



Alna Community Solar, LLC
Shoreland Zoning Permit Extension Approval
12/6/23

Background: On Feb. 1, 2022, the Alna Planning Board approved the Alna Community Solar, LLC's application for a 2.9MW ground-mounted utility-scale solar array located off Alna Road/State Route 218 on a 15.4-acre portion of the parcel known as Map R01, Lot 9, a lot owned by Charles Ussery. At the time of the Planning Board's approval, the applicant expected to receive the required interconnection authorization from Central Maine Power in September 2022. Due to repeated delays in CMP's analysis, the applicant was unable to move forward on the portion of its project in the shoreland zone and has only recently received the required oral authorization (but is still awaiting the written authorization.)

The Feb. 1, 2022 approval by the Alna Planning Board included both site review and shoreland zoning permits. The site review permit has no expiration date but the shoreland zoning permit would expire on Feb. 1, 2024.

Request: The applicant has requested a 15 month extension to its shoreland zoning permit. The applicant also noted that one of the two poles in the shoreland zone has been moved outside the shoreland zone.

Findings and conclusions: The Board considered the request at its meeting on Dec. 5, 2023. The Board found that the applicant has applied for its extension before the expiration of the shoreland zoning permit and that there have been no changes to the shoreland zoning ordinance since the initial approval. The Board further found that the cause of the delay was outside the Applicant's control and concluded that the requested length of the extension was reasonable.

Therefore, the Board approves a 15 month extension beginning Feb. 1, 2024 to Alna Community Solar, LLC's shoreland zoning permit with one condition:

- That the Applicant provide an updated Site Plan showing the revised location of the poles previously located in the shoreland zone.

Date: Dec. 6, 2023

ALNA PLANNING BOARD

By: *Cathy Johnson*, Cathy Johnson, Chair, Alna Planning Board