

# Low Carbon Energy Project Siting Improvement Study

## Interagency Policy Team

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)  
Elements of the Environment  
March 24, 2022



# SEPA Elements of the Environment

## Natural Environment

- Earth
- Air
- Water
- Plants and animals
- Energy and natural resources

## Built Environment

- Environmental health
- Land and shoreline use
- Transportation
- Public services and utilities



# Air

- Air quality, including greenhouse gases
- Odor
- Climate



# Land and Shoreline Use

- Relationship to existing land use plans and to estimated population
- Housing
- Light and glare
- Aesthetics
- Recreation
- Historic and cultural preservation
- Agricultural crops



# Plants and Animals

- Habitat for and numbers or diversity of species of plants, fish, or other wildlife
- Unique species
- Fish or wildlife migration routes



# Transportation

- Transportation systems
- Vehicular traffic
- Waterborne, rail, and air traffic
- Parking
- Movement of people or goods
- Traffic hazards



# Energy and Natural Resources

- Amount required/rate of use/efficiency
- Source/availability
- Nonrenewable resources
- Conservation and renewable resources
- Scenic resources



# Environmental Health

- Noise
- Risk of explosion
- Releases or potential releases to the environment affecting public health, such as toxic or hazardous materials





# Earth

- Geology
- Soils
- Topography
- Unique physical features
- Erosion/enlargement of land area



# Water

- Surface water movement/quantity/quality
- Runoff/absorption
- Floods
- Groundwater movement/quantity/quality
- Public water supplies



# Public Services and Utilities

- Fire
- Police
- Schools
- Parks or other recreational facilities
- Maintenance
- Communications
- Water/Stormwater, Sewer/solid waste
- Other governmental services or utilities





Thank you!