

# Berwick Solar Hosts Berwick Academy Students

## BERWICK & SOUTH BERWICK -

Berwick Solar, a community solar project located on Route 236 in Berwick, recently hosted students from South Berwick's Berwick Academy (BA) to tour the approximately 15-acre site. Through the walking tour of the operating project, which came online in May 2021, students learned about solar energy generation, the environmental benefits produced by the project, and the State of Maine's programs to reduce carbon emissions from electric generation. Berwick

Solar was developed by Energy Management, Inc. (EMI).

Sarah Jeanne Shimer (on right in photo), the BA teacher leading the students, commented that "the Berwick Academy Global Environmental Sustainability Class had the opportunity to tour the Berwick Solar Project to learn about the process for building solar arrays and Maine's focus on renewable energy. Many of the students were surprised to learn that this

site was actually so close to their school, and they were shocked by the equivalent carbon offsets it produces each year. The EMI team did a great job making us feel welcome on-site and explaining the development, construction, and operations of Berwick Solar. Overall, the field trip was a great chance for students to see concepts they've been learning in the classroom in action in our

*See SOLAR page 8...*

*...SOLAR from page 1*

local community!"

Berwick Solar is a 2.9 MW solar array that can produce enough solar energy to power approximately 400 homes annually and is projected to offset 79,725 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> over the project's life.

"We enjoyed welcoming students from Berwick Academy to the Berwick Solar site. They asked great questions and were engaged throughout the tour. We are very proud of the work we have done in Maine, building the Berwick Solar and Rumford Park Solar projects, to help meet the State's ambitious energy and carbon goals," said Zac Gordon, Director of Development at EMI (on left in photo). "Hosting students and other groups is an important aspect of our work because we always strive to be good neighbors and members of our local community."

Across the state, renewable project developers are seizing opportunities to establish solar and other renewable, distributed generation projects, encouraged by 2019 legislation designed to put Maine on a path to reduce carbon emissions by 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050, established in the Maine Climate Action plan.

