



Lightstar Siting Vision

We believe that a solar array and the land it is sited on can work in concert together to achieve mutual and spillover benefits. Our projects are sited, constructed, and maintained centering the ecology of the surrounding area, the needs of the local community, and advancing progress against climate change.

Lightstar Siting Best Practices

1. **Utilize land management strategies** that protect habitat connectivity and natural resources. First seek to preserve, replicate, restore, or improve ecology within the solar siting area. Leverage native plants, grasses, and shrubs to preserve the character of the surrounding area. When necessary and available – consider conservation easements to ensure proper screening and set backs.
2. **Protect water quality** and design projects to prevent current and future erosion. Use stormwater best management practices taking into consideration change climate and extreme weather events. Mitigate potential risk from extreme weather events, therefore contributing to the resiliency of the larger local eco-system.
3. **Consider best use of the land.** Lightstar is committed to being stewards of the land and will consider the best area of the parcel that will have the least environmental impact, but highest co-locational benefit for the land. This may mean offering a solar design that accommodates both solar and farming in between and around the array.
4. **During construction Lightstar’s team takes care to minimize soil compaction** by construction equipment and site staging areas with this mind. Lightstar is familiar with and has implemented Massachusetts and New York solar construction guidelines and partners with subcontractors with vast solar construction experience. We will make sure to leave the construction staging area better than we found it.
5. **Lightstar is in partnership with our solar land owners** for the long haul and secures decommissioning bonds or similar financial assurances that when the solar array is to be retired, the entirety of the project is removed and the land is returned to as it was before. It is important to us to preserve and maintain soil health for prime and important agricultural soils.