

## Marbletown ECC Project Updates, April 2019.

### **Clean Power Expo, Sat June 8, 2-4pm**

Marbletown, Sustainable Hudson Valley, and New Yorkers for Clean Power will be holding a Clean Power Expo at the Marbletown Community Center. Room reserved reserved for June 8, 1:30-5pm. Expo will focus on heat pumps, Solarize launch(see below), wood pellet stoves.

The HF Food Coop will provide food (Doug), and we will have several short presentations as well as tabling and mingling. Presentations will include a tour of the energy upgrades at Ridgewell (confirmed), a presentation on energy upgrades for the CC by MalCarne (confirmed), Solarize Launch- see below, overviews of heat pumps and building upgrades, and an overview of the CCA from Jeff Domanski, overview of proposed community solar installation at HF Water.

### **Banning Fossil Fuel Power Plants / Natural Gas Zoning**

Power plants are currently allowed in I and I/B zones with only a site plan. Gas compression and metering stations are allowed in most zones with a special use permit. The Town Attorney is writing a law to remove fossil fuel power plants and gas compression and metering stations as permitted uses in all zones.

This is much stronger than the moratorium on fossil fuel power plants recently enacted by the Town of Lloyd. Since no one is currently considering either a FF power plant or gas pipelines in Marbletown, we can jump straight to a ban.

### **Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool**

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County was awarded the funding to work with Town of Marbletown on completing a Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool.

The Climate Resiliency Planning Tool is a community plan checklist of municipal documents that include plans, ordinances and codes. We will be assessing which planning documents exist, and whether or not these documents include language that addresses climate hazards. Upon completion of the tool, we will provide a report identifying potential gaps in community planning that could have an impact on your community's resilience to climate hazards. Completing the tool serves to identify future planning opportunities, and the conversations that occur during the process often reveal that many of the listed items are in existence. The resulting summary report will be a useful tool for the Town as you work on future planning documents. The completion of the Tool itself, addresses Climate Smart Action 7.3 of the Climate Smart Communities Program.

CCE will present their preliminary findings at the Marbletown ECC's April meeting.

### **Solarize Campaign with EV charging**

Marbletown will be sponsoring a mini-solarize campaign to get people to install solar before net metering and ITC begin to phase out in 2020. The basic Solarize price will include an outlet near the home's parking area suitable for plugging in an EV charger (NEMA 14-50R, 50A circuit, or smaller if an electrical upgrade would be required.).

### **Hudson Valley Community Power (CCA)**

The RFP for energy suppliers is out. Responses are due by May 3.

### **EV Charging**

Plans for 2 15A EV chargers at the Stone Ridge Library have been finalized. Will be installed by SunCommon which has been very generous with Marbletown by stretching the Solarize campaign incentive. These will be Marbletown's 4th public chargers after the Community Center, Rondout Municipal Center (joint with Rosendale), and 3 Tesla destination chargers at Ridgewell. Mohonk Preserve also has plans for a pair of chargers at Spring Farm Trailhead.

### **Community Solar at High Falls Water**

We have the outlines for proposal from Solar Generation for a community solar install at High Falls Water. ECC Chair Tom K and Mike Shay from Solar Generation met with the HF Water Board on 4/23/19. Proposed rental payment would be up to \$2750/year, depending on system size. HF Water board had questions about who would be responsible for roof repairs, removal, and mowing/weed whacking around solar panels. Given the relatively small rental payment, there was also concern that the investigation process might take too much of the superintendent's time, but he felt it would not be a problem.

MS said he would get answers regarding weed control, removal at end of life, and roof repairs, and HF Water board voted to recommend the Marbletown & Rosendale Town boards sign the letter of intent so Solar Gen could investigate further.

### **Micro-Hydro**

The town attorney is working on a law to allow micro-hydro in R and A zones in the zoning code. Based on Red Hook's law.

### **Revising Solar Zoning**

Marbletown's solar law neglected to include B-1 for commercial solar. This was an oversight, all other zones were included. Town Atty is drafting law to fix.

### **Building Permit Fees**

The town is revising building permit fees to incentivize efficient buildings. New building permits will be based on volume of air leakage per hour (not sq footage or cost of construction.) Changes in air leakage for remodel (or affected square footage is envelope is not involved.) Dave Allen is gathering information on Building dept costs.

## **NY Stretch Energy Code**

The Town will consider adoption of the NYStretch energy code as soon as it is finalized.

<https://www.nysrerda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Energy-Code-Training/NYStretch-Code-Energy-2018>

## **Website**

Working on updating the ECC website.

Finished:

- List of Accomplishments 2015-19:  
[https://www.marbletown.net/sites/marbletownny/files/uploads/marbletown\\_ecc\\_accomplishments\\_-\\_2015\\_to\\_feb\\_2019.pdf](https://www.marbletown.net/sites/marbletownny/files/uploads/marbletown_ecc_accomplishments_-_2015_to_feb_2019.pdf)

In Progress:

- What you can do page:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NKL4Pea73ddgz7yVLgq0ib9aa7\\_SdENpwshqHjPGAfo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NKL4Pea73ddgz7yVLgq0ib9aa7_SdENpwshqHjPGAfo/edit?usp=sharing) (Suggestions and additions welcome)

## **Marbletown Community Center Retrofit**

The ECC has selected Malcarne as general contractor for the planned deep energy retrofit of the community center. Working on detailed proposal for Town Board approval and finalizing the \$50K NYSEDA grant which will be used to partially fund the retrofit. Expect to spend over \$50K from town's capital budget as well. Likely measures include: Air sealing, drainage improvements, improved insulation in attic sealing, basement/crawl spaces. Replacing fuel oil and propane with cold climate ASHPs, replacing propane water heater with on-demand point of use for bathrooms and kitchen.

## **Nextamp/ Town of Rochester Community Solar**

NextAmp is managing the two community solar farms built on Town of Rochester property. These are open to subscribers outside of Rochester. NextAmp is planning information sessions in neighboring towns, including Marbletown. (No ECC involvement needed, just FYI)

## **Mid Hudson Fuel Buying Coop Community Solar Guide**

The MHFBC has published a useful guide to current community solar options on their website. It can be found here:

<http://midhudsonfuelbuyingcoop.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/MHFBC-LOCAL-GREEN-ELECTRIC-OPTIONS-with-website-link.pdf>

## **100% Renewable Marbletown**

Working on roadmap and strategies to bring all of Marbletown to 100% renewable energy.

A spreadsheet of ideas is here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-jMlcTcDJbbdDFwbErgKeAgtYoD0zQYiGD-nU-Imge0/edit?usp=sharing>

Need to work out more detailed strategies for:

- Building efficiency/ energy savings strategy
- Building Electrification strategy
- Renewable energy deployment strategy (well in progress)
- Transportation electrification

A strategy template from Sustainable Hudson Valley is here:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Vi2YDOwuYkqFC234zy13-ctgUUMWV\\_nbBoW5MIMwclw/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Vi2YDOwuYkqFC234zy13-ctgUUMWV_nbBoW5MIMwclw/edit?usp=sharing)