## COMMUNITY BENEFITS



## Solar projects provide significant benefits to host communities:

- Once operational, North Seneca Solar Project will power tens of thousands of homes annually, helping to meet the energy needs of the state by providing clean, flexible electricity
- Solar energy provides a long-term hedge against increasing electricity prices due to variable fuel prices; solar energy allows off-takers to purchase energy at stable, long-term rates, which may help reduce future costs to ratepayers
- Solar projects present landowners an opportunity to diversify income, weather economic downturns, and keep land in the family
- Solar projects result in a reduction of the region's production of carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions, which presents significant health and environmental benefits
- Once constructed, the project area will be seeded with pollinator-friendly vegetation, which will enhance soil health, ecological diversity, and hydrological cycles while providing critical pollinating services to nearby farms
- At the end of North Seneca Solar Project's life, project infrastructure will be removed, and the land hosting panels will be returned to agricultural use

## The North Seneca Solar Project will bring long-term benefits to the Towns of Waterloo and Junius by:

- Providing PILOT payments totaling millions of dollars to the Towns of Junius and Waterloo\* and the Waterloo Central School District in the first 25 years of project operations\*\*
- Paying millions of dollars in land lease and easement agreement payments to landowners over the life of the project
- Creating approximately 165 direct, full-time jobs during construction,
  with expected wages and salaries totaling approximately \$23 million
- Boosting the local economy by purchasing equipment and materials from New York-based suppliers when feasible in all phases – development, construction, and operation
- Increasing revenue to local hospitality providers during construction and operations
- \*Amounts to each Town are based on estimated MWs sited in each Town (~30% in Junius and ~70% in Waterloo)
- \*\* PILOT terms and payment amounts are subject to approval by the Seneca County Industrial Development Agency (IDA)