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The SUNY Cortland is the first SUNY campus to develop a large scale solar photovoltaic (PV) project on campus. While the size of the system does not exceed 10% of our overall campus demands, it does represent a great first step to the transformation of renewable power for SUNY Cortland and development projects within the SUNY system. The general goals of the large scale solar PV project include:

- Capitalize on available NYSERDA funding through the New York Sun competitive grant process and make this great opportunity work for SUNY Cortland.
- Develop a large, visible renewable energy project to foster dialogue on campus and within the community as they relate to renewable power and energy use in general terms.
- Engages the campus community through programs and outreach to assess electric energy needs and use this outreach to help encourage energy reduction.

In the fall of 2012, SUNY Cortland developed an RFI and RFP process to procure qualifications and pricing structure for the development of solar PV array on SUNY Cortland's campus. This RFP was based upon the NYSERDA PON 2589 and the New York Sun competitive grant. SUNY Cortland like many institutions of higher education had many plans for a solar development project however the opportunity didn't materialize during the typical capital project process, so by utilizing the Power Purchase Agreement structure, SUNY Cortland eliminated the need to provide up-front capital for the installation of on-site renewable power.

Through the RFP process multiple installation methods were reviewed to gain a clearer understanding of competitive pricing and optimizing potential output based on the results of the competitive nature of the grant funding. Ultimately a ground mount array and a roof top mounted array resulted in the most cost effective and greatest generation for the amount of space available. The ground mount array is along a major thoroughfare and has generated many word-of-mouth inquiries about the system and how it is benefiting the campus and the community.

The process of developing a renewable Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) was entirely new for the State University of New York system and other state agencies, therefore, SUNY Cortland had to review our process very closely with the support and assistance of other state procurement law experts. The PPA is not the purchase of the capital infrastructure, but the purchase of power generation which makes it a rather unique form of construction / service contract. This distinction made the development process that much more challenging.

SUNY Cortland has provided countless consultation efforts with other SUNY campuses as well as presented the process at several local municipal and SUNY events to further encourage the development of renewable power. Presently six other SUNY campuses are working to develop their own projects and

several municipalities are engaged in similar efforts for their facilities. This is extremely exciting for SUNY Cortland and further fosters the academic nature of the institution and fulfills the goals of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Brubaker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew J. Brubaker, AIA
Campus Energy Manager