery listed in Table 3-A Eligible Historic Sites (page 58) and another eligible historic site at 6322 County Rd. 237 have possible visibility of the Project from Byron Holley Road (CR-237). DPS recommends that the Applicant review this location and provide photos as this may be a beneficial view for a simulation in the two-mile distance zone.
4. Viewpoint 29 is of the Randall Cemetery and this location appears to have potential visibility. There are other cemeteries in the area with potential visibility that are not mentioned in the study. DPS Staff notes these cemeteries as alternative viewpoint locations for simulations, dependent on the view they have of the Project. These cemeteries include:
 - a. the Morganville Cemetery in the Town of Stafford,

- b. the Walker Cemetery and Sodom Cemetery in the Town of Byron.
- 5. The Elmwood Cemetery (connects with St. Joseph's Cemetery) in Batavia has a famous memorial for a U.S. Congressman, and the Grandview Cemetery in Batavia has a grave for a famous author. Due to the notability of these graves, these cemeteries should be included in the study.
- 6. There are other cemeteries in the study area that may not have visibility but should be noted. These cemeteries include:
 - a. Daws Cemetery, Batavia Elba Townline Rd., Batavia
 - b. Mount Rest Cemetery, Bergen
 - c. Stafford Rural Cemetery, Stafford
 - d. Langworthy Cemetery, Keeney Rd., LeRoy
 - e. Sodom Cemetery (Old Walker Cemetery), Batavia Byron Rd., Byron

Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 11:26 AM
To: supervisor@byronny.com
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine; benjamin@zoglax.com; Boylan1812@aim.com; Michelle Piasecki (Guest); sml@readlaniado.com
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of Byron.pdf

Supervisor Yasses,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trccompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by June 30, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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VIA Email

July 10, 2020

Judy Bartos (JBartos@trccompanies.com)
TRC Companies, Inc.
650 Suffolk St., Suite 200
Lowell, MA 01854

William Boer (William.Boer@nexteraenergy.com)
NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408

RE: Case 19-F-0299, *Application of Excelsior Energy Center, LLC*: Town of Byron's Preliminary Response to VIA Solicitation Letter Dated June 9, 2020

Dear Ms. Bartos and Mr. Boer:

The Zoghlin Group, PLLC represents the Town of Byron (the "Town") regarding the above-referenced case. We write today to provide the Town's response to a letter from you dated June 9, 2020, requesting commentary and additional information relevant to the Visual Impact Assessment ("VIA") you are currently conducting.

The town reviewed the preliminary VIA as soon as practicable during a board meeting held on June 24, 2020. At the meeting, I presented the preliminary VIA to the town board and public; and described the kind of commentary and additional information requested in your letter.

Because Excelsior did not solicit input on the preliminary VIA from the general public, the town determined it would be prudent to allow a short public comment period during which the general public could provide commentary on VIA to the town board. The town subsequently posted the following notice on the town website:

Excelsior Solar Visual Impact Study - Input Needed from the

Public: The Town is seeking input from the public to help assess the visual impact of the proposed Excelsior Solar project. Please review the Preliminary Visual Impact Survey By TRC Companies, Inc. The Town has the opportunity to comment on the adequacy of the visual simulation locations listed in the Preliminary Visual Impact Survey, to propose different or additional simulation viewpoints, and to identify additional sensitive visual resources within the Town that may require further study. **Please submit your comments and suggestions to the Town Clerk, Debra Buck-Leaton, no later than Monday, July 6, 2020.** The Town Board will consider all comments during its July 8th meeting. Please call the Town Clerk at 585-548-7123 ext. 10 to submit your comments.

The town board intended to review these comments during its July 8, 2020 board meeting, but due to circumstances beyond the board's control the meeting had to be canceled and rescheduled for Wednesday, July 15. At that meeting, the board intends to review all comments provided by the public and BAAS; and decide on a shorter list of the most important suggested revisions to the VIA.

In the meantime, and in a good faith attempt to comply with the short 10-day extension for commentary granted by your counsel, this letter includes a complete list of all commentary received by the town to date. A summary of the comments follows:

1. Request for additional study of visual impact on residence on Caswell Rd.
2. Request for leaf off simulations and visibility analysis to demonstrate visibility in late fall through early spring.
3. Request that visually representative viewpoints include cow manure in field of vision.
4. Request for dynamic simulation of facility views from perspective of drivers on main roads transiting area.
5. Request for visual simulations including potential mitigation for the following properties:
 - a. 5927 Route 262
 - b. 5786 Byron-Elba Rd
 - c. 5597 Cockram Rd
 - d. 6101 Tower Hill Rd
 - e. 5594 Walkers-Corners Rd
 - f. 6950 Ivison Rd
 - g. 6969 Ivison Rd
 - h. 7261 Batavia-Byron Rd
6. Request for a leaf-off visual analysis from the boundary trail at Trestle Park.

In addition, enclosed please find a packet of comments on the VIA assembled by BAAS, a public stakeholder group participating in this proceeding. The town board will also review the BAAS comments at the next meeting, and potentially select some of the BAAS comments as visual impact issues of primary concern to the Town.

Again, the Town intends to review the responses provided in this letter provide a shorter response for suggested changes/additions to the VIA no later than next Thursday, July 16. The town appreciates the opportunity to develop the scope of the Excelsior VIA; and believes many public concerns may be addressed if the town's final suggestions are adopted and presented in the final VIA.

Respectfully,

/s/ Benjamin E. Wisniewski

Benjamin E. Wisniewski, Esq.

Encl. BAAS VIA comments

CC : Michelle K. Piasecki, Esq. (mpiasecki@HarrisBeach.com)
Harris Beach PLLC
677 Broadway, Suite 1101
Albany, NY 12207



300 State Street, Suite 502
Rochester, New York 14614
585.434.0790 *phone*
585.563.7432 *fax*
www.zoglaw.com

VIA Email

July 16, 2020

Judy Bartos (JBartos@trccompanies.com)
TRC Companies, Inc.
650 Suffolk St., Suite 200
Lowell, MA 01854

William Boer (William.Boer@nexteraenergy.com)
NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
700 Universe Blvd.
Juno Beach, FL 33408

RE: Case 19-F-0299, *Application of Excelsior Energy Center, LLC*: Town of Byron's Updated Response to VIA Solicitation Letter Dated June 9, 2020

Dear Ms. Bartos and Mr. Boer:

The Zoghlin Group, PLLC represents the Town of Byron (the "Town") regarding the above-referenced case. We write today to provide an updated response to your request for additional information relevant to the Visual Impact Assessment ("VIA") you are currently conducting.

The town reviewed the preliminary VIA as soon as practicable during a board meeting held on June 24, 2020. At the meeting, I presented the preliminary VIA to the town board and public and described the kind of commentary and additional information requested in your letter. The town determined it would be prudent to allow a short public comment period during which the general public could provide commentary on VIA to the town board. The town subsequently posted the following notice on the town website:

Excelsior Solar Visual Impact Study - Input Needed from the Public: The Town is seeking input from the public to help assess the visual impact of the proposed Excelsior Solar project. Please review the [Preliminary Visual Impact Survey By TRC Companies, Inc.](#) The

Town has the opportunity to comment on the adequacy of the visual simulation locations listed in the Preliminary Visual Impact Survey, to propose different or additional simulation viewpoints, and to identify additional sensitive visual resources within the Town that may require further study. **Please submit your comments and suggestions to the Town Clerk, Debra Buck-Leaton, no later than Monday, July 6, 2020.** The Town Board will consider all comments during its July 8th meeting. Please call the Town Clerk at 585-548-7123 ext. 10 to submit your comments.

The town board intended to review these comments during its July 8, 2020 board meeting, but due to circumstances beyond the board's control, the meeting was canceled and rescheduled for Wednesday, July 15. Additional public comments were accepted through July 15. During the July 15 meeting, the board reviewed comments provided by the public and BAAS; and decided to provide a shorter list of the most important suggested revisions to the VIA.

First and foremost, the town requests Excelsior provide visual simulations from the property and/or residence located at the following addresses and locations. Residents/owners of the following properties desire visual simulations of the view with the proposed solar panels and other project components, as well as simulations showing how visual mitigation might reduce the visual impact. The town therefore requests visual simulations be provided for the following addresses and locations:

1. 43°05'24.9"N 78°04'34.1"W – This location is a field located on the corner of Tower Hill Road and Byron Road in the town of Byron is likely to represent impacts on multiple residences, a major road, Trestle Park, the West Shore Trail, and the Hiscock Archeological Site.
2. 6969 Ivison Road
3. 7223 Caswell Rd, Byron, NY 14422
4. 5804 Cockram Road
5. 6916 Caswell Road
6. 7078 Batavia Byron Road
7. 7261 Batavia Byron Road
8. 5927 Route 262
9. 5786 Byron-Elba Road
10. 5597 Cockram Road
11. 6101 Tower Hill Road
12. 5594 Walkers-Corners Road
13. 6950 Ivison Road

In addition, enclosed please find representative viewpoints provided by residents David and Nancy Engle, Jim and Dorothy Lamkin, and David and Gayla Starowitz. The town request the viewpoints be considered for additional visual impact analysis and contrast rating.

The town also believes it is important to convey that one commenter, BAAS member Jim Lamkin, proposed visual impact may be mitigated somewhat¹ by not installing solar panels in the field on the west side of Ivison Road between Ivison Road and the hedgerow approximately 845' west. Panels may be installed from the hedgerow west, but not in the field east of the hedgerow between the hedgerow and Ivison Road. This may mitigate visual impact on residences at 6906, 6946, 6950, 6947, 6951, 6959, 6969, and 6973 Ivison Road.

Finally, the following comments from the town's prior letter are also relevant:

1. Request for leaf off simulations and visibility analysis to demonstrate visibility in late fall through early spring.
2. Request for dynamic simulation of facility views from perspective of drivers on main roads transiting area.
3. Request for visual simulations including potential mitigation for the properties listed above.

The Town appreciates the opportunity to develop the scope of the Excelsior VIA, and hopes these suggestions are taken seriously. The Town believes additional information about visual impact, and additional visual simulations, may be helpful in educating the public and addressing some individual concerns. The Town is open to attending a meeting or conference call with TRC to further discuss the additions to the VIA suggested in this letter.

Respectfully,

/s/ Benjamin E. Wisniewski

Benjamin E. Wisniewski, Esq.

Encl. Proposed representative viewpoint pictures provided by BAAS

CC : Michelle K. Piasecki, Esq. (mpiasecki@HarrisBeach.com)
Harris Beach PLLC
677 Broadway, Suite 1101
Albany, NY 12207

Sam Laniado, Esq. (sml@readlaniado.com)
Read and Laniado, LLP
25 Eagle Street
Albany, NY 12207

¹ Mr. Lamkin also noted that his proposal for visual mitigation should not be construed as support for the project, which he opposes for a variety of reasons.

Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 11:12 AM
To: karen.gaidasz@dec.ny.gov
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - NYSDEC.pdf

Ms. Gaidasz,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trccompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by June 30, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:09 PM
To: supervisor@townofbatavia.com
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of Batavia.pdf

Supervisor Post,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trccompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by July 8, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:13 PM
To: supervisor@bergenny.org
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of Bergen.pdf

Supervisor Haywood,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trcompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by July 8, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

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Senior Project Manager

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Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:15 PM
To: supervisor@elbanewyork.com
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of Elba.pdf

Supervisor Hynes,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trcompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by July 8, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:16 PM
To: supervisor@leroy.ny.org
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of LeRoy.pdf

Supervisor Farnholtz,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trccompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by July 8, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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Bartos, Judith

From: McCormick, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:17 PM
To: rclement@rochester.rr.com
Cc: William Boer (Guest); Bartos, Judith; Keddy Chandran (Guest); McGowan, Katherine
Subject: Excelsior Energy Center - Visual Stakeholder Outreach
Attachments: Excelsior Visual Outreach - Town of Stafford.pdf

Supervisor Clement,

Please find the attached outreach package regarding the Excelsior Energy Center Project. Should you have any questions or comments on the attached please reach out to Judy Bartos (jbartos@trcompanies.com) or Bill Boer (William.boer@nexteraenergy.com). We kindly request your feedback by July 8, 2020.

Thank you,

Kaitlin

Kaitlin McCormick, M.B.A., CEP, PMP
Senior Project Manager

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**EXCELSIOR ENERGY CENTER
ARTICLE 10 EXHIBIT 24**

**PHOTOSIMULATION CONTRAST
RATING**

ATTACHMENT 7

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

This form is a simplified version of various federal agency visual impact rating systems. It includes concepts and applications sourced from:

- U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Handbook H-8431: Visual Contrast Rating, January 1986
- Visual Resources Assessment Procedure For U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers, March 1988
- National Park Service Visual Resources Inventory View Importance Rating Guide, 2016
- USDA Forest Service (USFS), United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Landscape Aesthetics: A Handbook for Scenery Management. USDA Forest Service Agriculture Handbook No. 701, 1995

Depending on the project location, a variety of visual impact assessment (VIA) guidance and established procedures exist as noted above that apply to management of federal lands that fall under a specific agency such as the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. These guidance documents vary in regards to agency specific rating systems or procedures and often begin with the evaluation of existing conditions such as scenic quality or presence of sensitive resource locations.

This form has been developed by TRC for efficient and streamlined use with projects that undergo state environmental permitting processes. It is assumed that visual resource inventories, terrain analyses, development of landscape similarity zones or viewshed analyses have already been performed in the project VIA according to state regulatory requirements or other visual policy. This form was developed to be used as a numerical rating system for the comparison of Existing Conditions (Before) vs. With Project (After) photosimulations of final selected viewpoint locations and is meant to accompany the project VIA.

1. How to Use the Visual Impact Rating Form

For evaluating visual impacts there are two parts to the form. Part 1 is *Visual Contrast Rating* which rates the Project as it contrasts against compositional visual elements of the viewpoint scene. This includes compositional contrasts against the existing and natural environment such as vegetation, water, sky, landform, or structures. The higher the rating total the higher the contrast. Part 2 is *Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating*. This section rates the sensitivity of the viewpoint location which inherently considers the importance of the viewpoint (if it falls within a visual resource area), duration of view, if it is a high use area, as well as general scenic quality. The higher the rating total, the more sensitive the viewpoint is. Part 3 is an overall *General Scenic Quality of the View* which rates the view of existing conditions only without the influence of the project.

The rating scale is as follows:

Rating Scale	
0	None
0.5	
1	Weak
1.5	
2	Moderate
2.5	
3	Strong

1.1. Degree of Contrast Criteria

None The element contrast is not visible or perceived.

Weak The element contrast can be seen but does not attract attention.

Moderate The element contrast begins to attract attention and begins to dominate the characteristic landscape.

Strong The element contrast demands attention, will not be overlooked, and is dominant in the landscape.

2. Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast: Form in this sense generally means the shape of an object or unification of shapes massed together by perceived pattern or color. In many rural undeveloped areas, the landscape may consist of homogenous or visually restful views of large shapes or shapes of color belonging to expanses of open field or forested areas. New project elements may provide a contrast or interruption against existing homogenous shapes within the view (strong). Conversely, there may be much visual existing clutter comprised of multiform shapes found in developed or urban areas where newly introduced project elements may better be visually absorbed in the view (weak).

Line Contrast: Line generally refers to the perceived edges of shapes as well as the orientation of these line edges. An undeveloped area at distance may be mostly horizontal line comprised of distant ridges or forest treetops as well as forest and field interfaces. New project elements may disrupt some of the line or they may introduce new vertically oriented lines as such as from a transmission line or wind farm (strong).

Texture Contrast: Trees and their leaves or buildings at close proximity will offer higher detail (strong). Texture and the level of discernible detail decreases with distance (weak). Objects at distance may appear as one homogenous texture or shape.

Color Contrast: Does the project color contrast greatly against color in the existing view (strong)? Color contrast may occur with the terrestrial background or the sky.

Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance: Is the project size and scale dominant (strong), co-dominant, or subordinate (weak) in the view in relation to the rest of the surroundings?

Broken Horizon Line: Does the project remain below the horizon line (weak) or is the horizon line broken by project elements (strong)?

Visual Acuity: Visual acuity is the acuteness or clarity of vision, most often related to the amount of discernible detail or contrast with distance. Atmospheric conditions may also decrease visual acuity, especially on hazy humid days.

Amount of Project Clearing Perceived: The With Project (After) simulation may show extensive clearing that has occurred compared to existing conditions, thereby showing a large visual change from the project

(strong). In many cases, no clearing is required (none), or minimal clearing might be seen from a viewpoint location (weak or moderate).

Screening/Mitigation Needed: This category is treated in two ways. 1) Is the project at a particular viewpoint seen because of being mostly in the open which would require some type of vegetative or structural mitigation (strong) to obscure direct views? Conversely, is there some type of existing screening that blocks partial or whole views such as trees, buildings, or topography that act as visual impediments in the landscape (weak). Or 2) How important is it to mitigate at a certain area or how high is the visual absorption capacity? For example, there may be a clear unobstructed view of a new transmission structure in the view, but if there are existing transmission poles or cell towers, or distribution lines along the street in a more urban area providing similar utility development it may not be necessary to mitigate (weak). Is a substation being proposed where there is a clear view but within industrial development (weak)? Or, there may be visible modifications to an existing substation but proposed elements are visually absorbed by the substation because of “like” components and thereby requires no mitigation (weak).

3. Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating

Within a Visual Resource: Is the viewpoint located within a visual resource as listed in the Visual Resources Inventory section of the VIA? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If yes, then viewer expectations and sensitivity may be higher.

View of Other Visual Resources: Can you see a visual resource listed in the Visual Resources Inventory from the viewpoint location in combination with the project? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied.

A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality: Is the viewpoint located within a listed or known scenic area of visual quality? This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If yes, this location would also be identified as a visual resource as listed in the Visual Resources Inventory section of the VIA. It is evaluated in the Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating because there are often town by-laws, master plans, or regional planning documents that call out specifically named locations that have been designated as a scenic viewing area and is important to note. It means that the location has added importance to the community and if yes, then viewer expectations and sensitivity are likely higher. This will be used infrequently.

Number of Viewers/High Use Activity: An area of high use and high number of viewer will incur a greater amount of visual impact to the community (strong). These areas may consist of high destination type locales visited by the public such as recreational areas, shopping centers, densely populated areas, or highways with large traffic counts. A roadway may not always be considered as high use. There may be viewpoints along local rural roadways that have relatively very low traffic counts. This category accounts for the immediate vicinity. For example the simulation might only show a roadway, but a resident may be very nearby or behind the viewer.

Duration of View: The duration of views is categorized as Long Duration (strong), Short Duration (weak) or Infrequent (weak). Residents or workers with views from the workplace or day long use at a picnic area would be a long duration view. Short duration views imply movement and are transient, such as

passing the site on a highway, glimpsing a project from an open area on a hiking or snowmobile trail. A moderate duration view might be a destination type location such as a summit or historic landmark where the visitor seeks the location with purpose but only stays for a few hours. However care must be taken when attributing an area to a short duration view. There could be short duration views encountered frequently over distance, such as a snowmobile trail.

Presence of Existing Development: For this category we are looking at intactness and how much the landscape has been altered by the presence of people. Is there much existing development consisting of commercial, utility, or industrial development or densely populated residential or urban neighborhoods in the photo or near vicinity? If so, then the sense of place or importance may be diminished and decreases viewer sensitivity as a place that does not have high value and should be rated as weak. Conversely, the lack of existing development contributes to the intactness of a more undisturbed natural environment a gives a sense of greater value. However, development is not all negative. Some development may have altered the environment but has only “somewhat” changed the view over time and may not be as visually impactful, such as a farm and associated farm fields. In this case, the Presence of Existing Development could be rated as moderate.

Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Rest of Study Area: Photographs for project simulations are generally taken within a designated study area. Landscape features or scenic quality in the study area shown in simulations may be found to be consistently similar or unvaried (weak). If the viewpoint shows a view that is unique to the area such as an outstanding water feature, a series of dramatic cliffs, or mountain views not typically found elsewhere in the vicinity then it should be rated as strong.

Presence of Water: Generally the presence of water implies greater scenic quality or importance. This is a yes or no question, therefore either a rating 0 (none) or 3 (strong) should be applied. If there is the presence of water and it is not very discernible in the view, then a rating of 2 (moderate) can be applied.

4. Part 3 Scenic Quality of the View

This section rates existing conditions only, without the influence of the project.

Each landscape expresses unique scenic qualities. Scenic attractiveness indicates the potential of a landscape to produce varying degrees of satisfaction, of positive physiological responses; such as reduced stress; positive psychological responses; and a general feeling of well-being.

Please consider the following when assessing existing scenic quality:

- Note that a higher rating of scenic quality does not always have to be within natural or rural environments. This can also occur within urban or other man-made cultural type environments that consist of pleasing building structures, hardscaping, or landscaping.
- Landscape Diversity. The degree of existing scenic quality is usually correlated with landscape diversity – the more natural diversity, generally, the greater the scenic quality. For example, landscapes with greater diversity in vegetation and topography are more likely to be scenic than flat landscapes with uniform vegetation. Water features such as rivers or ponds tend to add diversity as do natural rock outcroppings. High scenic quality often results from the contrast among landscape features such as field and forest, steep and flat or rolling, village and countryside.

- Intactness. Another relevant factor in determining scenic quality is the intactness of the landscape. A lack of landscape degradation contributes to the “intactness” of the landscape. Landscapes where there is a clear underlying order or logic tend to be more visually appealing. Natural landscapes exhibiting little evidence of human alteration (e.g. an intact prairie landscape) are likely to have high visual as well as natural value. In the human (built) landscapes too much diversity can lead to visual chaos or clutter, for example strip development in which every business vies for one’s attention by looking different from its neighbor. But landscapes which retain 19th early 20th century landscape patterns, places with split-rail fencing or stone walls are often visually appealing in their simplicity and clear connections of use to the land itself.
- Focal Point. Focal points are elements in the landscape that stand out due to their contrasting shape (form), color or pattern. Often distinct focal points enhance scenic quality. They can be natural elements such as a lake, river or mountain; or they can be built elements such as an important public building, or a central green.
- Unity in a landscape provides a sense of order.
- Vividness is related to variety as well as contrast adding clearly defined visual interest.
- Coherence describes the ability of a landscape to be seen as intelligible rather than chaotic.
- Harmony exhibits a combination of parts of a landscape into a pleasing or orderly whole and a state of agreement, congruity, or proportionate arrangement of form, line, color, and texture.
- Pattern includes pleasing repetitions and configurations of line, form, color, or textures.
- *Strong values* might consist of areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural features combine to have unique and strong positive attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, harmony, uniqueness, pattern, and balance.
- *Moderate values* are generally areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural features use combine to provide ordinary or common scenic quality. These landscapes have generally positive, yet common, attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, harmony, uniqueness, pattern, and balance. Normally they would form the basic typical matrix within the study area.
- Weak values are areas where landform, vegetation patterns, water characteristics, and cultural land use have lower scenic quality. Often water and rockform of any consequence are missing in these landscapes. These landscapes have weak or missing attributes of variety, unity, vividness, mystery, intactness, order, -harmony, uniqueness, and balance.

5. Assessing the Outcome of the Rating

The rating system and those developed by the other aforementioned agencies are designed to guide a subjective process (visual observation) objectively, by using straightforward common language that involves the discussion of compositional elements. A rating system is applied from low to high with the intent to provide consistent comparison between or across subject matter.

The simulations will show varying distance zones and landscape zones. The rating is also meant to provide comparison of the project within these zones as seen across the study area. The rating form is not meant as a public survey or to assess or appeal to how one feels about the development at a more emotional level.

However it should be noted that when evaluating the outcome of the ratings, a high rating of form or texture contrast for example, does not necessarily imply a negative or disturbing result. Nor may the project be offensive to the average person. As well, there may be visual impacts implied by the rating forms but they may not be adverse.

In many cases the building design or choice of building material can be aesthetic and visually pleasing to the viewer and/or remain consistent with other development in the area. With utility development for example, a battery storage facility that may have a high texture, line, or form rating that is proposed within a seaside environment may incorporate weathered cedar shakes, white trim, and dormers into the building design in order to remain similar to cape style houses in the area. Although compositionally it may have a high contrast rating against what is currently there, the project may be considered to be aesthetically pleasing and interesting to look at. Similarly, a converter building project in a rural area may elect to design the building to look like a red barn. Although the proposed building may provide a large form with new vertical elements against the current landscape, and its red color may contrast highly against either green vegetation or white winter snow, the design choice of a red barn could be considered aesthetically pleasing and suitable while also remaining consistent with other large development (farms) in the area. Or perhaps there are brick materials proposed as building materials or hardscape for a project which could be considered aesthetically pleasing and visually interesting. In the case of solar development, although a solar panel could provide color contrast, the look of a solar panel itself may not be displeasing. Although basic solar panel design cannot be changed, the project can be combined with vegetative mitigation of native flowering and pollinator species implemented and spaced in a naturalized manner resulting in overall aesthetic and interesting landscape screening.

The rating forms are not standalone nor are results provided without context. The rating results are typically accompanied by a summary discussion that considers project design aspects as noted in the above examples as well as how the overall project fits within the landscape.



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form


Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 1	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Caswell Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View east towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	Visual change in form compared to existing conditions
Line Contrast	2.5	New line introduced in view
Texture Contrast	2	Textures themselves not too discernible but there is a new "texture pattern" in the landscape
Color Contrast	2	Moderate color contrasts introduced
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	A low profile type of development but has lateral breadth and proximity to viewer makes it apparent
Broken Horizon Line	1.5	Yes horizon line broken but not extreme
Visual Acuity	3	Project is noticeable
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No clearing of new trees proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2	As a whole, screening would be needed if the goal is to block views entirely. But the viewpoint location may not warrant it.
Total	17.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Few residences nearby. Generally is a view for motorists
Duration of View	1	Views from vehicles will be short duration
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1.5	Although pretty, it is typical of the region
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	Pretty pastoral landscape in the area

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

 Senior Energy Center	Date: 8/27/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 1	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Caswell Road, Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View east towards Project		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The overall form of the array field is linear however, the solar panels project vertically as well creating contrast that is unnatural and out of place.
Line Contrast	1.5	The lines of the array field in total mimic the lines of the existing terrain but, the (edge or line) created by the solar panels and security fencing contrasts within.
Texture Contrast	2.5	The smooth, hard, angular panels contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland and old field hedge row in the background.
Color Contrast	1.5	The hard-silver toned panels contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the existing landscape but, blends with the light covering of snow.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	The visual of solar panels is significant to the eye creating a dominant feature in the landscape that feels foreign and unnatural.
Broken Horizon Line	3	The horizon line is broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	2	Discernable detail is present at a fairly high level
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	17.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	The site location is rural however, a road is located along the solar array field in this view so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	Only a few residential structures are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 1	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Caswell Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View east towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	Generally, the arrays appear as one massive object due to the linear form, however still create a change in the uninterrupted form of present conditions
Line Contrast	2	Again – generally linear appearance, however vertical features are visible
Texture Contrast	2.5	Fairly high level of detail visible from the fence line to individual posts for panel arrays
Color Contrast	1.5	The existing landscape is quite dull and the arrays blend with horizon
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Project comprises significant portion of view
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	Horizon line broken across much of the view
Visual Acuity	1.5	Details are clear in the forefront but fade with distance
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	
Total	17.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Minor road; however highly visible from adjacent residences at northwest and southwest corners
Duration of View	2	Moderate for passing vehicles, high for residents
Presence of Existing Development	1	Few scattered residences
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0.5	Small farm ponds in vicinity
Total	5.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	rural pastoral views

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-28-2020
Viewpoint Number: 2b	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View northeast towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	New form is introduced but it similar to horizontal shapes found in the landscape
Line Contrast	1.5	Similar horizontal line found due to field and forest. New small vertical line pattern from fence and panels
Texture Contrast	1.5	Texture not too discernible but fence creates a texture pattern
Color Contrast	1.5	Color does not contrast greatly against tree background color
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	Low profile, is not extremely overwhelming
Broken Horizon Line	0	None detected
Visual Acuity	2.5	Is visible in field
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Is visible in field
Total	13.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Local road with few residents in area
Duration of View	2	Short duration for road travel and longer duration for residents
Presence of Existing Development	0	
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0.5	typical
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 2b	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View northeast towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
Rating		
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The overall form of the array field mimics the ground elevation and terrain but still contrasts with the existing landscape and is unnatural in look and feels foreign and out of place.
Line Contrast	1	The line of the array field and fence line runs with the line of the roadway in the foreground creating symmetry with less contrast.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The smooth, hard angular panels contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland and old field hedge row vegetation in the background.
Color Contrast	1	The hard, dark gray panels blend somewhat with the evergreen vegetation in the background and the proposed fence line blends with the snow-covered farm field creating less contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The visual of solar panels is somewhat significant to the eye creating a dominant feature in the landscape that feels foreign and unnatural but, still fits/lays nicely within the landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	1.5	Some level of discernable detail is present.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	11	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, a working farm, several residential structures, and several roads are located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Several residential structures and a working farm are located at or near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		

General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area.
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** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 2b	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View northeast towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	Moderate interruption to the existing unobstructed landscape
Line Contrast	2	vertical lines created by panel arrays oppose otherwise horizontal orientation
Texture Contrast	2	individual arrays are apparent, contrasting the otherwise bare landscape
Color Contrast	2	contrasts with the foreground, but blends into background
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Project comprises a good percentage of visible area
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	2	some detail of panels and posts visible, however blends at a distance
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	2.5	
Total	14.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	several adjacent residences and working farms
Duration of View	2	short duration from passing traffic (low volume); high duration from farm workers and residents
Presence of Existing Development	2	scattered residences and farm operation
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	6	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 3	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	3	New large forms in view
Line Contrast	3	New lines introduced incongruous to existing conditions
Texture Contrast	3	Texture is discernible
Color Contrast	3	New darker color contrasts with existing
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Project dominates the view
Broken Horizon Line	1	Slightly in some area
Visual Acuity	3	Project and details can be seen due to close proximity
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Project is apparent in the view near residences
Total	21.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Resident and vehicular traffic
Duration of View	3	Although short term view for motorist there will be long duration view for resident
Presence of Existing Development	0	
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1.5	Generally typical of area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	6	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	Pretty pastoral open landscape

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/27/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 3	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	The overall form of the array field contrasts with the existing landscape and is unnatural and feels foreign and out of place.
Line Contrast	1.5	The line of the top of the array field conflicts with the lines of the existing terrain however, the proposed fence line helps keep/pull it all together.
Texture Contrast	2	The smooth, hard, hatched, and angular panels contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland and old field hedge row vegetation in the background.
Color Contrast	2	The hard, black panels contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the existing landscape but, the proposed fence line blends in with the existing snow cover.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The visual of solar panels is significant to the eye creating a dominant feature in the landscape that feels foreign and unnatural but, still fits/lays nicely within the landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	3	The horizon line is broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	2	Discernable detail is present at a fairly high level
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	17.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, a working farm, several residential structures, and a road is located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Several residential structures and a working farm are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		

General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area.
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** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 3	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	3	Arrays are oriented such that distinct forms are visible in contrast to existing landscape
Line Contrast	2.5	Again, the orientation starkly contrasts with the horizontal lines
Texture Contrast	2.5	Scattered debris and existing forest lines provide texture in the existing landscape however the Project presents an increase in texture
Color Contrast	2.5	Primarily black panels stand out from the browns, whites and blues of the uninterrupted scene
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Project consumes much of the visible area
Broken Horizon Line	2.5	Horizon line almost entirely obscured
Visual Acuity	2	High level of detail visible
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	
Total	20.5	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating
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Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Moderate traffic on minor road, however permanent residences and farm business adjacent will have full visibility
Duration of View	2.5	short duration from vehicles, long duration from residents and workers
Presence of Existing Development	2	several directly adjacent family residences and an agricultural operations center
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	6	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	rural farmscape
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 7	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	Newly introduced features but form shape is visually absorbed by existing conditions
Line Contrast	1.5	Some vertical line contrast but is similar to horizontal line edges in existing conditions
Texture Contrast	2	Patterning detected from fence and repetitive shapes of panels
Color Contrast	1.5	Color contrast is not extreme
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	Scale is compatible in landscape
Broken Horizon Line	1.5	Minor in areas
Visual Acuity	2.5	Project is apparent and noticeable
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	
Total	15.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	
Duration of View	2.5	There will be both short duration views for motorists and long duration views for residents
Presence of Existing Development	1	Minor residential development in view
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	Typical
Presence of Water	0	
Total	5.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	Open landscape view that is restful but typical

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center		Date: 8/27/2020
Viewpoint Number: 7		Preparer: Michael Ross
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
Rating		
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	The overall form of the proposed array field mimics the existing form of the existing terrain with some marginal conflicts.
Line Contrast	1	Minimal line contrast exists between the lines of the proposed array field and fence line and the existing rolling terrain.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The solar farm is quite a distance away providing minimal texture contrast overall.
Color Contrast	1.5	Some texture contract exists between the natural vegetation and farm field and the proposed man-made materials of the array structures and fencing.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	It is apparent from this view that the solar farm covers a significant piece of land within this landscape however, distance and angle of view along with location and setting helps the arrays to blend in somewhat with the existing rolling terrain.
Broken Horizon Line	3	The horizon line is broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	1	Distance and existing topography reduce most discernable details of the proposed structures and visual acuity.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	14	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The setting is rural however, a few residential structures appear to be present nearby and in close proximity to the solar farm and a paved asphalt road is present as well allowing for vehicular traffic and on-going additional viewers.
Duration of View	1.5	The setting is rural however, a few residential structures appear to be present nearby and in close proximity to the solar farm allowing for long-term increased views to occur and additional short-term views to occur by vehicles and passersby utilizing the roadway.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Several residential structures are present and in close proximity to this solar farm.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the surrounding area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		

General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a peaceful, rural, and quiet setting that is appealing and pleasant yet somewhat insignificant, remote and removed
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** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 08/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 7	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	orientation of panels mimics existing landform
Line Contrast	1	follows horizon line
Texture Contrast	1.5	some increase in texture, however blends with the texture of the distant treeline and development
Color Contrast	1.5	clashes with lighter/brighter colors in the foreground, however blends into the dullness in the distant landscape
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	co-dominant with existing field
Broken Horizon Line	2	horizon line is barely visible in existing landscape – obstructed by trees; panels interrupt only small portions of that.
Visual Acuity	1.5	details are difficult to discern against existing conditions
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Highly visible from roadway
Total	13.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2.5	moderate road traffic, however several adjacent residences
Duration of View	2.5	long-term views from residences located directly across from Project
Presence of Existing Development	2.5	multiple single-family homes along the northwest corner
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	7.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	rural residential/pastoral views

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-28-2020
Viewpoint Number: 9	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View northwest towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	1.5	Form shape is similar to tree line in background
Line Contrast	2	Horizontal line similar and compatible with landscape but small vertical elements from panel and fence are apparent
Texture Contrast	2	New textures introduced from panels and fence
Color Contrast	1.5	Mild contrast against tree background
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	Project is apparent but not extremely overwhelming
Broken Horizon Line	0	No
Visual Acuity	3	Project is visible and in close proximity with discernible detail
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Yes
Total	14.5	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating
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Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Local road with few residents
Duration of View	2	Short duration for road travel and long duration for resident
Presence of Existing Development	0.5	Minor residential in view
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	typical
Presence of Water	0	
Total	5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	Nice open field but distribution utility line in view
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center		Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 9		Preparer: Michael Ross
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View northwest towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
Rating		
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1	The overall form of the array field mimics the ground elevation and terrain but still contrasts with the existing landscape and is unnatural in look and feels foreign and out of place.
Line Contrast	1	The line of the array field and fence line runs with the line of the roadway and the rows of crop in the foreground creating symmetry with less contrast.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The smooth, hard, angular panels with hatching/grid patterns contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland and old field hedge row vegetation in the background but, the verticality of the crop stubble, utility poles, and roadway marker blends with the arrays and fence line posts somewhat as well.
Color Contrast	1	The hard, dark gray panels blend somewhat with the existing vegetation in the background and the proposed fence line blends with the snow-covered farm field creating less contrast.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	The visual of solar panels is somewhat significant to the eye creating a dominant feature in the landscape that feels foreign and unnatural but, still fits/lays nicely within the landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	2	Discernable detail is present at somewhat of a higher level.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	11	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, a working farm, several residential structures, and several roads are located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Several roads and intersections, residential structures, and a working farm are located at or near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5.5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View

1

The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale

0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form


Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 9	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View northwest towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	Panels appear relatively homogenous but are in contrast to the existing forms which are much simpler
Line Contrast	1	panel orientation mimics the horizontal line and follows the existing landform
Texture Contrast	2.5	Components add significant texture to the otherwise shapeless and uninterrupted view
Color Contrast	2	contrasts with foreground but blends with treeline in background
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Appears to extend well into the distance and becomes the dominant feature in the landscape
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	2.5	significant detail visible – individual solar cells on panels
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	
Total	15.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	moderate road traffic, adjacent residences
Duration of View	2	short duration from road; long duration from residences
Presence of Existing Development	1	few scattered homes
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

 Senior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020	
Viewpoint Number: 14a	Preparer: JBartos	
Viewpoint Location: Batavia Byron Rd (CR19A), Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View northeast towards Project near large farm complex		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
Rating		
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	New shapes are apparent in the view with moderate contrast
Line Contrast	1.5	New line introduced but weak to moderate compared to existing
Texture Contrast	1.5	Textures not too discernible
Color Contrast	1.5	Color contrasts are not great and are somewhat visually absorbed by existing vegetation etc
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	Project does not dominate the view and is fairly compatible. The farm complex structures actually provide more scale contrast
Broken Horizon Line	0	None occurring
Visual Acuity	2	Project is visible but discernible detail is low
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	The project sort of fits in with existing development making it a bit more acceptable. Here it would be a subjective opinion. Some still may not want to look at it.
Total	10.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1	Vehicular traffic mostly. Few, perhaps 2 residents nearby with partial views.
Duration of View	1.5	Short duration views for road travelers, longer duration – intermittent views for farm worker or resident
Presence of Existing Development	1	Yes, existing development exists but it is farming related as opposed to urban clutter, and is typically more acceptable in the rural community. And the development does not consist of many additional viewers
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	Rural large farm development structures and scattered vehicles and farm equipment in view

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/27/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 14a	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Batavia Byron Rd (CR 19A), Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
Rating		
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The overall form of the array field is linear and ties into the existing farm structures but, it is bold and contrasts with the existing landscape. The array field is not natural and feels foreign and out of place.
Line Contrast	1.5	The line of the top and bottom of the array field and fence line runs with the existing terrain and emanates from the farm structures helping it to fit in with the existing surroundings but, conflicts still does exist with the natural landscape features.
Texture Contrast	2	The smooth, hard, and angular panels contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland and old field hedge row vegetation in the background.
Color Contrast	2	The hard, silver toned panels contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the existing landscape but, the farm structures helps blend/tie the array field in with the existing man-made feature already present.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The visual of solar panels is significant to the eye creating a dominant feature in the landscape that feels foreign and unnatural within the landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	1.5	Some discernable detail is present.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	14	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, working farms, several residential structures, and a road is located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Several residential structures and working farms are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View

1

The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale

0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 14a	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Walkers Corner Road (CR 19), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View northeast towards Project near large farm complex	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2.5	Creates a strong form which stands out against existing field, particularly the fence line and the panels which are oriented perpendicular to other arrays
Line Contrast	2	panels are mostly along the same line as the landscape, however some features are entirely opposed creating a visual object which seems highly unnatural
Texture Contrast	2.5	Project adds significant texture to the area in view – it really stands out in a bizarre way
Color Contrast	3	the highly metallic hue to the panels is a stark contrast to the otherwise dull brown landscape
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	comprises a seemingly small portion of the area in view
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	2	from this view, the individual panel arrays are easily discernible, as is the fence line
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1.5	if the field in the foreground will remain in production, perhaps screening won't be as necessary
Total	14.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	3	arrays are sited adjacent to a major agricultural production facility; employees and residents will be within view on a daily basis
Duration of View	3	long-term views from residents and farm workers
Presence of Existing Development	2.5	Large agricultural production facility is located just to the north of this viewpoint with several buildings, parking areas, etc.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	8.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	rural pastoral views, interrupted by existing development

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form


Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 15a	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	3	New incongruous form in the view
Line Contrast	3	New vertical and horizontal line in view
Texture Contrast	2.5	Texture not entirely discernible but the repetitive arrays themselves provide a texture pattern in the landscape
Color Contrast	2	New colors introduced that are not in the existing view
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	Although low profile they are visible in the view because of distance
Broken Horizon Line	2	Horizon line broken but not extreme vertical
Visual Acuity	2.5	Project is discernible
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	Yes
Total	20	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	Local road with low vehicle traffic and approx. 6 nearby residences
Duration of View	2.5	Both long duration for residents and short duration for road traffic
Presence of Existing Development	1	Not in the view
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	6	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	2	Average for the area

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

 Senior Energy Center	Date: 8/27/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 15a	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	1.5	The overall form of the array field mimics the existing form of the farm field however, contrast with the existing natural forms of the landscape do exists.
Line Contrast	1	The line of the top of the array field conflicts with the lines of the existing terrain in some areas however, the proposed fence line helps keep/pull it all together and runs with the existing line of the terrain.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The smooth, hard, and angular panels contrast with the organic, natural existing farmland vegetation in the foreground.
Color Contrast	2	The hard cool and dark gray panels contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the existing landscape.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2	The visual of solar panels dominate the flat farmland and is significant to the eye creating a feel that is foreign and unnatural within the landscape.
Broken Horizon Line	3	The horizon line is broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	1.5	Some discernable detail is present.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	15.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, several residential structures and a road is located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Several residential structures are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form



Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 15a	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Cockram Road, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View north towards Project near residence	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1,3	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	1.5	Existing landscape has fairly simple form, and Project represents a contrast to that – however appears mostly as one large mass, similar to existing field
Line Contrast	2	In a short-duration view, the panels may appear as a uniform horizontal line, however individual arrays create a vertical line which doesn't exist in current setting
Texture Contrast	2	Existing texture is exceedingly simple; texture of panels represents a moderate contrast, lessened by distance from viewer
Color Contrast	2.5	The uniform color of the field is interrupted by the starkly different grey/silver color of the panel arrays
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	2.5	Panels create a dominant feature in an otherwise uninterrupted expanse of farmland
Broken Horizon Line	3	The horizon line is broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	2	Some discernable detail is present.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	
Total	16.5	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating
--

Within a Visual Resource*	0	
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Moderate road traffic with several adjacent residences
Duration of View	2.5	short duration views from traffic, long duration from residences which face the Project
Presence of Existing Development	1	Multiple single-family homes adjacent
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	5.5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 21b	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: Swamp Road – Byron Cemetery, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The new form does not contrast greatly and is compatible with existing form in the landscape. But it is visible and new
Line Contrast	1	Horizontal line of new shape is compatible with horizontal shapes and lines in existing conditions
Texture Contrast	1	Texture contrast is noted but mild
Color Contrast	1.5	New color does not contrast greatly with the color of the treeline that is there.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	Scale fits in the scene
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	2	Project is noticeable
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	None proposed
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1.5	Not really as the existing woodline blocks a lot of the view of the Project where only a small portion is seen.
Total	10	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Byron Cemetery
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	It's a cemetery but with some nearby residences.
Duration of View	2	Visits are not likely of long duration but longer for residents nearby
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	Road in view but basically no development in the view. Residences are behind.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0.5	Typical of the area
Presence of Water	0	
Total	8.5	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	Not unpleasant but 345 kV line is in view as well as road traffic

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center		Date: 8/27/2020
Viewpoint Number: 21b		Preparer: Michael Ross
Viewpoint Location: Swamp Road – Byron Cemetery, Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
		Rating
Notes		
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	2	The overall form of the array field contrasts with the existing landscape and is unnatural, bold, and feels foreign and out of place.
Line Contrast	2	The line of the array field conflicts with the existing terrain and cuts through it creating strong contrast.
Texture Contrast	1.5	The smooth, hard panels contrast with the organic, natural existing landscape vegetation in this view however, the grass field does depict the same type smoothness as the arrays.
Color Contrast	1.5	The hard, gray panels contrast with the existing green grass field and earth tone colors found in the existing landscape.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1.5	Although the array field is a strong bold line cutting through the existing landscape it does seem to fit into this setting to a certain degree.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	1	Minimal discernable detail is present at a fairly high level
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	3	The panels are visible from this location and a significant amount of screening will be needed in this location.
Total	12.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	Byron Cemetery
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, a number of residential structures, and several roads are located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1.5	A number of residential structures are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1.5	The landscape appears to be representative to the area but, scenic and pleasant.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	9	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	The landscape appears to be representative to the area but, scenic and pleasant.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form



Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 21b	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: Swamp Road – Byron Cemetery, Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View southeast towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	1.5	The form of the arrays represents a strong contrast but also only a small portion of the visible area
Line Contrast	2	oriented somewhat perpendicularly to the fields in the foreground and adds more horizontal lines which contrast the treetops
Texture Contrast	1.5	panels add a new textural element, however texture is fairly complex in existing view
Color Contrast	2.5	boldly contrasts the existing patchwork in the whole view and the existing field where panels are located
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	comprises less than 50% of the area in view
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	1	some detail is visible but only weakly
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1	existing vegetation provides screening for some of the panel area, however minimal additional screening may be needed to obscure from viewers on the roadway
Total	10.5	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating
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Within a Visual Resource*	3	Byron Cemetery
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	3	moderate-to-high traffic roadway with adjacent residences
Duration of View	2.5	short duration from passing traffic, long-term visibility from multiple adjacent residences
Presence of Existing Development	2	multiple family residences
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1.5	much more wooded area than in surrounding area, which is primarily agricultural
Presence of Water	0	
Total	12	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	1.5	
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8-27-2020
Viewpoint Number: 33	Preparer: JBartos
Viewpoint Location: West Shore Trail (railtrail), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View south towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
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Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating

Form Contrast	1	Very low as not much is visible.
Line Contrast	1	Very low as not much is visible.
Texture Contrast	0.5	Very low as not much is visible.
Color Contrast	1	Very low as not much is visible.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0.5	Very low as not much is visible.
Broken Horizon Line	0.5	Slightly but existing vegetation breaks the horizon line more
Visual Acuity	0.5	Very low as not much is visible.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	Existing veg serves as screening
Total	5	

Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating
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Within a Visual Resource*	3	West Shore Trail (railtrail)
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	2	Likely low to moderate activity per day depending
Duration of View	1	Short duration views in only the time it takes to walk, bike, or snowmobile past the area
Presence of Existing Development	0	None seen
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0.5	Not unique
Presence of Water	0	
Total	6.5	

Part 3 Scenic Quality

General Scenic Quality of the View	1	Scrub shrub near a power line not very scenic
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* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong

TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/27/2020	
Viewpoint Number: 33	Preparer: Michael Ross	
Viewpoint Location: West Shore Trail (railtrail), Byron		
Viewpoint Description: View south towards Project		
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2		
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker		
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off		
Visual Rating Element		
	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0.5	The overall form of the array field provides little contrast to the existing landscape as it runs along the horizon line in the background with minimal visual impact.
Line Contrast	0.5	The line of the array field mimics the horizon line and is set in the background of this view providing little contrast.
Texture Contrast	1	The smooth, hard, panels do contrast with the wispy thicket vegetation somewhat.
Color Contrast	1.5	The hard, black panels in the background contrast with the existing earth tone colors found in the foreground of the existing landscape.
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	1	The visual of solar panels is not significant to the eye as a dominant feature in the landscape although, it does project a foreign and unnatural feel.
Broken Horizon Line	0	The horizon line is not broken by the panels.
Visual Acuity	0.5	Minimal to no discernable detail is present.
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	No project clearing can be determined.
Screening/Mitigation Needed	1.5	The panels are visible from this location however strategically placed screening should be sufficient.
Total	6.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	West Shore Trail (railtrail)
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	1.5	The site location is rural however, a working farm, several residential structures, and several roads are located along or near the solar array field so, some level of views will occur.
Duration of View	1.5	Short-term views will occur by vehicular travel and passersby utilizing the roadway and potential long-term views from the few nearby residential structures.
Presence of Existing Development	1	Several residential structures and a working farm are located near this viewpoint.
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	1	The landscape appears to be representative to the area.
Presence of Water	0	No water appears to be present in this view.
Total	8	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	1	The view provides a remotely rural and quiet setting that is common and typical for this area.

** these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied*

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong



TRC Visual Impact Rating Form

Project: Excelsior Energy Center	Date: 8/28/2020
Viewpoint Number: 33	Preparer: Kirsten Johnson
Viewpoint Location: West Shore Trail (railtrail), Byron	
Viewpoint Description: View south towards Project	
Landscape Similarity Zone: 1, 2	
Viewer Type (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter/Traveler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Worker	
Seasonal Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf On <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leaf Off	

Visual Rating Element	Rating	Notes
Part 1 Visual Contrast Rating		
Form Contrast	0	arrays are hardly visible beyond brush
Line Contrast	0.5	only minimally visible – the orientation of the panels creates a horizontal line with an eastward lean, opposing the westward tilt of the brush
Texture Contrast	0	
Color Contrast	1	the dark black ridge created by the panels is somewhat contrasting to the brown brush in the foreground
Project Scale Contrast/Spatial Dominance	0	cannot tell the extent of the panels from this view
Broken Horizon Line	0	
Visual Acuity	0	
Amount of Project Clearing Seen	0	
Screening/Mitigation Needed	0	existing vegetation entirely screens the Project from view
Total	1.5	
Part 2 Viewpoint Sensitivity Rating		
Within a Visual Resource*	3	West Shore Trail (railtrail)
View of Other Visual Resource with Project*	0	
A Listed/Known Scenic Resource of Visual Quality*	0	
Number of Viewers (Low or High Use Activity)	0.5	not visible from public roads – few adjacent residences might have minimal views
Duration of View	0.5	adjacent residences may have some visibility on a long-term scale
Presence of Existing Development	0	adjacent areas are undeveloped farm land and shrublands
Uniqueness of Landscape Compared to Region	0	
Presence of Water	0	
Total	4	
Part 3 Scenic Quality		
General Scenic Quality of the View	0.5	

* these visual rating elements are yes or no answers. Therefore, a rating of 0 or 3 should be applied

Rating Scale	
0	None
1	Weak
2	Moderate
3	Strong