From: ColleenTurley@pobox.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 12:53 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: sPower - NO!

I am writing to ask that the Planning Commission NOT approve rezoning for sPower's massive solar industrial site.

I also ask that the Board of Supervisors say NO to such a poor fit for a new county business, should this be brought before the Board of Supervisors.

First and foremost this is not compatible the County's Comprehensive Plan - approving a large industrial site would do great damage to the character of our county by destroying substantial swaths of rural land that currently serve as a natural buffer for residences and farms, habitat for wildlife and birds, and as a large area of timberland perking water into the aquifers.

The sPower industrial site would have a disastrous impact on Spotsylvania county residents' life, whether they live nearby or not. Our county does not have much rural land left and razing thousands of acres for a business venture supported primarily by tax incentives, not competitive excellence, is foolish. The deforested land containing thousands of solar panels composed of toxic chemicals, sets up health concerns for every resident who uses the local aquifers. Who knows how far they reach? Residents on private wells are very common in our county. Protecting our water source is paramount to our quality of life.

There is no solar site of this scale so close to a residential area — anywhere in our country — why should Spotsylvania be compromised? We cannot fully anticipate the myriad of problems such a large scale chemical-laden site will have on our aquifers, our property values, our wildlife, our historic battlefields, and our tourism. Our county will receive NO financial benefit that warrants the destruction of thousands of acres of timberland and wetlands. The loss in property value would be a disgrace. Lives are built here and homes are major sources of financial security and future plans. The drastic impact of this change in zoning would leave the nearby, and possibly not so nearby, residents with a financial loss never anticipated. This decrease in property value also cuts into the County's tax revenues. The mailing we received from sPower with a chart "proving" the financial benefit of a gigantic industrial solar farm over possible NEW homes, does not address the loss of real estate value on EXISTING homes.

sPower and the large corporate "buyers" of the electricity are using Renewable Energy Credits to profit, leaving us holding the bag. We have to live with the eye-sore, the environmental risks, the drop in property values and tax losses, and whatever else may happen when a massive industrial solar complex is placed right next to farms and residential areas.

When I look through sPower's website I see a few years of small MW projects but no proven track record of success or partnership with previous counties on any scale close to 500 MW. I believe for Spotsylvania County to destroy thousands of acres on sPowers best guess would be foolhardy. I believe for the Planning Commission to recommend and the Board of Supervisors to approve rezoning would be

a breach of trust with the constituents on a large scale. Each Supervisor was voted in to serve the County and the residents' best interests. sPower fulfills neither of those.

Sincerely,

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