

In The Matter Of:
IDA - Schoharie County

UTEP re: Solar Projects
April 6, 2021

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SCHOHARIE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS
TO THE AGENCY UNIFORM TAX EXEMPTION
POLICY REGARDING SOLAR PROJECTS

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
6:00 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.

(Conducted via Zoom video conferencing.)

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT:

- Ronald S. Filmer Jr., CEO
- Benjamin S. Oevering, Member
- Peter Johnson, Member
- A. Joseph Scott, III, Esq., Agency Counsel

Reported by: Deborah M. McByrne

Schoharie County Industrial Development Agency
349 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043
(518) 234-7604/Fax (518) 234-4346

Re: Public Hearing Notice

Subject: Amendments to the SCIDA Uniform Tax Exemption Policy for Solar Projects.

The Schoharie County Industrial Development Agency will hold a public hearing regarding amendments to its Uniform Tax Exemption Policy for solar projects. The proposed amendments provide a policy for the consideration of real property tax abatements for certain solar projects. You may obtain a copy of the proposed amendment from SCIDA by calling 518 234-7604 or email snsrpsc@nycap.rr.com. The public hearing will be held Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. Any written questions and or comments should be made no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2021 and sent to:

Ron Filmer, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
349 Mineral Springs Rd.
Cobleskill, NY 12043
(518) 234-7604
Email - snsrpsc@nycap.rr.com

**Please join the meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91613459645?pwd=N0ZHVVp5a2ZQSDdiWXhDTVZMRmlzZz09>

Meeting ID: 916 1345 9645

Passcode: 441686

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,91613459645#,,,,*441686# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 916 1345 9645

Passcode: 441686

1 PUBLIC APPEARANCES VIA ZOOM:

2 Patsy Nicosia

3 Shane Nickle

4 Josh Shaul

5 William Federice

6 Joe Foskett

7 Don Airey

8 Kris Scornavacca

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1 MR. SCOTT: So we'll start up, please.
2 Thank you. Good evening. My name is
3 Joseph Scott and I am the Agency Counsel of the
4 Schoharie County Industrial Development Agency.
5 As you are all well aware, due to the COVID-19
6 pandemic, the Agency is holding this public
7 hearing by remote access Zoom. We have a
8 technician, Debbie McByrne, here with us this
9 evening on the line to assist on any technical
10 issues. Thank you, Debbie.

11 Before we get started, I would like to
12 first take this opportunity to introduce a
13 couple members of the IDA who are attending
14 this public hearing. Mr. Johnson,
15 Mr. Oevering, and senior staff Ron Filmer, the
16 CEO of the IDA. I don't think I've left anyone
17 out. Are there any other IDA members on the
18 line that I need to introduce?

19 Okay. I'll just start -- I'll just
20 continue moving forward. This evening we are
21 holding a public hearing to solicit comments to
22 certain proposed amendments to the Agency's
23 Uniform Tax Exemption Policy. The proposed
24 amendments consist of the following:

25 With respect to a commercial solar

1 facility. And that's a term defined in the
2 proposed amendment. If a project qualifies as
3 a commercial solar facility and if the Agency
4 receives a letter of support for such project
5 from the city, town or village in which such
6 project is located, the terms of the proposed
7 PILOT agreement shall be described as follows:

8 Number one: The term. The initial
9 period shall be a term not to exceed 20 years,
10 to commence following completion of
11 construction. With respect to the existing
12 assessment, the existing assessment of the
13 underlying parcel and existing improvements do
14 not -- if they don't remain fully taxable on
15 the relevant assessment rolls, the proposed
16 PILOT agreement shall require the PILOT
17 payments to be made with respect to such
18 underlying parcel and existing improvements in
19 an amount equal to 100 percent of the normal
20 tax with respect thereto.

21 With respect to the project itself,
22 the PILOT payments will be structured as
23 following:

24 During years one through ten of the
25 proposed PILOT agreement, the PILOT payment

1 will be established based on the actual
2 installed capacity of the solar panels,
3 calculated on the third business day prior to
4 the date in which the related payment is due,
5 pursuant to the proposed PILOT agreement, times
6 a minimum -- "a minimum" -- of \$20,000 per
7 megawatt.

8 With respect to that annual payment,
9 there is a 3 percent escalator, and that will
10 be calculated each year during the year of
11 the -- during the PILOT agreement.

12 During the second part, the second
13 portion of the PILOT agreement, namely years 11
14 through 20, the PILOT payments will be based on
15 the normal assessed value of the solar project,
16 times a -- times the normal tax rates of the
17 affected taxing jurisdictions, and then
18 adjusted by a percentage.

19 So in year one -- which is actually
20 year 11 -- year one of the second term, the
21 second tenure term, but year 11 of the PILOT
22 agreement, there will be a 50 percent abatement
23 of that, quote, normal tax. That abatement
24 will drop by 5 percent a year over the balance
25 of the term of the PILOT agreement. So that at

1 the end of the PILOT agreement, namely year 21,
2 the project applicant will be paying an amount
3 equal to normal taxes, 100 percent of normal
4 taxes.

5 With respect to the distribution of
6 the PILOT payments, it's expected that the
7 distribution will be set forth based on the
8 affected taxing rates of the affected taxing
9 jurisdictions. Provided, however, that if the
10 affected taxing jurisdictions by resolution
11 agree to a different distribution, they may do
12 so, as long as they do so by resolution, and
13 that resolution is provided to the IDA.

14 So that's a summary of the proposed
15 amendments to the IDA Uniform Tax Exemption
16 Policy.

17 The purpose of this public hearing is
18 to provide the public with the opportunity to
19 submit comments to the Agency regarding the
20 proposed amendments to the Uniform Tax
21 Exemption Policy. The comments received today
22 at this public hearing will be presented to the
23 members of the Schoharie County Industrial
24 Development Agency at their next meeting. The
25 next meeting of the IDA is scheduled for April

1 21, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., and like all meetings
2 of the Agency, it is a meeting that is open to
3 the general public.

4 We have made arrangements for a
5 stenographer to be present at this public
6 hearing in order to accurately make a record of
7 the public comments. Again, the purpose of the
8 hearing is to solicit public comment on the
9 proposed amendments. The purpose of this
10 hearing is not to discuss local planning or
11 zoning issues or to debate the general concept
12 of whether the Agency should provide tax
13 incentives in connection with the promotion of
14 economic development in Schoharie County. The
15 purpose is to discuss the specific terms
16 contained in the proposed amendments and to
17 take comments on those terms.

18 Further, we are not here to answer
19 questions. Although, in the course of the
20 hearing, we'll consider questions if we have
21 the information to answer the questions and
22 there's sufficient time to consider such
23 questions. We have made arrangements to have
24 the staff and counsel of the Agency attend the
25 hearing to be available to answer questions if

1 there is sufficient time.

2 By way of background, copies of the
3 public hearing notice and the proposed
4 amendments are available on the Agency's
5 website. The notice was published in the Times
6 Journal. In addition, we sent copies of the
7 notice and the proposed amendments to the chief
8 executive officer of each village, town and
9 school district in Schoharie County, and also
10 to the Chair of the Board of Supervisor of
11 Schoharie County.

12 By way of operating rules, I would ask
13 that if you wish to make a public comment,
14 please raise your hand or otherwise so
15 indicate. I will call on you. You should
16 identify yourself for the record and then make
17 your comment. I will ask that you keep your
18 comments to no more than three minutes.

19 Now, before formally beginning the
20 public hearing, I am going to suggest waiving
21 the full reading of the public hearing notice,
22 unless there are any objections, and instead
23 request that the full text be inserted into the
24 public record.

25 Not seeing any objections, thank you

1 very much.

2 I am going to move forward to open the
3 public hearing at 6:11 p.m. And so with that,
4 I'll take my first -- or I'll take our first
5 comment.

6 MR. SHAUL: I would like to make a
7 comment. It's Josh Shaul.

8 MR. SCOTT: Thank you. Please
9 proceed. Could you give your full name and, I
10 think for the record, we should also have your
11 address, if possible, please.

12 MR. SHAUL: Sure. My name is
13 Josh Shaul, S-H-A-U-L. My address is 523 Mill
14 Valley Road, Middleburgh, New York.

15 Okay. So I am the business manager of
16 Laborers Local 157 and a resident of Schoharie
17 County. I represent 186 active and retired
18 members that live in the county. And regarding
19 the proposed amendment to Uniform Tax Exemption
20 Policy, we support reasonable renewable
21 development. And what that means to us is high
22 quality jobs for county residents and money
23 that stays in the local economy. If a
24 developer comes in and doesn't commit to
25 creating high quality local jobs or working

1 with the county, we believe they should pay
2 more.

3 However, if a developer comes in with
4 a solar project, works with the county and
5 commits to create high-quality local jobs that
6 pay family-sustaining wages, then I believe the
7 IDA should work with them.

8 MR. SCOTT: Well, thank you very much
9 for your comment. I'll now entertain our next
10 comment.

11 I am not hearing any or seeing any
12 indication that anyone wants to make an
13 additional comment.

14 MR. FOSKETT: Can I just join in?

15 MR. SCOTT: Yes, please.

16 MR. FOSKETT: Oh, sorry about that. I
17 didn't know if there was a queue or whatever,
18 so thank you. Sorry about that.

19 MR. SCOTT: No, please just raise your
20 hand or give us an indication and then state
21 your name and address and then we'll take your
22 comment. Thank you.

23 MR. FOSKETT: Certainly. Well, good
24 evening. My name is Joe Foskett, and I'm the
25 Director of Government Affairs for the Business

1 Council of New York State. Our address is 111
2 Washington Ave., Albany, New York 12210. Thank
3 you for allowing me to provide some comments
4 this evening.

5 At the outset, the Business Council
6 represents over 2,300 businesses across New
7 York State and serves as an advocate for a
8 robust business climate and economic growth of
9 jobs. A foundational tenet of our organization
10 is that when business succeeds, New York
11 succeeds.

12 I'd advance that it's within the
13 mission of an IDA to assess each project
14 individually on its own merit through
15 considering the totality of factors present;
16 from local tax revenue, to fostering an
17 environment where economic development can
18 flourish. Ideally, that process results in
19 balanced outcomes and appropriate tax payment
20 structures.

21 At the state Chamber of Commerce, we
22 believe it's of paramount importance to place
23 special emphasis on factors that enhance job
24 creation, economic development and
25 competitiveness, particularly in upstate New

1 York, where the economy has been stagnant for
2 decades.

3 A vital benefit of the Climate
4 Leadership and Community Protection Act, the
5 CLCPA, is ushering in a new green economy that
6 attracts private investment and could also
7 provide many regions across the state with much
8 needed opportunities for economic
9 revitalization.

10 I believe it's incumbent on IDAs
11 throughout the sate to look at the long game.
12 In this case, I'd say setting a price floor for
13 a specific type of energy project without
14 uniform guidance from the state, substantially
15 increases the risk that a neighboring community
16 could seize the opportunity to engage in a
17 bidding war and undercut the county's
18 competitiveness and ability to attract projects
19 that could both advance the state's climate
20 goals, while also providing additional revenue
21 to localities and school districts.

22 And respectfully, of course, I would
23 argue that a fixed minimum rate of \$20,000 per
24 megawatt for this project, which is more than
25 six times the average of PILOT agreements in

1 other parts of the state, could render
2 Schoharie County uncompetitive with other
3 regions who are similarly in need of economic
4 development and local revenue.

5 Now, it's already established by the
6 CLCPA it will, without question, require the
7 development of countless on and offshore winds,
8 solar and storage projects, in addition to any
9 number of others. I think it's important to
10 signal to developers that the county is open
11 for business and willing to engage in pragmatic
12 reasonable negotiations that will result not
13 only in this project being developed, but
14 perhaps several others, as well.

15 In the aggregate, this could provide
16 the county with a stream of revenue for years
17 to come, which could benefit infrastructure
18 investments and possibly a lower tax obligation
19 for residents. In the alternative, certainly
20 projects could be sited elsewhere and
21 opportunities created by the new green economy
22 could be lost.

23 Honestly, I don't envy your positions
24 or your -- the decision that you'll have to
25 make. The Business Council undoubtedly

1 recognizes the complicated challenges
2 associated with balancing local interest, while
3 creating an environment that attracts
4 opportunities. We're strong advocates for
5 development of state and local economies and
6 our core mission is to foster the kind of
7 prosperity that raises (inaudible). We believe
8 that this is achieved by private investments,
9 but we also recognize that local communities
10 and residents must be able to fairly share in
11 the benefits of this kind of economic
12 revitalization.

13 When state and local economies are
14 rebounding because of the effects of the
15 pandemic, I believe it's critical for Schoharie
16 County to remain competitive and attract new
17 opportunities for economic development, job
18 creation and revenue stream.

19 So in conclusion -- a bit
20 longwinded -- we would recommend that the
21 county IDA seriously consider the universe of
22 issues related to this project and future
23 projects and the potential ramifications of a
24 fixed minimum rate policy as proposed.

25 Thank you very much, everyone, for

1 your time and your consideration.

2 MR. SCOTT: Thank you for your
3 comment.

4 Next? Can I get our next person who
5 would like to make a comment?

6 MR. AIREY: Joe, it's Don Airey. Can
7 you hear me?

8 MR. SCOTT: I can. Please state your
9 full name and your residence, Don.

10 MR. AIREY: I'm sorry -- Yes. My full
11 name is Don Airey. I live in Blenheim, New
12 York, and my address is 997 West Kill Road.
13 And I want to thank the Schoharie County
14 Industrial Development Agency and the Board of
15 Directors and the Executive Director for the
16 opportunity to comment in this public hearing
17 regarding PILOT taxation for industrial solar
18 energy projects located within Schoharie
19 County. And honestly, I couldn't agree with
20 Joe Foskett any greater. I just feel that we
21 probably differ on the amount of compensation
22 that we're seeking for renewal energy projects.
23 I think there is an opportunity here to be at
24 the proper compensatory rate.

25 I am the Town Supervisor from the Town

1 of Blenheim, and I also serve on Schoharie
2 County Board of Supervisors. I serve on an
3 oversight committee member of the Agricultural
4 and Conservation Committee, Historical Planning
5 Committee and the Solid Waste Committee, on the
6 Flood Committee, as well as the County Energy
7 Committee. I co-negotiated the Blenheim-Gilboa
8 New York Power Authority compensatory 50
9 mill -- compensatory \$50 million settlement for
10 the host community towns of Blenheim and Gilboa
11 regarding the Blenheim-Gilboa Pump Storage
12 Hydro Project. That was a tax exempt renewal
13 energy project.

14 I just want to comment that the County
15 Energy Committee was formed for the purpose to
16 explore energy issues within the county,
17 including the rapid siting and permitting of
18 large industrial renewable energy projects,
19 including large industrial solar. There are
20 currently at least six active projects under
21 consideration or negotiation within the county.
22 This represents at least 120 megawatts
23 nameplate capacity, there's probably more to
24 follow.

25 These projects also represent

1 thousands of acres of land; some farmland, some
2 forested and some of mixed use, including
3 residential.

4 The Committee ultimately decided to
5 recommend a solar power rate to the County
6 Board of Supervisor for their consideration.
7 Several county resolutions regarding
8 large-scale solar, the development and
9 renewable energy projects were adopted
10 unanimously by all 16 town supervisors,
11 representing the 16 towns that comprise
12 Schoharie County.

13 Resolution 103 specifically addressed
14 the rate of PILOT compensation, as did
15 Resolution 17. After a year of consideration
16 and discussion with the IDA Executive Director
17 and the IDA Board of Directors, a rate of
18 \$20,000 per rate of megawatt capacity was
19 decided upon. Factors that were determined
20 that were considered in determining that rate
21 included, but were not limited to the
22 following:

23 The validity of application for a
24 PILOT by solar developers absent long-term
25 permanent job creation. That is a major factor

1 in granting PILOT applications, and with trade.
2 The existing, very generous state and federal
3 financial incentives offered to solar
4 developers, as well as a likelihood with even
5 greater incentives in the near future already
6 being funded with taxpayer dollars. The deep
7 tax relief and very accommodating minimum of
8 \$20,000 per megawatt PILOT rate would provide
9 solar developers, when calculated against fully
10 assessed taxation, a very significant
11 reduction. In fact, a reduction in taxes over
12 the term of a 50- or 20-year PILOT of at least
13 50 percent, probably more. This is a developer
14 friendly PILOT rate that also aims to safeguard
15 the interest of the county taxpayers. The
16 minimum rate of \$20,000 per megawatt does not
17 impose a financial hardship on the developers.
18 We've had meetings with developers. They've
19 never said it's a hardship.

20 It would provide a level of reasonable
21 and fair equity and revenue to the host
22 community towns, villages, schools and the
23 county. A more equitable deal with the
24 taxpayers than what some other county IDAs have
25 granted to out-of-state energy developers at

1 the taxpayer expense.

2 Host communities preserve the right of
3 home rule and negotiation with solar developers
4 and agree to their own terms, with \$20,000 per
5 megawatt serving only as a minimum rate. And
6 at a minimum rate of \$20,000 per rate of
7 megawatt would in no way handicap land owners
8 from leasing or selling of their lands to
9 developers if they so desire. Land owners
10 negotiate their own agreements, as well they
11 should.

12 There are other factors and
13 considerations, but time grated at a public
14 hearing does not allow for an exhaustive
15 dissertation of this subject matter. The
16 Schoharie County Industrial Development Agency
17 has certainly heard from me extensively over
18 the past year, as well as others. The SCIDA
19 voted in favor to move this solar PILOT policy
20 forward to public hearing and comment.

21 In closing, I thank the Schoharie
22 County Energy Committee for their time and
23 thoughtful work on this issue. I thank the
24 Chair of the Schoharie County Board of
25 Supervisors, Mr. Bill Federice, for his

1 proactive initiative in forming the Energy
2 Committee, and I thank the County Board of
3 Supervisors for their unanimous support of all
4 related energy resolutions over the past year,
5 and specifically industrial solar PILOT
6 Resolution 17.

7 And finally, I thank the Schoharie
8 County Industrial Development Agency for their
9 consideration and evaluation of this topic and
10 their support in offering the adoption of this
11 policy. I urge the IDA to complete this
12 well-founded, fair and equitable process that
13 will serve the best interest of all the
14 taxpayers of Schoharie County by voting to
15 formally adopt the Schoharie County Solar PILOT
16 Policy on April 21st. The county taxpayers
17 have placed their trust in your agency and
18 their interest in your care.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Don.

21 I'll just note for information
22 purposes, we had indicated and asked people to
23 limit their remarks to three minutes. We don't
24 have a large group of people here, so the
25 hearing officer, namely myself, I'm being very

1 lax, if you will, with respect to monitoring
2 that speaking limit.

3 So with that, I'll open it up --

4 MR. AIREY: Sorry, Joe. I thought I
5 was close.

6 MR. SCOTT: For the record, Don, you
7 weren't, but that's okay.

8 MR. AIREY: Thanks, Joe.

9 MR. SCOTT: Your comments are always
10 interesting and always welcome.

11 The next comment, please?

12 MR. SCORNAVACCA: I guess hearing a
13 little bit of silence, I guess I'd like to go,
14 if that's okay?

15 MR. SCOTT: Yes.

16 MR. SCORNAVACCA: Okay. All right.
17 Thank you. My name is Kris Scornavacca, I'm
18 with NextEra Energy Resources.

19 I appreciate, you know, the IDA taking
20 the time tonight to listen to members of the
21 community, and I appreciate it. I will keep my
22 comments very brief, very short.

23 In full disclosure, I am the project
24 developer for a project that is proposed in
25 Schoharie County, the East Point Energy Center

1 Project, which is a 50-megawatt project to be
2 located in the Town of Sharon.

3 Yeah, we -- I just want to say that we
4 would like to continue to work with Schoharie
5 County, its other local officials, all the
6 residents and businesses, to look for solutions
7 that can help us just -- that we can build a
8 project that benefits everyone locally in the
9 community.

10 Our project has the potential to bring
11 approximately 175 new jobs during the
12 construction phase of this project to Schoharie
13 County. These are jobs that can help assist
14 families that need those jobs locally, that are
15 looking for work locally and that help support
16 new career options for people that are just
17 starting out in life, whether they are
18 electricians, laborers, other contractors,
19 tradesmen, all types of skilled folks and
20 unskilled folks. These are jobs that people
21 need.

22 Those jobs not only help those
23 individuals that participate in the project, it
24 also helps bring other revenue to the local
25 community as the project is being developed and

1 ultimately constructed. We believe this
2 project brings a lot of benefits to the entire
3 community, via job creation and capital
4 investment. I am looking, you know, forward to
5 working with the community to find solutions
6 that can benefit everyone that lives out there
7 locally.

8 But I do want to say, and I would like
9 to end with, the policy that you're
10 considering, puts the benefit that could be
11 brought into the local community at risk.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MR. SCOTT: Thank you for your
14 comments.

15 Could we have our next speaker?

16 MR. FEDERICE: Joe, if I may, this is
17 Bill Federice.

18 MR. SCOTT: Please. If you could
19 speak -- identify -- you know, give your full
20 name and address for the record.

21 MR. FEDERICE: Okay. Bill,
22 William Federice, 832 South Mountain Road,
23 Conesville, New York, and I am the Supervisor
24 of the Town of Conesville, as well as the
25 Chairman of the Schoharie County Board of

1 Supervisors, and I want to pick up on a couple
2 of things that were said already. I'll do my
3 best to make the three minutes.

4 First of all, I'm hearing a common
5 theme here that this will create a great number
6 of jobs. Probably will during the construction
7 phase. And that's all goodness, but when the
8 construction is completed, those jobs go away.
9 And from what I've heard, there's not a whole
10 lot of support people or maintenance people
11 that you have to run these things. So the jobs
12 went away, but now we have the loss of that
13 particular -- the land, that site that the
14 solar panels are sited on. And to say that the
15 \$20,000 is perhaps a bit high, I beg to differ,
16 because, frankly, we're thinking of what's best
17 for our residents, because they're no longer
18 maybe using that land for something else.

19 Now, I think we also have to consider
20 something else here. Last time I looked, New
21 York State did have a vigorous home rule
22 philosophy. Seems to have been usurped quite a
23 bit lately, and it also seems to be something
24 that we're trying tell people what's
25 good -- what's better for them locally. And I

1 appreciate that and I appreciate the positions
2 that Joe and Chris took. And maybe if I was on
3 that side of the fence, I'd probably say the
4 same thing, to be honest about it.

5 However, I think we have to consider
6 what the people of the county want, not
7 necessarily the outside investors. I
8 appreciate their comments and they should be
9 deemed for consideration, but at the end of the
10 day, it's the people of our county who will
11 determine what's best and should determine.
12 And the role of the IDA is to look out after,
13 among all other things, the best interest of
14 the county.

15 And the \$20,000 that we've been
16 talking about per megawatt, is something that
17 was unanimously passed twice by the Schoharie
18 County Board of Supervisors, who are the dually
19 elected representatives of the county. So we
20 don't think that's necessarily an unfair
21 amount. In fact, it's probably, it's -- we
22 think it's fair, that's all I'll say. I'm not
23 going to get into a negotiation.

24 But at this point in time, we feel
25 that this decision needs to be made locally

1 with input from within and without, and I am
2 urging the IDA to respect the fact that the
3 full Board of Supervisors unanimously, twice,
4 has voted to support this. And you folks have
5 supported this -- maybe not unanimously, but
6 you folks have decided to support this and take
7 the question forward. And I just -- I'll
8 conclude it there just saying that we are the
9 host, we are the host communities for these
10 prospective projects and we feel that we should
11 have the final say as to where we are
12 negotiating. We're not saying, "No, don't try
13 to come here." We're not saying anything like
14 that. But we feel that we need to have some
15 recognition here that we are trying to
16 negotiate what is in the best interest of our
17 home host communities, our school districts and
18 the county. And I don't see anything wrong
19 with that, that I don't think we're very
20 unreasonable. Particularly what Don had said
21 about the fact that these investments are very
22 well -- are very friendly towards the investors
23 in terms of incentives and things like that
24 from the government.

25 And with that, I will just thank

1 Don Airey, who has done tireless work to be
2 able to put something together and make it
3 readable and understandable by the Board. And
4 thank you, Don. And that's all I have to say.

5 So how did I do for the three minutes,
6 Joe?

7 MR. SCOTT: I'm certainly not going to
8 cross the chair, absolutely not. So thank you
9 very much, Chair, for your comments.

10 The next speaker for comments?

11 All right. I'm not hearing or seeing
12 anyone. So what I am going to do is continue
13 on with my prepared remarks, and what we'll
14 probably do is keep a couple of minutes open at
15 the end for a straggler or two. I'll talk to
16 Mr. Filmer to see how much time we should add
17 on the end of this, just in the interest of
18 making sure that we -- who may be running a
19 little late, to join us.

20 So going back to my comment -- to my
21 remarks. I now want to note that the Agency
22 has not received any written comments in
23 advance of the public hearing. If we were to
24 receive any written comments, they would be
25 added to the public comments received this

1 evening and become part of the public record.

2 In addition, the Agency will keep the
3 period for the receipt of comments open until
4 April 14th. So if you or anyone that did not
5 have the opportunity to attend this hearing
6 this evening, please send us your comments to
7 the Agency at the address noted in the
8 published hearing notice in the Agency's
9 website. We will include those written
10 comments in the public record.

11 So what I would suggest -- I have
12 6:34. I would suggest adding four minutes at
13 the end here, Deb, if we could just, you know,
14 go off -- go off record with respect to taping,
15 and that way we can just keep it open for a
16 couple more minutes. I'll give you the hi sign
17 when I'd like to formally close the hearing.

18 But before I do -- before we go into a
19 mini adjournment, are there -- does anyone else
20 want to make an additional comment for the
21 record?

22 Okay. So, Deb, why don't we go
23 offline for a minute or two and then I'll give
24 you the hi sign to go back live and then we'll
25 close the public hearing.

1 (Whereupon, a recess is taken.)

2 MR. SCOTT: I've got 6:39. I think
3 we've done our duty in terms of keeping this
4 public hearing open to solicit comments.
5 Debbie, thank you for your efforts in keeping
6 us on track. Mr. Johnson, Mr. Oevering, thanks
7 for attending on behalf of the IDA.

8 So for the record, we'll have two
9 members of the IDA being able to report to the
10 full Board the substance of the public hearing,
11 together with the written record. I'll add
12 again that we're keeping the comment period
13 open until the 14th to ensure ample opportunity
14 for people to make comments on this important
15 policy initiative of the IDA. And with that,
16 I'll close the public hearing at 6:40 and
17 everyone have a very nice evening. Take care
18 now. Thank you.

19 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
20 was concluded at 6:40 p.m.)

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I N D E X P A G E

OPENING REMARKS BY MR. SCOTT
CLOSING REMARKS BY MR. SCOTT

SPEAKERS:

| | |
|------------------|----|
| JOSH SHAUL | 9 |
| JOE FOSKETT | 10 |
| DON AIREY | 15 |
| KRIS SCORNAVACCA | 21 |
| WILLIAM FEDERICE | 23 |

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Deborah M. McByrne, a Shorthand Reporter
and Notary Public of the State of New York, do
hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a
true and correct transcript of the proceedings as
mentioned in the heading hereof, to the best of my
knowledge and belief.



Deborah M. McByrne

| | | | | |
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