

BEALS • ASSOCIATES INC.

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PHONE: 617-242-1120

October 19, 2023

Holliston Planning Board

Attn: Karen Sherman, Town Planner

703 Washington Street

Holliston, MA 01746

**Reference: Conservation Commission Decision
Supplemental Information
Proposed Large-Scale Solar Power Generation System
0 Bartzak Drive
Holliston, Massachusetts**

Dear Chair Apuzzo Langton and Board Members,

On behalf of the applicant, Galehead Development, we are providing an update to the proposed solar development project. The Holliston Conservation Commission (the Commission) has issued a denial order of conditions on September 25, 2023. The applicant has revised the Site Plan to remove all work from the 100' resource buffer (the Commission's jurisdiction) because of this decision. Since the project first commenced the permitting process in mid-2022, the Inflation Reduction Act has been enacted, which offers supplementary incentives for community solar projects such as this project. These incentives can be utilized for this project, thus allowing the project to remain feasible and financially viable. Attached to this letter is a summary and additional information prepared by Galehead Development.

We look forward to presenting this information during the next public hearing on October 26, 2023.

Sincerely,

Beals Associates, Inc.



Devin P. Howe, P.E.

Professional Engineer

cc: C-1278 Project File; Lucas Faria, Galehead Development; Julia Friedman, Galehead Development;
David Berson, David Berson Law
Att: Attachment A – Galehead summary and additional information letter

Appendix A – Galehead Summary and Additional Information letter



October 17, 2023

Planning Board

Town of Holliston

Attn: Karen Apuzzo Langton, Chair

703 Washington Street

Holliston, MA 01746

RE: Bartzak PV I, LLC

Summary and additional information

Dear Members of the Planning Board,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of the applicant to provide an overview of topics that have previously been presented to the Planning Board regarding our proposed development project. Please refer to the Appendix containing supporting information on the project's impact to the surrounding area.

We look forward to the opportunity to engage in a productive discussion with the Planning Board on October 26th, during which we can delve into the specifics of our summary and address any last remaining question. We are committed to ensuring that our project aligns with the best long-term interests of the Planning Board and the Holliston community.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any additional information or have any questions prior to our scheduled meeting.

Sincerely,

Lucas Faria

Director, Project Development at Galehead Development

A: 1 Lincoln St, Suite 2400, Boston, MA 02111

M: 617-971-7823

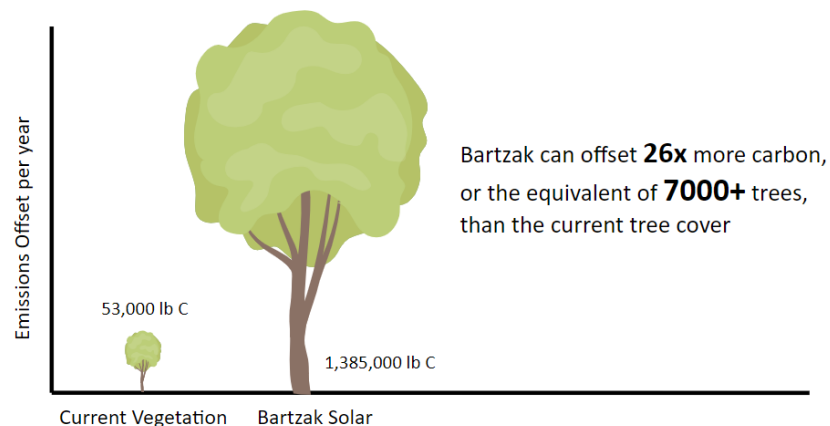
E: lucas.faria@galeheaddev.com

W: www.galeheaddev.com/



Renewable Energy CO2 Offset Impact to Holliston

- Bartzak Solar Farm would directly **offset** emissions from three nearby fossil fuel power plants (within 5 miles of Holliston), leading to **decreased air pollution**.
- While some trees have to be removed, solar farms can offset **26-fold more carbon** than trees in the current project area.*



*(EPA Results calculating the *Tree Sequestrations vs. Renewable Energy Carbon* offsets, originally submitted to the Town of Holliston Planning Board on October 2022)

- The removal of trees will promote a **net benefit** to the surrounding area. Air quality will actually **improve** with the Bartzak Solar Project, as it will decrease the need for burning fossil fuels for electricity generation in neighboring natural gas power plants.
- Additionally, we're committed to planting a **pollinator-friendly wildflower mix** on site to maintain the environment for local flora and fauna underneath and around our solar panels.





What else is Galehead doing to mitigate the land footprint?

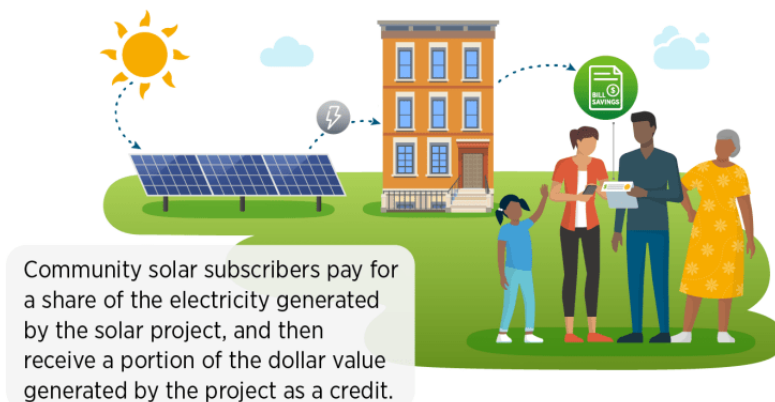
- In recognition of the land disturbance that comes as a result of developing renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure projects, Galehead launched the *ReAcre* Initiative to address sustainability and community engagement in solar projects.
- The ReAcre strategy includes screening for wetlands and native flora/fauna and evaluating vegetative buffers in consultation to local environmental experts. Ultimately, Galehead hopes to incorporate best ecological and management practices in renewable energy development.

Community Solar Benefits to Holliston

- How it works: Community solar gardens bring affordable clean energy to you without needing to install panels at your home. Subscribing is free, and you immediately begin to receive **energy credits** back and **save on your electric utility bill**, based on the electricity generated by the solar garden. Any resident, business, or public building can become an *oftaker* of this project.
- Community Solar Local Impact: Bartzak Solar Project will create hundreds of jobs and bring tax dollars directly to the Holliston and local schools.
- MA State Goals: Holliston will join hundreds of Towns to fight climate change in Massachusetts's ambitious goal of 50% renewable energy by 2030 and net zero by 2050.

How does it work?

Community solar projects generate electricity from sunlight and the electricity flows to the electricity grid. Project owners can sell this power to their local utility.



*(Visit the [U.S. Department of Energy Community Solar](https://www.energy.gov/community-solar) website for more information)



Appendix A:

Fossil Fuel Plants within 5 Mile Radius of Holliston

Power Plant	Generation Type	Size (MW)	Address	5-Mile Radius to Holliston
Milford Power	Natural Gas	148	108 National St, Milford, MA 01757	Southwest
Exelon Power West Medway Generating Station	Petroleum	123.8	9 Summer St, Medway, MA 02053	South
Northeast Energy Associates Bellingham Cogeneration Facility	Natural gas	264	92 Depot St #92, Bellingham, MA 02019	Southwest

