

## TOWN OF ANDOVER

**Town Offices** 36 Bartlet Street Andover, MA 01810 (978) 623-8200 www.andoverma.gov

To:

Jacki Byerley

Planner

From: Thomas Carbone

Director of Public Health

Date: January 10, 2023

Re:

1320 South Street

**Battery Storage Facility** 

I am in receipt of a response to my memo of December 20, 2022, from New Leaf Energy dated December 28, 2022. I offer the following comments:

- 1. While New Leaf states "New Leaf has addressed all concerns brought forth by the Town," the proponent has been unable to provide us access to any comparable nearby facility, because this will be the first in the area. The closest site provided is at Acton-Boxborough High School, is a much smaller facility, and is a different technology than being proposed here. I stand by my statement in my December 20, 2022, memo: I continue to be concerned that the proposed sound mitigation strategies proposed by the applicant could be inadequate.
- 2. New Leaf has amended its Sound Monitoring Plan as recommended in my most recent memo, with some exceptions. Their response is not acceptable for the following reasons:
  - a. I expect that during "commissioning", there will be associated sound from operations; sound monitoring must commence at the start of commissioning, and continue until at least 14 days following the start of commercial operation. If we find that sounds exceed allowable levels prior to commercial use, the violation will already exist and neighbors will be forced to endure it.
  - b. Raw sound data must be submitted to the Health Division on a weekly basis to allow us to adequately measure the impact of operations.
  - c. Allowing monitoring within 1 month of commercial operation with a report within 2 months does not adequately protect the neighbors should exceedances be noted; If monitoring will occur for 14 days following the start of commercial operation, then the report must be submitted within 28 days of start of operation. Further, I expect that if allowable levels are exceeded, operations will be stopped until such time as it is determined that the violation has been corrected.

- 3. New Leaf has agreed to the following: The Planning Board should require that funds be deposited with the Town to be used for post construction sound monitoring and review of the data being submitted by the applicant. The amount should be \$30,000.00, and should remain in the town's control until 6 months following 100% operation.
- 4. New Leaf has agreed to the following: Prior to beginning any site work, the applicant shall submit to the Town a construction plan that is subject to the approval of the Planning Director or his designee, the Inspector of Buildings, the Director of Public Health, the Fire Chief or his designee, and the Director of Public Works or his designee. Said construction plan shall include the following information:
  - a. A traffic control plan that includes details as to where trucks and equipment will be staged prior to offloading.
  - b. A plan to address the off-hour arrival of equipment.
  - c. Names and contact information of persons who will be responsible for addressing any complaints during construction; that list shall be at least four names deep.
  - d. How any noise complaints will be investigated and resolved.