

State Environmental Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

Date July 18, 2012

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act SEQR) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Town of Wheatfield Planning Board, as SEQR Lead Agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will, therefore, not be prepared.

Applicant Name: Quasar Energy Group
Phone: (216) 986-9999
Address: 7624 Riverview Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44141

Name of Action: Quasar Energy Minor Subdivision and Site Plan Approval

SEQR Status:

- Type 1
- Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration:

- Yes
- No

Location: Town of Wheatfield, Niagara County, New York

Description of Action: Design, construction and operation of a biomass based energy facility that will utilize a turn-key ecoCITYsystem 980 (ADS) that will anaerobically digest a mixture of pumpable organics and site macerated solid organics to produce electricity and stabilized digestate. The anaerobic digestion process will include the creation of biogas that will be burned in a Combined Heat and Power unit (CHP) to produce electric power for sale. The system is designed to land-apply the stabilized digestate effluent. This action involves land clearing and grading of a four-acre parcel, located on Liberty Drive in the Town of Wheatfield, with the construction of utilities and infrastructure, including a stormwater detention pond. The project site is located in an industrial zoning district.

Reasons Supporting this Documentation:

1. **Impact on Land:** The project involves the clearing and grading of land for the development of on-site structures and roadways that will cover approximately 1.6 acres of the 4.0-acre site. The parcel does not contain any steep slope, bedrock outcroppings or unique landforms. Disturbed areas will be landscaped; undisturbed areas will remain natural. Therefore, no significant adverse land use impacts are expected to result from this action.
2. **Impact on Water:** There are no surface waters on the project site. The nearest surface water bodies are located approximately ½-mile from the site. The site does not contain any wetland features. Although groundwater is seasonally high on this property, project development involves no basement construction and no excavation, with the exception of the stormwater management detention basin. This project will not adversely impact groundwater quality. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts to water resources are anticipated from this action.
3. **Impact on Plants and Animals:** Vegetative cover on the project site is comprised of meadow and brush lands. There are no known occurrences of threatened, endangered or protected flora or fauna on the site. It contains no protected habitats or wetlands, and is not of local ecological significance. Therefore, no significant adverse ecological impacts are expected.
4. **Impact on Archaeological and Historic Resources:** There are no historic structures located on or in the vicinity of the site, and no known sites of archaeological significance have been identified or are known to exist in this area. Therefore, this action will not adversely impact cultural resources.
5. **Impacts on Scenic Resources:** The project site is located within an area of light industrial development. Nearby uses include manufacturing and office buildings and open space. The site does not contain any scenic resources of significance and offers no views of benefit to the community. The buildings that will be constructed will differ from other office buildings and light manufacturing structures in the area, but are not out of character for an industrial area. There are no important scenic resources located in close proximity to the site. Therefore, the proposed action is not anticipated to result in adverse visual impacts and will not adversely impact important scenic resources in the general area.
6. **Impact on Transportation:** The proposed action will generate very little traffic and will not generate traffic above present levels in the area. No significant adverse traffic impacts are expected to result from this action.
7. **Impact on Flooding and Erosion:** The project site is not located within or near any designated 100-year floodplains and will not result in flooding or erosion impacts. A stormwater detention basin will be constructed to manage on-site stormwater runoff. Therefore, no adverse impacts are anticipated from this action.
8. **Impact on Energy:** The proposed action involved a biomass process that will generate electrical power. This is a sustainable industry that will utilize power but also generate power. It is an

alternative, self-sustaining energy source and will not adversely impact energy use or resources in the area.

9. **Air Quality, Noise and Odor Impacts:** The proposed action does not involve incineration and will not generate emissions. Any noise or odors that may result from project activities are within the realm of that acceptable in an industrial area. There are no sensitive receptors (land uses) in the immediate vicinity of this site. Therefore, this action will not result in adverse air quality, noise or odor impacts.
10. **Impact on Public Health:** The proposed action involves the processing of biomass to generate electric power. This action will not endanger the welfare of the general public. The effluent produced can be safely applied to the land and will not result in pollution or other emissions that would adversely impact human health.
11. **Impact on Growth and Character of the Community:** The proposed action will not affect the growth and character of the community. It is an industrial use that will be properly located within an industrial zoning district and area of the community that supports other light manufacturing, office and industrial uses. It will not require extensive capital expenditures, change the density of land use in the area, eliminate existing facilities of importance or conflict with officially adopted plans or land use goals for growth and community character. This action will not adversely impact community growth or neighborhood character.

The Town of Wheatfield Planning Board, therefore, concludes that this action will not adversely affect the natural resources of the State and/or health, safety, and welfare of the public, and is consistent with all associated social and economic considerations. In reaching this decision, the Town carefully considered all Criteria for Determination of Significance, as listed in the SEQR Regulations (6 NYCRR 617.11)

For Further Information:

Contact Person:	Richard Muscatello	Robert O'Toole, Esq.
	Wheatfield Town Hall	Wheatfield Town Hall
	2800 Church Road	2800 Church Road
	Wheatfield, NY 14120	Wheatfield, NY 14120
	(716) 94-6440	(716) 694-6440

Date: July 18, 2012 (as adopted by the Wheatfield Planning Board, as Lead Agency)