From: Mary Jane Dye <mjdesonia@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 9:00 PM

To: Paulette Mann

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: Solar Energy Plant---Vote Against

January 14, 2019

Dear Members of the Spotsylvania Planning Commission:

I am imploring the commissioners to earnestly vote against any recommendation to the BOS that changes designated agricultural land to industrial.

A switch signifies approval for building a monstrous solar energy plant in the county. The plant, owned by SPower, will consume and destroy massive acreage. This deforestation will forever alter Spotsylvania's beautiful countryside and significantly decrease quality of life in many ways.

The proposal of the facility has caused great concern, worry and angst.

In a county known for its friendliness—complemented with a bit of Southern charm, ugliness has ensued.

Some divisiveness is evident between neighborhoods, businesses and even politicians. However, let the truth be told that opposition to the plant is in the majority—despite results of a recent, biased phone survey conducted and paid for by SPower. People of all ages and walks of life are courageously fighting to save their homes and Spotsylvania.

The plant's location is plotted dangerously close to thriving residential communities, homesteads, single family homes and churches. Solar plants of this magnitude or less are NEVER built this close to places where people live, work and play. It is still unclear where the toxic runoff will go when panels are cleaned.

Despite what is currently being hyped by the Green Energy Movement, including SPower and the Governor's office, a solar plant is environmentally unsound and unsafe in this location**.** It not only destroys many species of animals and birds through deforestation, but also eliminates native plants as their ecosystem has been ravished. I am not a scientist, biologist or botanist, but it seems like plain common sense to me. (You have been given the hardcore research on unfavorable environmental impacts due to toxic runoff by our group.) And, if it is not dangerous to people, why are danger signs posted near Solar Energy Plants?

Additionally, the **human health cost**—especially for children and seniors, is just as bleak. Money in the form of green tax credits does not justify compromising health and wellness. Children with asthma and seniors with lung and age-related illnesses will need more medical care and emergency services.

Finally, I am dispirited that a few commissioners appear disingenuous and do not care about valid opposing views. I certainly hope that is not true. The Concerned Citizens of Spotsylvania County have—in good faith—carefully researched and studied the harmful effects of solar power including toxic discharges on land and air. The findings are clear: A solar energy plant causes brutal damage on all levels including—a trust in elected officials to do what is best for the county and those they represent.

Please include this letter in the public record.

Respectfully,

Mary Jane Dye

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