



154 Krog Street
Suite 105
Atlanta, GA 30307

Ryan Sanders
Partner, Beltline Energy LLC
154 Krog St, Suite # 105
Atlanta, GA 30307

Lowndes County Zoning Board of Appeals
327 N Ashley St
Valdosta, GA 31601

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Beltline Energy Solar Project Variance Request – Additional Narrative

Beltline Energy has established an agreement with the owner of Lowndes County parcel # 0058 005B to pursue the development of a Medium-Scale Distributed Generated (DG) solar farm (the "Project") that will range between 10 and 30 acres in size. As part of Beltline Energy's efforts to pursue the successful development of this Project in Lowndes County, a Variance is requested to Section 4.07 (Landscaping, Buffers, and Tree Protection) and any other section of the Lowndes County Unified Land Development Code ("ULDC") that dictates requirements for the landscaping and vegetative buffers for the Project. Noting the ULDC currently requires shade trees be included in the vegetative buffer and that shade prevention is of great importance for solar energy projects, it is requested that a variance be provided such that the Project be required to adhere to the below-stated landscaping and vegetative buffer requirements alone:

"A vegetative buffer shall be provided on the east, south, and west boundaries of the solar energy project, and such vegetative buffer shall be comprised of a single row of 1-gallon evergreen shrubs (Thuja, Leyland Cypress or comparable species) placed every six feet that will grow in the specific project location soils to a height of 6-8 feet within 3 years of planting. Such vegetative buffer shall be located along the perimeter fence of the solar energy project and shall be maintained for the life of the project. Grass shall be planted and maintained throughout the solar energy facility. No additional requirements regarding vegetative buffers and landscaping shall be placed on the solar energy project."

We appreciate your consideration.

Best Regards,

Ryan Sanders, Partner of Beltline Energy