

## Marbletown ECC Updates, July 2019.

### Banning Fossil Fuel Power Plants and Natural Gas plus Solar and Storage Zoning

The Board had a hearing on Marbletown's draft law to

- Ban fossil fuel power plants
- Ban natural gas compression stations
- Ban natural gas metering stations
- Expand the potential zoning for Commercial Solar to all zones with a special use permit.
- Define electricity storage and allow in all zones with a SUP

At the July 16th meeting. No one spoke in opposition. TK made some suggestions to correct a couple technicalities, and the Board voted to accept his recommended edits, leave the public hearing open until the next board meeting on 8/6/19, when we expect it to be passed into law.

The amended law can be found here:

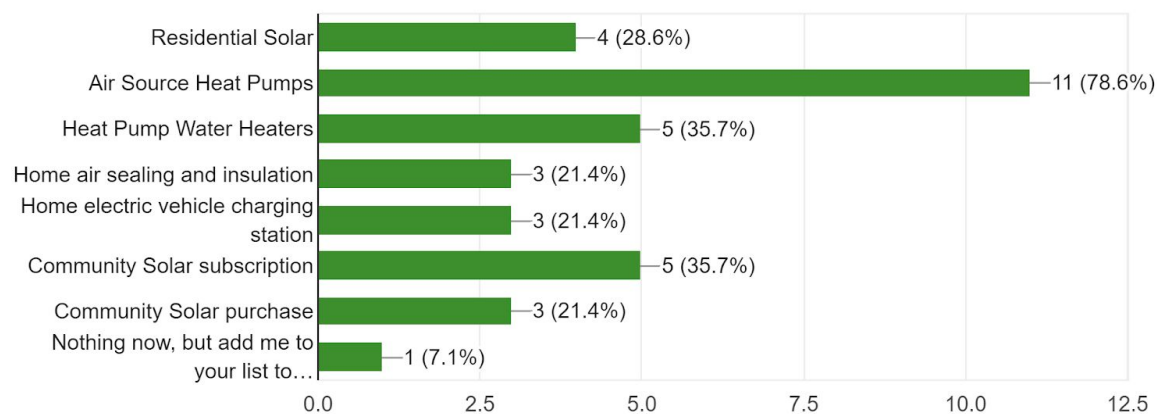
[https://www.marbletown.net/sites/marbletownny/files/uploads/solar\\_generation\\_as\\_adopted\\_2017\\_with\\_rev\\_7\\_16\\_19.pdf](https://www.marbletown.net/sites/marbletownny/files/uploads/solar_generation_as_adopted_2017_with_rev_7_16_19.pdf)

### Clean Energy Upgrade Group Purchase Campaign.

The ECC teamed up with Sustainable Hudson Valley to launch a group purchase campaign home clean energy upgrades to accelerate Marbletown (and the surrounding areas) move towards 100% renewable energy. As of 7/20 we are getting about one new respondent a day, and here is the breakdown of interest so far:

I am interested in group purchases for the following. Please contact me when you have enough interest to move ahead

14 responses



Based on the interest, TK & ME negotiated a group discount with RYCOR for ccASHPs which will grow to \$200/unit as more homeowners sign up (with minisplits, there are potentially many units per household,) with the rebates retroactive so that homeowners do not have to wait and will have an incentive to spread the word. We're looking at similar models for other technologies so that people do not have to wait.

The group purchases are open to anyone in Ulster County. Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/YTJbr18v4QBzVzCZ7>

### **NexAmp Wappingers Community solar**

The NexAmp Community Solar installation at Wappingers Falls is on line and producing credits. Marbletown CH meters at the Transfer Station, Old Town Hall, Community Center, and Peak Rd are signed up for this Community Solar offer, and will begin getting a 10% discount as of July 1st. This program can be terminated with 3 month notice; the intent is to sign these accts up for a local offering when one becomes available.

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

HVCP will began delivering 100% Renewable electricity to approximately 80% of Marbletown meters on July 1st (after ineligible accounts and opt-outs.)

There has been some confusion about the program among residents, but all have seemed satisfied when we explain it.

### **EV Charging**

Two level 2 15A EV chargers at the Stone Ridge Library have been installed and are up and running. Two signs showing a map to Stone Ridge's three EV charging stations are up and running.

A new County charging station at SUNY Ulster is also up and running.

3 J1772 plugs are planned to be added at Ridgewell is the solar farm is constructed.

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

TK had a meeting with Supervisor Parete, Rosendale Supervisor Walsh, MT Board member Don La Fera, and HF Water supervisor Terry Johnson in the hope of getting the proposed HF Water community solar proposal back on track. Supervisor Walsh and LaFera wanted the 10% discount on home electricity bills to be offered to all HF Water customers (not just the 30 that the installation could accommodate) and felt that the \$2000/year rent was insufficient to be worth the potential for future unexpected problems that the installation might cause. It was less specific problems they had in mind rather than general uncertainty.

While we were able to resolve the discount for customers problem by also offering HF water customers subscriptions to other farms at the same time (this is not a problem- community solar developers always want more customers), the “not worth it” objection seems to be intractable.

Getting Rosendale on board with the project will probably require finding a way to make it more lucrative. I’ve broached the idea of trying to find a grant (Shared services, or perhaps something for brownfield redevelopment) to make the project more financially attractive.

### **Solar Building Permits**

New, lower solar building permit fees are now in effect, although the Building department has not updated its website. Ground mount commercial solar permit fees will be about the same to slightly higher, and all fees are greatly simplified. New fees are \$100 roof mount residential; \$200 ground mount residential. Commercial (>25 kW AC) will be \$2.50/kW roof mount and \$10/kW ground mount.

### **NY Stretch Energy Code**

The Town will consider adoption of the NYStretch energy code as soon as it is finalized.  
<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Energy-Code-Training/NYStretch-Code-Energy-2018>

### **Marbletown Community Center Retrofit**

The board has passed a resolution to accept the NYSERDA grant and spend \$50K of our own money on basement sealing/ insulation and cold climate ASHP upgrades as a match. Air sealing and insulation improvements for the walls and attic have been deferred.

### **New Member**

The Town Board appointed Emma Markle to the ECC as a student member for a term ending December 31, 2021.