



TOWN OF DRESDEN

WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEW YORK
From Lake George to Lake Champlain

October 1, 2026

To the Residents of the Town of Dresden:

On August 10, 2026, the Town Board adopted a one-year moratorium on battery energy storage systems and data centers in Dresden. A moratorium is meant to give a town the time to study a difficult question carefully before it acts, and that is how we intend to use this one. We are studying the issue, evaluating what we learn, and building the record a sound, permanent law will need to rest on. That kind of work takes significant time, effort, and money. It is not something that can be done quickly without giving something up in the process.

Several residents raised Long Lake, New York's experience with battery storage regulation at our August 10 public hearing, and I went through Long Lake's town records — minutes, filings, and correspondence — to put together a dated record of what happened and when. I've attached that record here, in Long Lake's words and dates, rather than as a secondhand commentary. The timeline lists, in date order, the steps Long Lake took between 2017 and 2024 to study and ultimately regulate battery storage in its own community, along with the time that passed between those steps.

This document is a factual compilation, built entirely from Long Lake's public records, and it draws no conclusions about why any action was taken or how well it worked. What it shows plainly is how many separate steps a careful process can involve and how long that process can take, with each step bringing its own questions and demanding its own attention. I'm sharing it as one example of that kind of process, not as a model for Dresden to follow or a critique of the choices Long Lake made along the way.

Dresden's own path is being built from Dresden's own facts, findings, and decisions, and we intend to take the time this work requires to get it right for Dresden. I will keep residents informed as that work moves forward.

This letter and the attached document are offered for public information. They do not constitute legal advice, an opinion of Town Counsel, or an adopted policy or determination of the Town Board.

With kind regards,

Charles Tall
Town Supervisor
Town of Dresden



PURE TIMELINE OF LONG LAKE'S PROCESS

A chronological list of dated and sourced items from the Long Lake, New York battery energy storage record, with the elapsed time between specified actions stated in days and months

Public Reference Document
Office of the Town Supervisor
October 2026

SCOPE

This document lists dated and sourced items concerning the Long Lake, New York battery energy storage record, together with elapsed-time calculations between specified actions. It does not characterize, evaluate, or explain any item, and it does not state why an action was taken, whether it was effective, or what any sequence or duration means.

This document is provided for public information as one example of the kind of process, and the time, that another New York community has used to study and regulate battery energy storage. It does not describe or commit the Town of Dresden to any particular process, standard, or timeline, and it does not evaluate, endorse, or critique Long Lake's choices. It is a factual compilation and does not constitute legal advice, an opinion of Town Counsel, or an adopted policy or determination of the Town Board.



Executive Summary

This document lists dated and sourced items concerning the Long Lake, New York battery energy storage record, beginning with a National Grid filing dated April 18, 2017, and including a National Grid regulatory filing dated to 2025. Within that span, the record identifies the following formal Town actions, in date order: adoption of the Comprehensive Plan (January 27, 2021); adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2022, a code-enforcement program (December 28, 2022); adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2023, the first Battery Energy Storage System Law (April 20, 2023); adoption of a Tier 2 application-fee and review-funding resolution (May 31, 2023); adoption of Local Law No. 3 of 2023, a 12-month moratorium (August 30, 2023); and adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2024, a revised Battery Energy Storage System Law that, by its terms, repealed and replaced Local Law No. 1 of 2023 and Local Law No. 3 of 2023 (May 29, 2024). The full list of dated items, elapsed-time calculations, the contents of the 2024 law, documentation notes, and sources appear in Sections 1 through 7 below.

A note on dates used in the elapsed-time calculations

Some items in the underlying record are dated only to a year or a month (for example, 2018, late 2019, 2020, May 2022, June–July 2023, September 2023, and April–May 2024). The elapsed-time figures in Section 2 are calculated only between items that carry a specific calendar date. No elapsed-time figure in this document is calculated to or from an item dated only to a year or a month.

1. Chronological Record

Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
Apr. 18, 2017	National Grid files a request for proposals for non-wires alternative solutions addressing electrical stress in the Old Forge, New York area. The affected system includes a long radial 46-kV line running through a remote part of the Adirondacks.	External project action	2
2018 (year only)	Following local-government discussions, the Town begins exploring development of a Comprehensive Plan, after review of how neighboring Adirondack communities used comprehensive plans.	Town discussion/planning	4
Sept. 30, 2019	National Grid's bulk power energy-storage RFP (Appendix E) identifies a 20 MW / 40 MWh Old Forge-area use case, describes the 46-kV line from Boonville to the Raquette Lake Substation, and states that the ideal storage location is near the Raquette Lake Substation. The filing also notes that National Grid had no surplus land available there.	External project action	3
Late 2019 (year only)	A resident committee is convened for the Comprehensive Plan process; consultants are engaged.	Town discussion/planning	4



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Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
Jan. 29, 2020	Town Board minutes record the Supervisor's contact with National Grid concerning backup power for Raquette Lake.	Town discussion/status update	5
Mar. 25, 2020	Town Board minutes record further discussion with National Grid concerning the frequency and causes of outages in Raquette Lake.	Town discussion/status update	6
2020 (year only)	Public outreach for the Comprehensive Plan continues.	Town discussion/planning	4, 7
Jan. 27, 2021	At a public hearing, the Town's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director describes the planning process history. The Town Board adopts the Comprehensive Plan the same evening. The plan states the Town should continue to diversify power sources and consider generators, solar, and battery cells, and states the Town was in conversations with National Grid about high-capacity battery cells as backup power and should "diligently pursue" coordination so the project moved forward (quoted phrase from the Town's 2024 SEAF narrative reproducing the 2021 plan language). The same evening's Board minutes also record a status update on the Raquette Lake battery-backup project: the Supervisor reports contacting National Grid; the project remains in planning and is moving through permitting and system-study work.	Formal Town action; Town discussion/status update	7, 18
June 30, 2021	Town Board minutes are identified by the Town's dedicated BESS information page as containing a BESS-related mention.	Town discussion/status update	1, 8
July 28, 2021	Town Board minutes record another National Grid update concerning the battery-backup project for power outages.	Town discussion/status update	1, 8
May 2022 (month only)	National Grid later reports to the Public Service Commission that, in May 2022, it contracted with a developer to design, install, own, and operate a 20 MW / 40 MWh energy-storage system in the hamlet of Raquette Lake. The project becomes known as the Central Adirondack Microgrid Project (CAMP).	External project action	19
July 27, 2022	Town Board minutes record a report on a meeting with National Grid representatives, describing the proposed system as 20 MW / 40 MWh lithium-ion storage intended to allow part of the electrical system to "island" during outages. The minutes identify REV Renewables as the owner and state that National Grid would operate the project under contract.	Town discussion/status update	9
Dec. 28, 2022	Town Board minutes record a preliminary meeting with REV Renewables, stating that REV was contracting with National	Formal Town action; Town	10, 14



Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
	Grid to build the Raquette Lake battery backup, was working with the Adirondack Park Agency and the County on routing and permitting, and was working with National Grid on a community communications plan. At the same meeting, the Town adopts Local Law No. 2 of 2022, establishing an upgraded local code-enforcement program. The Town later incorporated this program into the BESS regulatory structure because Tier 2 facilities also require building and operating permits under it.	discussion/status update	
Mar. 29, 2023	Town Board introduces proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023, a Battery Energy Storage System Law, and schedules a public hearing for April 20, 2023. Its stated purposes include identifying properties suitable for BESS location, construction, operation, and decommissioning; ensuring compatible surrounding land uses; mitigating effects on environmental resources; and aligning BESS development with the Comprehensive Plan. The minutes state the Town would seek NYSERDA assistance concerning fire and safety, had invited National Grid and REV Renewables to a May 23 public information forum, would create a fee schedule and application, and would consider amendments after adoption if necessary.	Formal Town action	11, 12
Apr. 20, 2023	Town Board holds the public hearing; 42 people attend. The Supervisor states that the hearing concerns the proposed law rather than the merits of the specific Raquette Lake project, and states that without the first local law, the Town would lack the discretionary local review authority needed to subject the project to a Town-level SEQRA review. No speakers offer comments for or against the law at this hearing. After environmental review, the Town adopts Local Law No. 1 of 2023, creating a tiered permitting system requiring Town review of Tier 2 systems, including application-completeness review, a public hearing, environmental review, and the ability to approve, condition, or deny an application; the law also addresses utility lines, signage, lighting, vegetation, noise, decommissioning, safety, ownership changes, and abandonment, and is principally modeled on NYSERDA guidance. At the same session, the Town also adopts Local Law No. 2 of 2023, opting out of the Real Property Tax Law § 487 exemption for certain energy-related improvements.	Formal Town action	11, 13, 18
May 23, 2023	At the Town Board's invitation, National Grid and REV Renewables present the proposed project at the Raquette Lake Union Free School gymnasium and answer questions. The May 31, 2023 Board minutes state that more than 150 people attended and that everyone who signed up to speak was able to do so, and state that the Town and County were	Public information/project outreach	15



Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
	still awaiting permit applications that would trigger formal Town, code-enforcement, highway, water-department, County, and environmental review.		
May 31, 2023	Town Board adopts a resolution establishing a Tier 2 application-fee and review-funding regime, stating that Tier 2 applications could require “intensive and expert review” to build a record on which the Board could rely. The resolution makes the applicant responsible for the Town’s extraordinary costs connected to review, permitting, denial, and compliance monitoring; states a permit application would not be deemed complete until the Town and applicant negotiated and executed an Application Review Funding Agreement; states nonpayment could halt review and prolonged default could result in termination of the review process or permit denial; and includes provisions intended so that only good-faith extraordinary charges would be billed.	Formal Town action	16
June–July 2023 (no specific dates in the record)	Town correspondence to National Grid is recorded on the Town’s BESS information page. The July 26, 2023 Board minutes refer to the Town’s letters and to public opposition.	Town communication/public response	1, 14
July 26, 2023	Town Board introduces proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2023, titled the “Moratorium Amendment to the Town of Long Lake Battery Energy Storage System Law,” and schedules an August 30 public hearing. The legislative findings reference public concern over lithium-ion volatility, road and infrastructure impacts, evacuation, the availability of fire-district equipment and technology, air emissions, potential contamination of surface and groundwater from fire-suppression chemicals, siting standards, catastrophic failures, and evacuation planning, and state that the moratorium period would be used to consider revisions to the Comprehensive Plan. The proposed law states that no new Tier 2 permit, building-permit, or operating-permit applications would be accepted, and that pending applications would not continue to be processed or decided, during the moratorium period. It also includes a mechanism for an applicant to seek an exemption after notice and a public hearing, based on parcel conditions, environmental resources, community character, compatibility with comprehensive planning, hardship, and unique circumstances. Documentation note: one posted July 26 proposed-law copy contains the phrase “nine (9) month limited moratorium” in its legislative-intent narrative, while the operative Moratorium Period section of the same document states 12 months; the version reproduced in the July 26 Board minutes also states 12 months in the narrative;	Formal Town action	14, 20



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Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
	the enacted regime was treated by the Town in 2024 as a 12-month moratorium effective from a September 2023 date.		
July 28, 2023	Governor Kathy Hochul announces an interagency Fire Safety Working Group, following battery energy storage fires reported in New York in 2023.	State action	18
Aug. 30, 2023	Town Board holds the public hearing and enacts Local Law No. 3 of 2023, a 12-month moratorium on Tier 2 battery energy storage system permitting; the final Board minutes record unanimous support. The Town later described the moratorium as applying to new Tier 2 systems greater than 600 kWh and as intended to provide time to develop a stronger law reflecting community concerns and the 2023 BESS fires. At the same meeting, the Board adopts a separate resolution authorizing publication of an RFP to update the 2021 Comprehensive Plan, stating that outside consultants were needed to review the existing plan, conduct public outreach to determine community sentiment and needs, and develop an updated plan; the resolution authorizes a maximum budget of \$35,000 and states the Board wanted to begin immediately so the update could be completed within the 12-month moratorium period.	Formal Town action	14, 15, 18, 20
Sept. 2023 (month only)	The Town posts the Comprehensive Plan update RFP, describing the work as addressing immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth, and development. The moratorium becomes effective following its filing.	Formal implementation	15, 18, 21
Nov. 17, 2023	Per the August 30, 2023 resolution, Comprehensive Plan update RFP proposals are due by noon.	Formal implementation	15
Nov. 20, 2023	Per the August 30, 2023 resolution, RFP proposals are scheduled to be opened.	Formal implementation	15
Feb. 26, 2024	National Grid publicly announces that it and REV Renewables have decided to end pursuit of the Central Adirondack Microgrid Project. The statement says that, "following extensive community engagement," the companies "agreed there were challenges associated with the planned BESS location."	External project action	17
Apr.-May 2024 (month range)	The Town circulates a proposed Revised Battery Energy Storage System Law and conducts review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The Town's environmental narrative for the revised law states that the Comprehensive Plan revision, initiated in 2023, was still underway.	Formal Town process	18, 21



Date	Recorded Item	Record Type	Source
May 3, 2024	Supervisor Clay Arsenault issues a memorandum summarizing the sequence: the first BESS law and RPTL § 487 opt-out adopted April 20, 2023; the Governor’s State fire-safety working group convened July 28; and the Tier 2 moratorium declared August 30. The memorandum states the revised law continues to use the NYSEERDA model as its base but adds standards for setbacks, noise, financial accountability, and variances. The accompanying SEQRA narrative ties specific provisions to Long Lake’s remote setting and limited firefighting capacity, rural quiet, public water and road infrastructure, and the need for financial accountability, and quotes the 2021 Comprehensive Plan’s earlier language supporting battery backup.	Formal Town process	18
May 29, 2024	Town Board completes SEQRA review, adopts a negative declaration, and unanimously enacts Local Law No. 1 of 2024, the Revised Battery Energy Storage System Law. The adoption resolution states the law will enable the Town to review, condition, or deny BESS permits and require a decommissioning fund. The revised law expressly repeals and replaces Local Law No. 1 of 2023 and Local Law No. 3 of 2023, the moratorium.	Formal Town action	20, 22
2025 (year only)	National Grid’s Distributed System Implementation Plan Update states that National Grid contracted in May 2022 for a 20 MW / 40 MWh energy-storage system at Raquette Lake, and that it later deemed CAMP infeasible because of increasing community concerns and Long Lake’s moratorium, resulting in mutual termination of the project.	External project filing	19

Record-type labels follow the conventions defined in Document 1, Long Lake BESS Regulatory History (September 2026): “Formal Town action” means a resolution, local-law enactment, public hearing, SEQRA action, or other action recorded in Town documents; “Town discussion/status update” means Board minutes record a report or discussion but no legislative action; “External project action” means an action by National Grid, REV Renewables, or another non-Town actor; “State action” means an action by a New York State official or agency.

2. Elapsed Time Between Specifically Dated Actions

The figures below are calculated directly from the calendar dates of the two named actions.

From — To	Elapsed	Years/Months/Days
National Grid’s first RFP (Apr. 18, 2017) to Comprehensive Plan adopted (Jan. 27, 2021)	1,380 days	About 3 years, 9 months, 9 days



From — To	Elapsed	Years/Months/Days
National Grid's 2019 bulk-storage RFP (Sept. 30, 2019) to Comprehensive Plan adopted (Jan. 27, 2021)	485 days	About 1 year, 3 months, 28 days
Comprehensive Plan adopted (Jan. 27, 2021) to first BESS local law introduced (Mar. 29, 2023)	791 days	About 2 years, 2 months, 2 days
First BESS local law introduced (Mar. 29, 2023) to enacted (Apr. 20, 2023)	22 days	
First BESS local law enacted (Apr. 20, 2023) to public information meeting (May 23, 2023)	33 days	About 1 month, 3 days
Public information meeting (May 23, 2023) to applicant-funded review resolution (May 31, 2023)	8 days	
First BESS local law enacted (Apr. 20, 2023) to moratorium introduced (July 26, 2023)	97 days	About 3 months, 6 days
Moratorium introduced (July 26, 2023) to moratorium enacted (Aug. 30, 2023)	35 days	About 1 month, 4 days
First BESS local law enacted (Apr. 20, 2023) to moratorium enacted (Aug. 30, 2023)	132 days	About 4 months, 10 days
Comprehensive Plan adopted (Jan. 27, 2021) to moratorium enacted (Aug. 30, 2023)	945 days	About 2 years, 7 months, 3 days
Moratorium enacted (Aug. 30, 2023) to National Grid/REV announcement ending the project (Feb. 26, 2024)	180 days	About 5 months, 27 days
National Grid/REV announcement ending the project (Feb. 26, 2024) to revised permanent law adopted (May 29, 2024)	93 days	About 3 months, 3 days
Moratorium enacted (Aug. 30, 2023) to revised permanent law adopted (May 29, 2024)	273 days	About 8 months, 29 days
First BESS local law enacted (Apr. 20, 2023) to revised permanent law adopted (May 29, 2024)	405 days	About 1 year, 1 month, 9 days



From — To	Elapsed	Years/Months/Days
Comprehensive Plan adopted (Jan. 27, 2021) to revised permanent law adopted (May 29, 2024)	1,218 days	About 3 years, 4 months, 2 days
National Grid's first RFP (Apr. 18, 2017) to first BESS local law enacted (Apr. 20, 2023)	2,193 days	About 6 years, 2 days
National Grid's first RFP (Apr. 18, 2017) to revised permanent law adopted (May 29, 2024)	2,598 days	About 7 years, 1 month, 11 days

3. The Stated Moratorium Term, as a Calculation

Local Law No. 3 of 2023 set a moratorium period of 12 months. Calculated from the date of enactment, August 30, 2023, a 12-month period would run to August 30, 2024, a span of 366 days.

The revised permanent law, Local Law No. 1 of 2024, was adopted on May 29, 2024. Calculated from the moratorium's enactment date, that is 273 days, or about 8 months and 29 days, into the stated 12-month period, and 93 days before the stated 12-month period would have run.

4. Contents of the Revised Battery Energy Storage System Law (Local Law No. 1 of 2024)

The following items are the substantive contents of the 2024 revised law and the May 3, 2024 memorandum, as stated in the Town's own materials.

- Siting and setback requirements.
- An operational noise standard of 45 dBA in daytime and 35 dBA at night at the nearest off-site residence, together with a separate limit tied to measured pre-application background sound.
- Emergency-response, fire-protection, and firefighting-water provisions.
- Decommissioning requirements, including continuously maintained financial security.
- An application-review funding structure, including a base fee calculated at \$2.50 per rated kWh, plus extraordinary review costs under a funding agreement.
- Additional financial-accountability and operating-permit provisions.
- A formal variance process.
- Express repeal and replacement of Local Law No. 1 of 2023 (the first BESS law) and Local Law No. 3 of 2023 (the moratorium).

Sources: 18, 22.



5. Documentation Notes

The following notes state the basis on which each listed item is documented, as set out in Document 1.

Item	Documentation Basis
2017–2019 utility origins	Directly documented in National Grid and Public Service Commission filings describing the reliability solicitation and the 2019 storage RFP.
2020 Town reliability discussions	The Town’s own BESS information index lists the 2020 minutes as part of the BESS history. The minutes themselves describe outages and backup-power discussion.
2021 Comprehensive Plan and battery-support language	Directly documented in the Town’s adoption minutes and reproduced in the Town’s 2024 SEQRA narrative.
2022 CAMP project details	Corroborated independently by both Town Board minutes and National Grid’s regulatory filing describing the 20 MW / 40 MWh project.
2023 first BESS law and public process	Directly documented in Town hearing minutes, local-law materials, and Board minutes.
Applicant-funded review resolution	Directly documented in the Town’s resolution text.
Moratorium duration	One posted proposed-law copy contains a “nine-month” phrase in its narrative text; the operative section of the same document, the version in the Board minutes, and later Town records state a 12-month moratorium.
Comprehensive Plan update during the moratorium	Directly documented in the August 30, 2023 Board minutes, which authorize the RFP, the \$35,000 maximum budget, and the stated goal of completion within 12 months.
Reason given for CAMP’s termination	National Grid’s 2025 Public Service Commission filing states that increasing community concerns and Long Lake’s moratorium were the reasons given.
2024 revised law adoption	Directly documented in Town minutes and the law’s text, including the SEQRA action, the unanimous adoption vote, and the repeal-and-replacement clause.
Judicial review of the 2024 law	No reported court decision addressing the 2024 revised law was identified in the sources reviewed for Document 1.

6. Matters Not Documented in the Reviewed Sources

- No reported court decision addressing the 2024 revised law was identified in the sources reviewed.
- No record was identified of a complete CAMP permit application having been filed with and acted upon by the Town. The May 31, 2023 minutes state the Town and County were awaiting permit applications; the project was later withdrawn.



- No record was identified showing that the Comprehensive Plan update initiated in 2023 was completed before the Town adopted the revised BESS law in May 2024. The Town's May 2024 SEQRA narrative states the revision was still underway at that time.
- The Board's enactment date for the moratorium (August 30, 2023) and the date the local law took effect after Secretary of State filing are stated separately in the record. The 2024 law describes the moratorium as effective from a September 2023 date.

7. Source List

1. Town of Long Lake — "Raquette Lake Battery Energy Storage System Information." Official Town index of BESS-related minutes, local laws, correspondence, permit-fee material, moratorium documents, and 2024 updates.
2. National Grid — April 18, 2017 filing, RFP for Non-Wires Alternative Solutions for Old Forge, New York Area.
3. National Grid — September 30, 2019, Bulk Power Energy Storage RFP, Appendix E, Locations & Use Cases.
4. Town of Long Lake — Comprehensive Plan history materials.
5. Town of Long Lake — January 29, 2020 Town Board minutes.
6. Town of Long Lake — March 25, 2020 Town Board minutes.
7. Town of Long Lake — January 27, 2021 Town Board minutes and Comprehensive Plan adoption.
8. Town of Long Lake — July 28, 2021 Town Board minutes.
9. Town of Long Lake — July 27, 2022 Town Board minutes.
10. Town of Long Lake — December 28, 2022 Town Board minutes.
11. Town of Long Lake — March 29, 2023 Town Board minutes.
12. Town of Long Lake — Notice of Public Hearing, proposed BESS Local Law No. 1 of 2023.
13. Town of Long Lake — April 20, 2023 public hearing and enactment record for Local Laws 1 and 2 of 2023.
14. Town of Long Lake — July 26, 2023 proposed moratorium and Board minutes.
15. Town of Long Lake — August 30, 2023 final Board minutes.
16. Town of Long Lake — May 31, 2023 Tier 2 application-fee / review-funding resolution.
17. National Grid — February 26, 2024 statement on CAMP.
18. Town of Long Lake — May 3, 2024 memorandum and SEAF narrative for revised BESS law.
19. National Grid — 2025 Distributed System Implementation Plan Update, Energy Storage Integration section.
20. Town of Long Lake — May 29, 2024 Board meeting minutes.
21. Town of Long Lake — Comprehensive Plan page / 2023 update materials.
22. Town of Long Lake — Proposed/Enacted Revised Battery Energy Storage System Law, Local Law 1 of 2024.
23. Town of Long Lake — Code Enforcement page (current Town statement that the hamlets of Long Lake and Raquette Lake do not have zoning regulations, while State/APA/DEC/DOH requirements may apply).

This document is a chronological and arithmetic compilation only. It does not offer legal analysis, does not evaluate the merits or effectiveness of any action listed, and does not draw conclusions about Long Lake's process or its relevance to any other municipality. It is not legal advice.