

# Resolution

Town of Carroll

2020 Resolution Number 1-A

Date: March 11, 2020

**TITLE:** Requesting the Withdrawal of the State Budget's Energy Siting Amendment

**WHEREAS,** NYS is a Home Rule State;

**WHEREAS,** per the NYS Constitution, Article IX, it is our statutory obligation to protect the health, safety and welfare of citizens of our community;

**WHEREAS,** on Feb 21, 2020, Governor Cuomo proposed a Budget Amendment, titled the "Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act";

**WHEREAS,** this amendment could be passed with the Budget by April 1<sup>st</sup>, replacing the current Article 10 process with a method for siting renewable energy projects that provides for much less public participation and much less transparency;

**WHEREAS,** there is considerable evidence that onshore industrial wind energy projects will be a net economic liability to NYS host communities;

**WHEREAS,** there is considerable evidence that onshore industrial wind energy projects will result in adverse health effects to some citizens of NYS host communities;

**WHEREAS,** there is considerable evidence that industrial wind energy projects will cause extensive eco-system damage to onshore NYS host communities;

**WHEREAS,** under the Budget Amendment, once an application is submitted, a new Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) has 60 days to review and determine if it is complete and, if ORES fails to decide within 60 days, the application is deemed complete;

**WHEREAS,** once an application is deemed complete, ORES has 12 months to decide whether to approve the project and, if ORES fails to decide within 12 months, the application is approved;

**WHEREAS,** the Budget Amendment authorizes the State to make state lands "shovel-ready" and available for construction of renewable energy projects;

**WHEREAS,** each of these proposed changes preempt municipalities' home rule authority;

**RESOLVED,** that the Town of Carroll requests that the "Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act" amendment be withdrawn before the State Budget is voted on.

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