# MHG SOLAR

*Brandon, Vermont | Proposed 2.2MW PV array*

# ABOUT MHG

MHG Solar was founded by Thomas Hand and Pete Giese. MHG focuses our project development on the thoughtful integration of energy and land use. We've built projects in repurposed slate quarries, marginal land in industrial parks, on building rooftops and in old gravel pits. As the market for solar projects has expanded and the need for renewable energy has increased, we have begun to include thoughtfully sited projects on under utilized agricultural lands and begun innovating on collocating agricultural activities with our projects. Our project portfolio reflects our passion and commitment to creative, thoughtful and innovative approaches to renewable energy projects.

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***THOMAS HAND***

Thomas leads MHG's market analysis, permitting, technical design and project execution efforts. Prior to starting MHG Thomas developed and still owns/manages a solar portfolio in Vermont that has grown to more than 2,000 kW since 2012. He has also led origination of project revenue for large community solar portfolios nationwide while working at SunEdison. As an asset owner himself, Thomas has a hands on approach to project development that leverages extensive knowledge of local permitting, interconnection and program design requirements. A graduate of Middlebury College, Thomas has run energy efficiency and renewable energy businesses throughout his career focused on innovative approaches to help advance us all toward a better climate future. He co-founded MHG and has a passion for optimizing energy project value by exploring innovative approaches to markets and portfolio design.

***PETE GIESE***

Pete leads land acquisition, legal and partnership development for MHG. Before MHG, Pete's gained more than a decade of experience in solar project origination and development that spans a range of portfolios encompassing more than 100 projects. From over 50MWs of large, municipal portfolios to more than 150MWs of community solar and ground based development, Pete has a broad base of energy development experience. Pete grew up on a dairy farm and has carried a passion for thoughtful land use throughout his career. He co-founded MHG based on the belief that renewable energy projects could be designed to achieve our global energy needs while still integrating with local communities and land use.

MHG EXPERIENCE

*Route 149 Quarry – Operational since 2019*

*Warren Switch Quarry – Operational since 2020*

*Dirt Road Quarry – Operational since 2019*

*Staso Rd Solar Gravel Pit – Operational Jan 2022*

# MHG EXPERIENCE

| Site Name | Location | System Size | Year | System Type | Status | Project Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Langway Motors** | Manchester, VT | 42 kW | 2012 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Langway Motors (Expansion)** | Manchester, VT | 102 kW | 2013 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **The Dorset School** | Dorset, VT | 114 kW | 2014 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Fisher Elementary School** | Arlington, VT | 141 kW | 2016 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Riley Rink** | Manchester, VT | 159 kW | 2016 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **RK Miles** | Manchester, VT | 214 kW | 2017 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Shaftsbury Self Storage** | Shaftsbury, VT | 192 kW | 2018 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Maple Street School** | Manchester, VT | 71 kW | 2018 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **130 Taconic Business Park** | Manchester, VT | 112 kW | 2018 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **350 Old Camp Rd** | East Arlington, VT | 103 kW | 2018 | Rooftop | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Pig Pen Road** | Manchester, VT | 778 kW | 2018 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Wallingford Solar** | Wallingford, VT | 3,250 kW | 2019 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Standard Offer |
| **Route 149** | Pawlet, VT | 820 kW | 2019 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Shields Drive** | Bennington, VT | 820 kW | 2019 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Blissville Rd** | Poultney, VT | 820 kW | 2019 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Dirt Rd** | South Poultney, VT | 465 kW | 2019 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Upper Rd** | South Poultney, VT | 820 kW | 2020 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Warren Switch** | Pawlet, VT | 820 kW | 2020 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Briar Hill** | Pawlet, VT | 811 kW | 2020 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Creek Road** | Wallingford, VT | 820 kW | 2021 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Staso Road** | Castleton, VT | 811 kW | 2022 | Ground Mounted | Operational | Net Metering |
| **Fair Haven Ave** | Fair Haven, VT | 820 kW | CPG Issued | Ground Mounted | Construction in '22 | Net Metering |
| **Button Falls** | Pawlet, VT | 820 kW | CPG Issued | Ground Mounted | Construction in '22 | Net Metering |
| **Trolley Tracks Solar** | Poultney, VT | 3,300 kW | CPG Filed | Ground Mounted | Permitting | Standard Offer |
| **Stone Mill Solar** | Castleton, VT | 3,300 kW | CPG Filed | Ground Mounted | Permitting | Standard Offer |
| **Evergreen Road Solar** | Fair Haven, VT | 3,300 kW | CPG Filed | Ground Mounted | Permitting | Standard Offer |
| **Halladay Solar** | Middlebury, VT | 3,300 kW | 2/15/22 CPG filing | Ground Mounted | Permitting | Standard Offer |
| | **TOTAL** | **27,215 kW** | | | | |

MHG PROCESS

## Site Selection

With more than 20 CPGs for solar project operation in Vermont alone, MHG's principals have continually refined and improved our site selection process. For us, a successful project is one that makes maximal use of the land and available infrastructure while implementing site specific considerations to integrate into our design.

Key Features of Good Sites:

- **Visibility:** Existing Intervening Topography, Maximal Distance from Roads and Houses, and Existing Vegetation all help create the basis for good screening.
- **Screening:** MHG supplements existing conditions to further mitigate views at critical viewpoints and/or breaks in the natural screening
- **Infrastructure:** Proximity to Existing Electrical Infrastructure & Access Roads help concentrate project construction to the site itself
- **Natural Resources:** Minimal tree-clearing as existing trees are integrated into our design for screening. No removal of agricultural soils. No encroachment on wetlands.
- **Community:** MHG's goal is early outreach and open conversations about solutions to concerns. Town meetings, letters to neighbors and an open, public and extensive permitting process before anything gets built.

WHY THIS SITE?

## Steinberg Road Site

MHG's development process as it applies to the Steinberg Road Site:

Key Features:

- **Visibility:** Extensive existing tree lines form the basis of a strong starting point for screening. Setback more than 1,300 feet from Route 7 and 300+ feet from Route 73.
- **Screening:** Logical opportunities to add to existing vegetation to complete screening from tree lines.
- **Infrastructure:** Existing GMP electrical infrastructure, nearby electrical load and reasonable access to roads mean limited construction impacts outside of the solar project site itself.
- **Natural Resources:** Site plan KEEPS existing trees and ADDS new ones while also preserving all wetlands and other natural resources on the site. No ag soils will be removed from the site.
- **Community Integration and Impact:** Unique opportunity to partner with SolarFest to provide a stable, long-term home for them which will lead to economic and community development opportunities for Brandon year round. MHG sent letters and a draft site plan to six neighboring homes offering to discuss the project and invited them to attend the planning Commission meeting on 2/7/22.
- **Agrivoltaics**: Farming + Solar energy generation. See next slide for details.

Additional Benefits:

- **Property Tax Benefit:** ~$3,000/yr of additional land tax, ~$13,000/yr of personal property tax on the array
- **Potential for Energy Savings:** MHG operates a fleet of solar net-metered projects that we will happily provide solar credits from to Brandon area businesses and facilities.

AGRIVOLTAICS

## Agrivoltaics

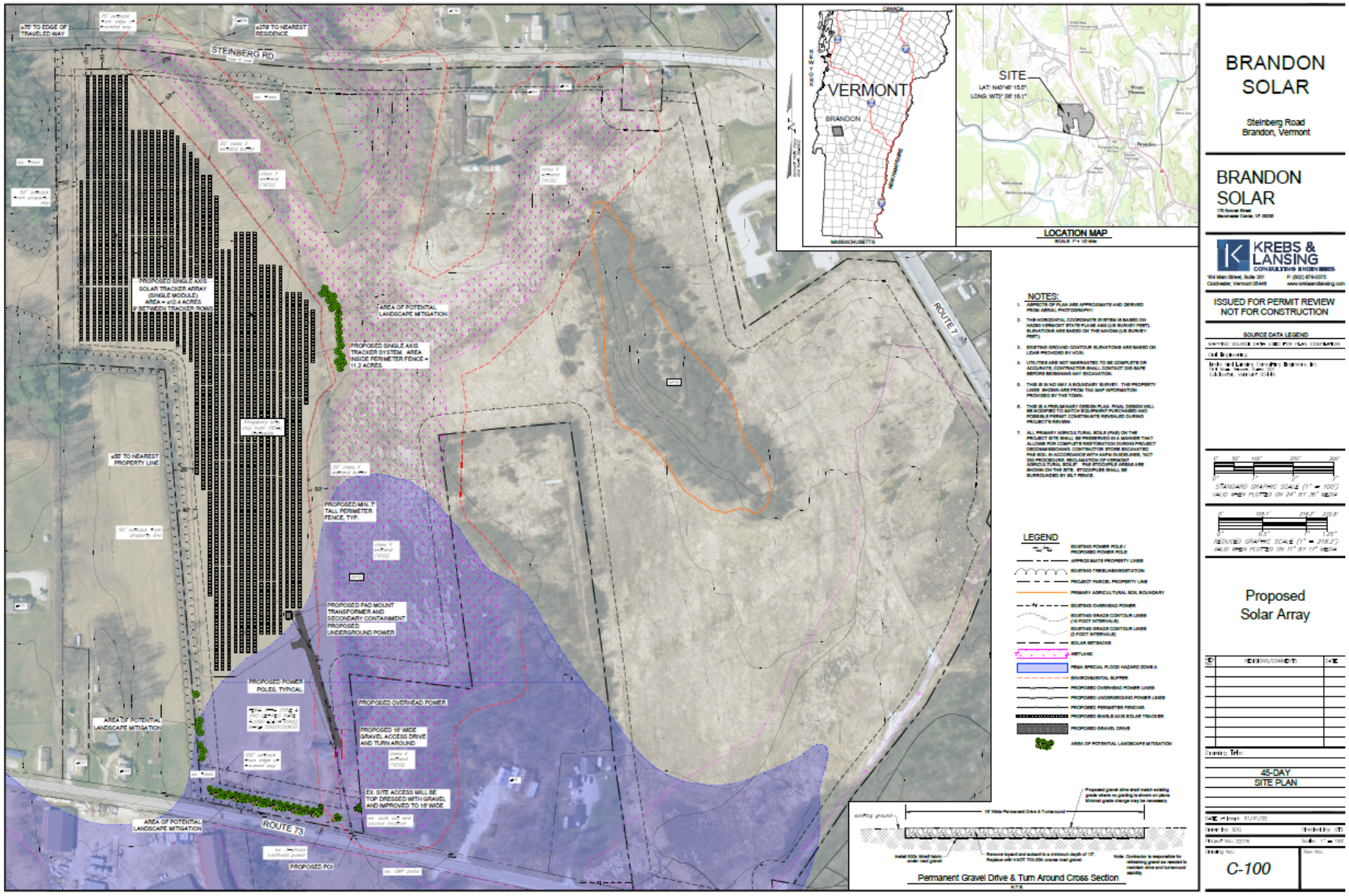
MHG has engaged **Agrivoltaic Solutions** to manage the vegetation within and around the array using sheep. This dual use, solar energy generation + sheep grazing, creates additional benefits to farmers and the local community that include:

- Increased farm income via the sale of lamb + vegetation management contract
- No cost access to high quality forage
- Preservation of working agricultural lands and the farming community

### Lewis Fox

Lewis Fox has an agricultural background with both small and large ruminants in the Northeast. Lewis has a BS in Animal Science from Cornell University, and has extensive experience within the dairy industry. Lewis has managed large scale cow, sheep and goat dairies in New York, and grew up on an organic grazing dairy in Vermont. Lewis owns and operates a commercial sheep operation as well as being a co-founder and partner in Agrivoltaic Solutions, which currently grazes solar assets for multiple firms in New York State, Vermont and Pennsylvania. Lewis is a founding board member of the American Solar Grazing Association.

# BRANDON SITE PLAN




BRANDON SOLAR

Steinberg Road
Brandon, Vermont

BRANDON SOLAR

KREBS & LANSING CONSULTING ENGINEERS

ISSUED FOR PERMIT REVIEW
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

SOURCE DATA LEGEND

STANDARD GRAPHIC SCALE (1" = 100')
VALID WHEN PLOTTED ON 24" BY 36" MEDIA

REVISED GRAPHIC SCALE (1" = 216.2')
VALID WHEN PLOTTED ON 11" BY 17" MEDIA

Proposed Solar Array

| NO. | REVISIONS/COMMENTS | DATE |
|---|---|---|

45-DAY SITE PLAN

Drawing No.: C-100

# BRANDON SCREENING PLAN


**Mitigation Planting Schedule**

| Qty | Code | Botanical Name | Common Name | Size | Spec | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | AC | AMELANCHIER candadensis | Canadian Servicebery | 4' Ht. | B&B | 50' O.C. |
| 40 | PG | PICEA glauca | White spruce | 5' Ht. | B&B | 15' O.C. |
| 19 | PS | PINUS strobus | White Pine | 8' Ht. | B&B | 14-16' O.C |
| 18 | VL | VIBURNUM lentago | Nannyberry Viburnum | 3' Ht. | Cont. | 6-7' O.C. |
| 12 | VO | VIBURNUMopulus var. americanum | American Cranberrybush | 3' Ht. | Cont. | 7-8' O.C. |

NOTE: SEE PLAN FOR PLANTS LOCATED IN A WETLAND OR WETLAND BUFFER. THESE NEED TO BE HAND DUG

T.J. BOYLE ASSOCIATES
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

SCALE: 1" = 60'
0 50' 100' 200'

DATE: January 28, 2022

Brandon MHG Solar
LANDSCAPE PLAN SHEET NO. L1.0