8.0 EFFECTS ON THE USE AND CONSERVATION OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Through the utilization of sustainable design techniques, selection of energy efficient and environmentally sensitive construction materials and mechanical systems, and a commitment to conservation practices and low impact development techniques, the proposed Silo Ridge Resort Community will utilize energy wisely and ensure the conservation and protection of the natural environment. As with all development projects, energy will be consumed during construction and will continue to be consumed upon completion and use of the facilities and residences of the Proposed Action.

It is anticipated that the primary source of energy for the project will be electricity form NYSEG. Secondary energy will be propane on an option basis in buried individual tanks for single-family units and/or townhomes and common buried tanks for condominium units. It is expected that not all units will have a propane option.

During construction, energy will be used to power equipment and various construction vehicles. Once construction is completed and homes are occupied, energy will be required for air conditioning, lighting, and the use of household appliances. The design and plans for all energy conservation systems within the development will take into account the New York State Energy Code. It is expected that all systems will be modern, energy efficient units.

Additionally, the Applicant will investigate retaining ENERGY STAR-rated Home Building Contractors and Hospitality Partners. Facilities that earn the ENERGY STAR must meet guidelines for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). ENERGY STAR-qualified homes are at least 15% more energy efficient than homes built to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code. ENERGY STAR qualified facilities can include a variety of energy-efficient features, such as effective insulation, high performance windows, tight construction and ducts, efficient heating and cooling equipment, and ENERGY STAR-qualified lighting and appliances. These features have been proven to contribute to improved home quality and comfort, and to lower energy demand and reduce air pollution.

To reduce fuel consumption for transportation uses, the Applicant also intends to explore alternative modes of transportation for resort guests, including the use of a shuttle bus to transport people from the nearby Wassaic Metro-North train station to the project site.

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