SPATIAL DATA SUBMISSION GUIDANCE
(August 2023)

I. Purpose and Applicability

The Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES or Office) herby issues this Spatial Data Submission Guidance (Guidance) in accordance with the requirements of section 94-c of the New York State Executive Law and its implementing regulations (title 19 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules, and Regulations of the State of New York [19 NYCRR] part 900).

The purpose of this Guidance is to provide applicants with additional information concerning the format, organization, and nomenclature of spatial data submitted to the Office with siting permit applications pursuant to Executive Law 94-c and 19 NYCRR part 900, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Computer Aided Design (CAD).[1]

This Guidance is based on the regulations at 19 NYCRR part 900. It is not a substitute for the regulations, does not create legally binding requirements on the Office, the applicant, or public, and may not apply to every situation. The Office retains the discretion on a case-by-case basis to adopt approaches that differ from this Guidance, as appropriate and consistent with the Office's statutory and regulatory requirements.

II. Guidance

To assist with efficient and accurate review of spatial data, the Office requests GIS data be submitted in a single ESRI File Geodatabase (FGDB) using feature datasets within the FGDB to organize data by exhibit number (see Figure 1, Sample Geodatabase Schema). FGDB nomenclature should include the facility name

[1] See 19 NYCRR § 900-1.2(ag).

preferably entered in camel case[2] or snake case[3] followed with date of most recent modification in the format: facilityNameYYYYMMDD. Feature layer nomenclature should include the feature name followed by the feature creation or most recent modification date using the format: featureNameYYYYMMDD. Data path length (folder, sub-folder(s), and file name) should not exceed 130 characters.

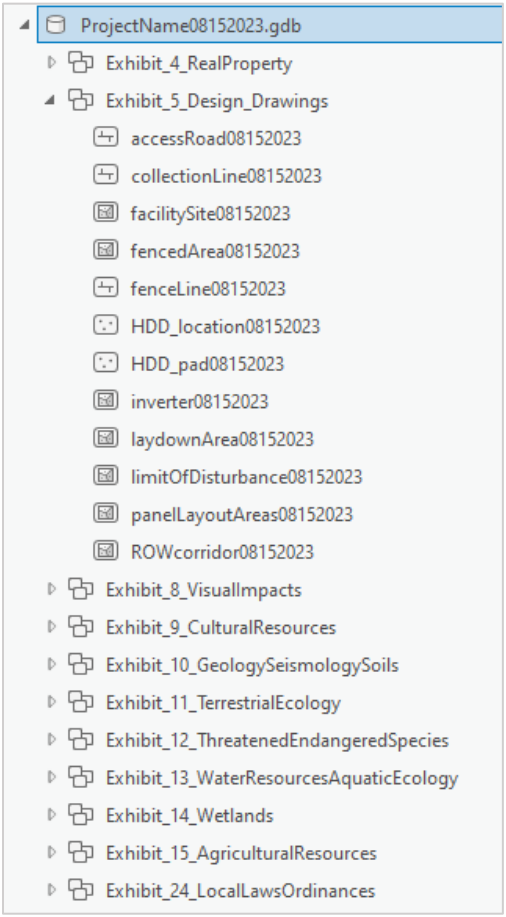

Figure 1. Sample Geodatabase Schema

[2] Camel case: the practice of separating words in a phrase by removing space between words and capitalizing the first letter of each word (e.g., camelCase, fileName).

[3] Snake case: the practice of separating words in a phrase by replacing spaces between words with underscores (_) (e.g., snake_case, file_name).

A complete facility FGDB including all feature datasets and feature layers should be submitted for any exhibit containing new or modified spatial data. Office Staff will consider all feature layers contained within the most recently submitted FGDB to be the authoritative data for the facility.

A Microsoft Excel (.xlsx) file containing an Index of Data Sources for all spatial data should be submitted with the geodatabase. The index should include the feature layer name, date, dataset location, exhibit number, layer description or reference to application narrative defining or describing the layer, data source agency / organization, source URL, and horizontal resolution for raster data.

All spatial data presented in application exhibits, maps, CAD, and GIS files should be consistent (i.e., depict the same features and modification dates). All spatial data must be free of mapping errors and topological anomalies such as slivers, holes, or dangling vertices / nodes. Spatial data should be submitted in a consistent projected coordinate system. Office Staff's preferred coordinate system is NAD 83 (2011) State Plane US Feet in the zone appropriate to the facility location.

To limit redundancies, feature layers should occur once within the FGDB, organized by the exhibit most appropriate to the features they contain. All spatial data used to support facility narratives, products of spatial analysis, and those provided in facility exhibits should be organized within the FGDB per the accompanying schedule: *Table 1 – Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) Recommended Spatial Data Organization*.

It is not necessary for the applicant to submit unaltered data obtained through public data sources including data clearinghouses and agency / organization data portals. However, if modifications to feature geometry or attributes have been made, the data should be included in the application FGDB submitted to ORES. All spatial data from public sources used in application figures and analysis should be cited in the Index of Data Sources.

Data submitted in accordance with pre-application procedures (19 NYCRR § 900-1.3) should be consistent with the FGDB schema suggested for the application exhibits (19 NYCRR § 900-2). Pre-application data may be submitted following the schedule outlined in the Submission Phase column in *Table 1 – Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) Recommended Spatial Data Organization*.

Final design and as built plans should be submitted in a FGDB with feature names reflecting the components represented. Use feature names from Exhibit 5 recommendations in *Table 1 – Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) Recommended Spatial Data Organization* when applicable.

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SITING
P-1 South, J Dock
Albany, N.Y. 12242