



Building and Zoning Department
41 City Hall Place
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
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PROCEDURE IN APPEALING THE ZONING ORDINANCE CLASS A VARIANCE

DEADLINE FOR FILING APPLICATION _____

ZONING BOARD MEETING DATE _____

The Zoning Board of Appeals has been empowered to hear and decide all appeals to the Zoning Ordinance and to do so the Board holds public meetings once a month.

The attached appeal application must be completely filled out and returned to the office for action by the Zoning Board of Appeals at their monthly meeting. The filing fee for said application is as follows:

One and Two-family dwellings -	\$100.00
Multiple Dwellings	\$150.00
Commercial Properties	\$150.00

All checks should be made payable to the "City Chamberlain". In order for your appeal to be heard in the same month you apply, the appeal form and fee must be received by this office three weeks prior to the scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals. All applicants or their representatives must attend the Zoning Board of Appeals Public Meeting to answer any questions the Board may have regarding their request.

In filling out the form, please be specific and supply the Zoning Board of Appeals with all the necessary information requested on the form. If you are requesting a Variance from the Ordinance, you must detail why the literal enforcement of the ordinance will produce an undue hardship, while the variance requested will adhere to property is no proof of hardship within the purpose of zoning. Financial disadvantage to the property is no proof of hardship within the purpose of zoning. In addition to the above, an applicant must submit adequate drawings and a site plan of all requests, which will involve any construction, alterations, or physical change to their property. **THIRTEEN (13) copies of the entire packet including drawings and site plans are required** (we recommend the plans be approved before the THIRTEEN (13) copies are made).

Before the Zoning Board of Appeals may hear and decide your appeal, this office must first:

1. Publish the request in three successive issues of the Press-Republican newspaper not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) days before the hearings.
2. Notify, by letter, all adjoining property owners of your request

This office is responsible for implementing the above requirements.

If there are any questions, please contact this office.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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____ USE
CLASS A VARIANCE

____ AREA
CLASS B VARIANCE

____ SUP
SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Date: _____

Appeal No.: _____

An application is hereby made to the Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to the City of Plattsburgh Zoning Ordinance for a variance to allow the property use as herein described.

Applicant: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Parcel Identification: _____

Location of Request: _____

Property Owner: _____

Request Description: _____

Zoning District: _____

Section Appealed: _____

Previous Appeal: No.: _____ Date: _____

Identify Applicant's Right to Apply for Variance:

Ownership: _____ Long Term Lease: _____ Contract To Purchase: _____

Other (Please Explain): _____

Applications for Zoning Variances must be accompanied by:

13 copies of existing and proposed site plan plus original application.

13 copies of existing and proposed floor plan.

The Zoning Board of Appeals may impose reasonable conditions and restrictions on the grant of area and use variances provided they are directly related to and incidental to the proposed use of the property. Such conditions shall be consistent with the spirit and intent of the zoning law, and shall be imposed for the purpose of minimizing any adverse impact such variance may have on the neighborhood or community.

*

Signature (Owner/Applicant)

Notary Public

Print First and Last Name

*Signatures other than Property Owner require a Letter of Authorization to apply.

Use Variances Standards

The state statutes defined a use variance as: "the authorization by the zoning board of appeals for the use of land for a purpose which is otherwise not allowed or is prohibited by the applicable zoning regulation.
General City Law, 81-b(1)

The state statutes then go on to provide the zoning board with the standards for granting the use variance:

(b) No such use variance shall be granted by the zoning board of appeals without a showing by the applicant that applicable zoning regulations and restrictions have caused unnecessary hardship. In order to prove such unnecessary hardship the applicant shall demonstrate to the board of appeals that for each and every permitted use under the zoning regulations for the particular district where the property is located:

(1) the applicant cannot realize a reasonable return, provided that the lack of return is substantial as demonstrated by competent financial evidence;

(2) That the alleged hardship to the property in question is unique, and does not apply to a substantial portion of the district of neighborhood;

(3) that the requested use variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood;

(4) that the alleged hardship has not been self created.

The board of appeals, in granting of use variances, shall grant the minimum variance that it shall deem necessary and adequate to address the unnecessary hardship proved by the applicant, and at the same time preserve and protect the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community."

General City Law, 81-b(3)

USE VARIANCE CRITERIA

No such use variance shall be granted by the zoning board of appeals without a showing by the applicant that applicable zoning regulations and restrictions have caused an "Unnecessary Hardship." In order to prove such unnecessary hardship the applicant shall demonstrate to the Zoning Board of Appeals that for each and every permitted use under the zoning regulations for the particular district where the property is located:

Please give a written response to the following criteria;

- (1) You must prove a lack of reasonable return. Please provide competent financial evidence which proves a lack of reasonable return.
- (2) Please demonstrate why your hardship is unique to your property and does not apply to a substantial portion of the neighborhood.
- (3) Please show that granting this use variance will not change the essential character of the neighborhood.
- (4) Please demonstrate why the alleged hardship has not been self-created

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

CITY HALL

PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK 12901

STANDARDS OF PROOF - USE VARIANCE: "UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP STANDARD"

For an applicant to be entitled to a Use Variance, he must satisfy the "unnecessary hardship standard". The courts of New York hold that, to satisfy this standard, the applicant must establish by competent proof the following:

1. The land in question cannot yield a reasonable return if used only for a purpose allowed in that zone.
2. The use to be authorized by the variance will not alter the essential character of the locality.
3. The hardship is unique as to this parcel and is not general throughout the zoning district.

A. REASONABLE RETURN: As to proof of "no reasonable return", the New York Court of Appeals held in the case of Crossroads Recreation v. Broz 4 N.Y. 2d 39 - that the issue of "reasonable return" cannot be satisfied except by a showing of dollars and cents proof in which the following is established by competent evidence:

1. The amount paid for the land in question.
2. Its present market value.
3. Annual maintenance expenses.
4. Annual land taxes and school taxes.
5. The unpaid balance of mortgages and other encumbrances.
6. The annual income from the land in question for each and every use permitted in this Zoning District.
7. Proof that this actual or estimated return for each permitted use is not reasonable under the circumstances.
8. If the subject premises are the subject of a contract of purchase contingent upon the grant of a use variance, then the applicant must establish the fair market value of the property independent of the purchase price, because in the absence of such proof, it will be presumed that the purchase price included a premium over fair market price at the time of purchase in expectation of favorable zoning relief. Professional Park v. Town of Bedford, 60 N.Y. 2d 492 (1983).

Whether any of the permitted uses would generate a reasonable return requires proof from which can be determined the rate of return earned by similar or like property in the community requires proof in dollars and cents from the owners investment in the property as well as the return that the property will produce from the various uses permissible under the existing classification.

The burden of proof is always on the applicant on the issue of establishing unnecessary hardship. This does not, however, bar the municipality from going forward with proof to the contrary because as the Court of Appeals said in Professional Park v Town of Bedford:

"When the proponent presents proof sufficient to permit the trier of fact to decide in his or her favor, the opponent must counter that proof or risk an adverse determination. Only in that general sense can it be said that there is no obligation on the municipality to go forward with the proof."

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK 12901

-2-

"Unnecessary Hardship Standard"

Proof of present market value and annual income can be best established through the testimony of an expert witness. Where more than one use is permitted in the zoning district, the applicant must prove the projected annual income from each and every permitted use, and must prove that this annual return is not reasonable as compared to the return by like property in the community.

If, on the basis of this dollars and cents proof, the ZBA determines that no reasonable return can be derived from any of the permitted uses, then the applicant has proven the first part of the unnecessary hardship standard.

B. ESSENTIAL CHARACTER: In addition, the applicant must prove by competent evidence that the proposed use will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

C. UNIQUENESS: The applicant must prove that the hardship is not so general throughout the zoning district as to require the conclusion that if all parcels similarly situated were granted variances, the zoning of the district would be materially changed. In other words, if the hardship is common throughout the area, then perhaps legislative action by the Town Board in the nature of a zone change or zoning ordinance amendment may be in order.

If the ZBA determines that the applicant has not furnished competent evidence meeting and satisfying both of the above standards, then the ZBA must deny the use variance.

D. OTHER FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED BY ZBA:

SELF-CREATED HARDSHIP: If the hardship complained of is self-imposed, then the variance will be denied. The cases hold that a party who knowingly acquires land for a use prohibited by the Zoning Ordinance creates his own hardship. Even if he did not actually learn of the prohibition at the time of the purchase he is nevertheless chargeable with knowing the restrictions on use.

PERSONAL PROBLEMS: Is the plight of the owner due to personal problems as opposed to use of the land or buildings. If personal problems, then the use variance must be denied.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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TO: All Applicants for Zoning Variance or Special Use Permit

SUBJECT: Required information for filing application

The Zoning Ordinance stipulates that the Building Inspector determine that all submittals for a Variance or Special Use Permit have adequate information (in form and content - Section 270-54A) for review by the Zoning Board of Appeals. In order to insure such information is consistently provided with each application the following information shall be required with each application:

1. Existing Site Plan - showing to scale the property lines, principal buildings, accessory structures, rights-of-ways as may exist and other improvements (city street and facilities abutting the site, driveways, parking areas, drainage structures, fence, etc.). Where the application is a request for the reduction of any yard setback the existing site plan shall be a survey of the property as prepared by a Licensed Land Surveyor and shall show the location of buildings on the abutting property where the yard reduction is proposed.
2. Proposed Site Plan - showing clearly to scale what is proposed to be constructed (and removed) under this application. The proposed improvement (s) shall be shaded, colored or contrasted in an acceptable manner to make them easily discernible. Adequately dimension the proposed improvements and indicate the setbacks as applicable.
3. Area and Bulk Calculations - Calculations of the lot area, lot dimensions, building area (existing/proposed), lot coverage, open space, all yard setbacks, dwelling unit density, building(s) height, parking required shall be submitted in tabulated form to show existing, proposed and required.
4. Building Plans - Submit schematic building plans to scale showing the existing/proposed building layout and identify clearly the existing/proposed use of all building spaces. Include elevation view(s) of proposed construction as applicable.
5. Area Location Map - showing all properties on each side of the street and noting the existing occupancy for each such lot on all four sides of the site. A copy of the tax map of the area marked to show the occupancy shall be sufficient for this information.

No application will be accepted after this date unless it contains all of the above information (11 sets). No application will be accepted for the agenda until all such appropriate information has first been filed with this office for a review and determination of zoning compliance/noncompliance (and such a determination has been issued to the applicant in writing).

Variances

One of the basic powers given by law to a zoning board of appeals is called the "variance" power. The board has the authority to "vary," or modify, the strict letter of a zoning ordinance or local law in cases where this strict interpretation could cause practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships for an individual.

Appeals boards are frequently confronted with requests for variances. There are two types of requests that come before the board, and the standards by which they are judged differ. A use variance is a request to utilize property for a use or activity which is not permitted by the zoning ordinance, and the applicant must demonstrate "unnecessary hardship." An area variance is a request for relief from dimensional standards contained in the zoning ordinance, and it requires a demonstration of "practical difficulty."

The basic standards for determining unnecessary hardship and practical difficulty have been established and refined by the courts in numerous cases.

Use Variance

An individual who wants to utilize property for a use that is not permitted by the zoning ordinance must apply for a use variance. An applicant for a use variance must demonstrate unnecessary hardship by satisfying each of the following three tests:

1. Uniqueness

The applicant must prove that there are certain features or conditions of the land that are not generally applicable throughout the zone AND that these features make it impossible to earn a reasonable return without some adjustment. If the features or conditions are generally applicable throughout the district, a variance should not be granted. In those situations where the difficulty is shared by others, the relief should be accomplished by an amendment to the zoning ordinance, not a variance.

2. Reasonable Return

The applicant must demonstrate an inability to realize a reasonable return under any of the uses permitted by the zoning ordinance. There must be a "dollars and cents" proof of the applicant's inability to realize reasonable return; speculation or qualitative assessment is inadequate.² Failure to realize the highest return is not considered a hardship.

3. Character

The applicant must prove that the requested modification will not change the character or quality of the neighborhood. In addition, the "spirit" of the ordinance or local law should be preserved.

The applicant for a use variance must meet all three tests before the appeals board may grant relief. A use variance should not be granted if the "unnecessary hardship" was created by the applicant. If the appeals board grants a use variance to an applicant who has failed to meet each of the tests, it runs the risk of assuming the function of the legislative body and making a decision contrary to the legislative intent of the zoning ordinance.

An increasing number of use variance requests is often the sign of an "aged" zoning regulation. The appeals board should not circumvent the legislative process by granting use variances. Instead, the appeals board should advise the governing body of the need to reexamine and amend the zoning ordinance.

Area Variance

In the case of an area variance, the applicant is seeking modification of dimensional standards, such as yard requirements, set-back lines, lot coverage, frontage requirements or density regulations, so that the property may be utilized for one of the uses permitted by the zoning ordinance. The appeals board may grant relief if the applicant can demonstrate that strict compliance with the regulations would cause practical difficulty.

The determination of practical difficulty is a three-step process.³

1. First, the applicant must demonstrate that the application of the zoning ordinance to his property causes significant economic injury.
 2. Once the applicant has demonstrated economic injury, then the municipality must show that the regulation in question is reasonably related to a legitimate exercise of the police power.
 3. Last, assuming the municipality has met its burden of proof, the applicant must demonstrate that the restrictions, as strictly applied in his case, are unrelated to the public health, safety or welfare of the community and that granting the variance will not adversely affect the community.
- In making a determination of practical difficulty, the appeals board may consider:⁴

1. How substantial the variation is in relation to the requirement;
2. The potential effect of increased density on available municipal, county and state facilities and services;
3. Whether the variance will cause a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood;
4. Whether the difficulty can feasibly be mitigated by some other method; or
5. Whether the interests of justice will be served in granting the variance.

The appeals board should grant the minimum relief necessary to allow reasonable use of the land in question. Not every applicant for an area variance is automatically entitled to receive relief. Each application should be carefully considered against the requirement for proof of practical difficulty.

Summary

The major difference between a use variance and an area variance involves the use of the property. An area variance results in a modification of physical restrictions so that an allowable use may be established on the property. By contrast, a use variance permits the establishment of a use which is prohibited by the zoning ordinance and the zoning map. It is for this reason that the standards for a use variance are more stringent than the standards established for an area variance.

Frequently, the appeals board is encouraged to make legislative decisions under the guise of use variance requests. The appeals board should exercise caution when confronted with a request for a use variance, and only grant those which meet the tests established for determining unnecessary hardship. The appeals board should resist the inclination to correct deficiencies in the zoning ordinance through the exercise of its variance power. If particular provisions of the zoning ordinance are inappropriate or unjust, the appeals board should recommend that the legislative body (City Council, Town Board, Board of Trustees) take the necessary steps to amend the ordinance or local law.

¹ Otto v. Steinhilber, 282 NY 71 (1939); Village of Bronxville v. Francis, 150 NYS 2d 906 (1956); Jayne Estates v. Raynor, 22 NY 2d 417 (1968); Douglaston Civic Association, Inc. v. Klein, 51 NY 2d 963 (1980).

² Fayetteville v. Jarrold, 53 NY 2d 254 (1981).

³ Fulling v. Palumbo, 21 NY 2d 30 (1967); National Merrit, Inc. v. Werst, 41 NY 2d 438 (1977).

⁴ Waschsberger v. Michalls, 19 Misc 2d 909 (1959).

Department of Planning

Note:

This Tech Memo was prepared by the
publication for municipal governments.

Department of Planning as an informational
It is not intended to be a legal opinion.

**Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 1 - Project and Setting**

Instructions for Completing Part 1

Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the applicant or project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1 is accurate and complete.

A. Project and Applicant/Sponsor Information.

Name of Action or Project:		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map):		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need):		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor:		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role):		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor):		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

B. Government Approvals

B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, ☐ Yes ☐ No or Village Board of Trustees		
b. City, Town or Village ☐ Yes ☐ No Planning Board or Commission		
c. City, Town or ☐ Yes ☐ No Village Zoning Board of Appeals		
d. Other local agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
e. County agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
f. Regional agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
g. State agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
h. Federal agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
i. Coastal Resources.		
i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway?		☐ Yes ☐ No
ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program?		☐ Yes ☐ No
iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area?		☐ Yes ☐ No

C. Planning and Zoning**C.1. Planning and zoning actions.**

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If Yes, complete sections C, F and G.
- If No, proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

C.2. Adopted land use plans.

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway; Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

C.3. Zoning	
a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance? If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?	☐ Yes ☐ No
b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit?	☐ Yes ☐ No
c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? If Yes,	☐ Yes ☐ No
i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site?	
C.4. Existing community services.	
a. In what school district is the project site located?	
b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?	
c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?	
d. What parks serve the project site?	

D. Project Details

D.1. Proposed and Potential Development	
a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)?	
b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?	_____ acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?	_____ acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?	_____ acres
c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use?	☐ Yes ☐ No
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)?	% _____ Units: _____
d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision?	☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes,	
i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)	
ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed?	☐ Yes ☐ No
iii. Number of lots proposed?	
iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum _____ Maximum _____	
e. Will the proposed action be constructed in multiple phases?	☐ Yes ☐ No
i. If No, anticipated period of construction:	_____ months
ii. If Yes:	
• Total number of phases anticipated	_____
• Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition)	_____ month _____ year
• Anticipated completion date of final phase	_____ month _____ year
• Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases:	_____

f. Does the project include new residential uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, show numbers of units proposed. One Family Two Family Three Family Multiple Family (four or more)			
Initial Phase _____ At completion _____ of all phases _____			
g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, i. Total number of structures _____ ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____ height; _____ width; and _____ length iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet			
h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____ ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: ☐ Ground water ☐ Surface water streams ☐ Other specify: _____ iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source. _____ iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete): _____			
D.2. Project Operations			
a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? ☐ Yes ☐ No (Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite) If Yes: i. What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____ ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site? • Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____ • Over what duration of time? _____ iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them. _____ _____ _____			
iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, describe. _____ _____ _____			
v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____ acres vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet viii. Will the excavation require blasting? ☐ Yes ☐ No ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____ _____ _____			
b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): _____ _____ _____			

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland. e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

iii. Will the proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, describe: _____

iv. Will the proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: _____
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: _____
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): _____
- proposed method of plant removal: _____
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): _____

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: _____

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: _____
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____
- Source(s) of supply for the district: _____

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If, Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: _____

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: _____

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), what is the maximum pumping capacity: _____ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): _____

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: _____
- Name of district: _____
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

• Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? _____ • Will a line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? _____ If Yes: • Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No
iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? _____ If Yes: • Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____ • Date application submitted or anticipated: _____ • What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge or describe subsurface disposal plans): _____	
vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____	
c. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? _____ If Yes: i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel? _____ Square feet or _____ acres (impervious surface) _____ Square feet or _____ acres (parcel size) ii. Describe types of new point sources. _____ iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)? _____ • If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____ • Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? _____	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No
iv. Does the proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? _____ If Yes, identify: i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles) _____ ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers) _____ iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation) _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? _____ If Yes: i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) _____ ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate: • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF₆) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____ ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____			
i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust): _____			
j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): ☐ Morning ☐ Evening ☐ Weekend ☐ Randomly between hours of _____ to _____ ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of truck trips/day and type (e.g., semi trailers and dump trucks): _____ iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____ iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? ☐ Yes ☐ No v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe: _____ vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within ½ mile of the proposed site? ☐ Yes ☐ No vii. Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? ☐ Yes ☐ No viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? ☐ Yes ☐ No			
k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____ ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other): _____ iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade, to an existing substation? ☐ Yes ☐ No			
l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply. <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> i. During Construction: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____ </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> ii. During Operations: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____ </td> </tr> </table>		i. During Construction: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____	ii. During Operations: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____
i. During Construction: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____	ii. During Operations: • Monday - Friday: _____ • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____		

m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes: i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration: _____	
ii. Will the proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No Describe: _____	
n. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes: i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____	
ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No Describe: _____	
o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____	
p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Product(s) to be stored _____ ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (c.g., month, year) iii. Generally, describe the proposed storage facilities: _____	
q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Describe proposed treatment(s): _____	
ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility: • Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time) • Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time) ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste: • Construction: _____ • Operation: _____ iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site: • Construction: _____ • Operation: _____	

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes:
 i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): _____
 ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:
 • _____ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
 • _____ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment
 iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: _____ years

t. Will the proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes:
 i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: _____

 ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: _____

 iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated _____ tons/month
 iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: _____

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes: provide name and location of facility: _____

 If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility:

E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site

a. Existing land uses.
 i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.
☐ Urban ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Residential (suburban) ☐ Rural (non-farm)
☐ Forest ☐ Agriculture ☐ Aquatic ☐ Other (specify): _____
 ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: _____			

Page 10 of 13

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
• If yes, DEC site ID number: _____ • Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____ • Describe any use limitations: _____ • Describe any engineering controls: _____ • Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No • Explain: _____	
E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site	
a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? _____ feet	
b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____ %	
c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site: _____	%
_____	%
_____	%
d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: _____ feet	
e. Drainage status of project site soils: ☐ Well Drained: _____ % of site	
☐ Moderately Well Drained: _____ % of site	
☐ Poorly Drained: _____ % of site	
f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes: ☐ 0-10%: _____ % of site	
☐ 10-15%: _____ % of site	
☐ 15% or greater: _____ % of site	
g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes, describe: _____	
h. Surface water features.	
i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes to either i or ii, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.	
iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:	
• Streams: Name _____	Classification _____
• Lakes or Ponds: Name _____	Classification _____
• Wetlands: Name _____	Approximate Size _____
• Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) _____	
v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____	
i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
j. Is the project site in the 100-year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
k. Is the project site in the 500-year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. Name of aquifer: _____	

m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site:	
n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation):	
ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation:	
iii. Extent of community/habitat:	
• Currently:	_____ acres
• Following completion of project as proposed:	_____ acres
• Gain or loss (indicate + or -):	_____ acres
o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. Species and listing (endangered or threatened):	
p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. Species and listing:	
q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use:	
E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site	
a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes, provide county plus district name/number:	
b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site:	
ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s):	
c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. Nature of the natural landmark: ☐ Biological Community ☐ Geological Feature	
ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent:	
d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes:	
i. CEA name:	
ii. Basis for designation:	
iii. Designating agency and date:	

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If Yes: i. Nature of historic/archaeological resource: ☐ Archaeological Site ☐ Historic Building or District ii. Name: _____ iii. Brief description of attributes on which listing is based: _____	
f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Describe possible resource(s): _____ ii. Basis for identification: _____	
h. Is the project site within five miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Identify resource: _____ ii. Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): _____ iii. Distance between project and resource: _____ miles.	
i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: i. Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____ ii. Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No	

F. Additional Information

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

G. Verification

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Title _____

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