From: Brad Gregory <bd.gregory@verizon.net>

Sent: Monday, January 7, 2019 5:12 PM

To: berkeleymaddox@gmail.com; grenewpc@gmail.com; Paulette Mann; 2012sheriffsmith@gmail.com; spotsysalem@gmail.com; TravAAU@cox.net

Cc: Thomas G. Benton; Chris Yakabouski; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; David Ross; Paul D. Trampe; Gary Skinner; Aimee Mann; Wanda Parrish; Paulette Mann; Patrick White; concernedcitizensspotsylvania@gmail.com

Subject: Opposition to Solar Factory Special Use Permit

I am writing this letter to register my opposition to the subject permit and to request your vote in opposition of the request.

There have been many points made by the company, it's clear that most are misleading or factually wrong. Further, while public polls are being cited as showing 70% of people supporting the project, I hope you see through this. Everyone "supports" Solar. I do. However if the surveyor properly framed the questions, those polls would overwhelmingly oppose this project. Indeed, anyone who has taken interest enough to understand the proposal are in opposition.

As for me, I have many concerns:

- The sPower company was founded only a few years ago and lacks any track record or staying power to mitigate the enormous risks in a project this size. They are not Apple, they are not Microsoft. They are not General Electric. They are a new company making their living off of tax payers subsidies and have no significant proven ability.
- The relatively inefficient solar production, and the poor fit with our rural environment simply are not an appropriate use of the tax payer provided incentives. When was it decided that this county must go from a rural community surrounding national parks and battlefields, to a Solar Generation factory?
- Ripping out 3500-5000 acres of trees eliminates any "green" benefit one would expect from solar energy. Solar belongs on rooftops and in uninhabited deserts, not as a replacement for forest land.
- The company's citation of "Established Partners" (ie Apple, Microsoft, etc.) is simply a lie. They can't buy this power, they can only buy power off the grid and will not know where it originates.
- The company's statement that the solar panels will be hidden from view is simply untrue. The hilly nature of the region will ensure it's highly visible from many locations, regardless of set-back. From many vistas, and view that was once rolling hills of forest, will be replaced by the glaring light off of solar panels.

- The financial benefit to the county tax payers has not been proven to be better than that of alternative uses of the property, and given the inherent risks, both short and long term, there must be a material and contractually provable benefit that exceeds all alternatives.

Please, please, please cast from vote against this request.

thanks,

Brad and Carol Gregory

Residents, Spotsylvania County, Va.

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