

Donna Mayfield

From: Joanne Booth <jcbooth77@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 4:12 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; Chris Yakabowski; 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 Power Plant

The Spotsylvania Planning Commission has carefully considered multiple concerns presented by educated residents of this county, including evidenced-based scientific research which contradicts the oft-proclaimed "solar power is good." This mindset attempts to push a huge, out-of-place industrial power plant in a residential and agricultural zone. Considering well-researched potential risks presented by concerned residents, the Planning Commission required several adjustments to the plan including several conditions that must be met by SPower in order to proceed. These wise conditions included no cadmium telluride panels, no burning, no well water use, 350-ft. project setback from neighboring homes, and even no work on Sunday. Having done this, the Planning commission then DENIED two of three special use permits, leaving only one small 30-MW, 245-acre parcel with permit approval.

Instead of going forward and accepting the Planning Commission's recommendations, you've delayed the final vote, allowing time for SPower to send mailings and hold meetings to convince county citizens into wearing green shirts supporting the philosophy of solar. I find nothing in the recent campaign acknowledging nor addressing the well-researched massive negative impact on this project's neighbors. Project supporters attempt to minimize our objection as merely "fear of change."

You are considering reversing the recommendations given by the Planning Commission, evidenced by publication of the Board of Supervisors Staff Report, February 26, 2019, Special Use #SUP18-0001 (Livingston Voting District). If that's not bad enough, SPower sent us mail to "support solar on February 26th!" including this quote: "As a scientist and a resident of the Fawn Lake Community, I completely support the Spotsylvania Solar Energy Center" –Himanshoo Bhat Navangul, PhD, local home owner." Personally, I find this item **very insulting**.

"As a scientist and a resident of Chancellor Meadows, I completely DO NOT support the Spotsylvania Solar Energy Center." – Joanne C Booth, MSPH Nutrition, BS Biology, AAS Nursing.

My husband and I and our neighbors have had enough fighting against false supposition that our private road would give public access to Site A. We succeeded and the Planning Commission and SPower removed our lane from the plans. We've had enough of fighting to prove that flooding on our land is real, and the runoff really does enter the Chesapeake Bay via access to the Norton Prong, which leads to the Po River, the Poni River, and the Mattaponi River, then the Chesapeake Bay. We have first-hand pictures of this flooding. We also attest to strong unabated west winds now that land is cleared, increasing the personal hazard our property can be burned in a brush fire. We do not want any brush burning next to our land.

In this writer's perspective, this project proposal has turned a quiet, historical area into one breeding strife, division, distrust, manipulation, arm-twisting, and lies...on *BOTH* sides. Is this how you want Spotsylvania County to be recognized?

Vote "NO!" and be done with this.

Joanne C Booth
11223 Chancellor Meadows Lane
Locust Grove, VA
Tax Map # 17-2-7

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Tax Map 17 (2) 7

Ernest and Joanne Booth, 11223 Chancellor Meadows Lane, Locust Grove VA 22508



A picture of the unrequested and unexpected marker on our property in our lane, right side of our land.



This marker is diagonally across the lane in the front of our neighbor's property to our left.



View of the recurrent flooding we now experience from one corner of our property in front of our home. This shows the project applicant's Meadows property. In the distant background are the high-power electrical lines connecting to that substation the project connects to. From my neighbor's land (to the right of this picture) you can see the substation – it's about 1/3 of a mile diagonally to the right.



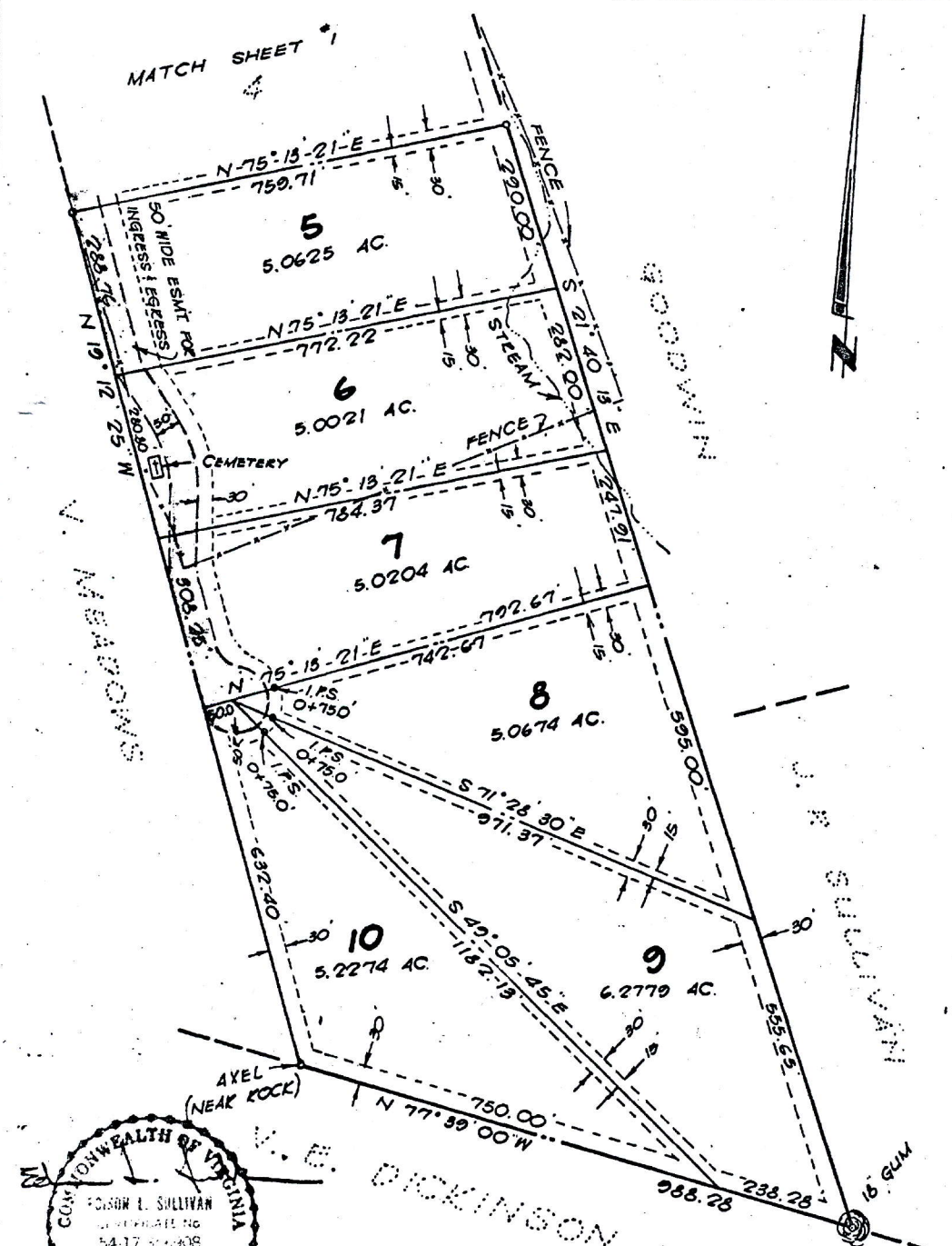
A 90 degree left turn from the previous picture at the end of Chancellor Meadows Lane



And another 90 degree left turn facing east toward the back of our property. Our house is about 100' left of this new stream.



A gas can drug farther down the (new) stream (we didn't have this before the timbering) leading to the Norton Prong which runs through the back of our property; this leads to the Po, the Poni, ...and Chesapeake Bay



PLAT **CHANCELLOR MEADOWS**

A DIVISION OF A PORTION OF
CARL D. SILVER SALES DIVISION, INC.

STUBBLEFIELD TRACT
 CHANCELLOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT
 SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

DATE: AUGUST 21, 1975 SCALE: 1"=200'

SULLIVAN, DONAHOE AND INGALLS
 FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA. SHEET #2 OF 5

Donna Mayfield

From: Claudette Taylor <claudette046@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 03, 2019 7:21 PM
To: 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

I am sending you this e-mail in response to last Tuesday's open meeting.

We voted you in to protect our interests in Spotsylvania. We have spoken many times about our views on S Power's proposals. It is time for you to vote on this and we in Spotsylvania say NO, NO, NO. This project is just to big and has many pitfalls for us.

Thank you, Claudette Taylor
Livingston District

Sent from my iPad

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Donna Mayfield

From: Michael O'Bier <obierplumbing@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 5:55 PM
To: Kevin Marshall; spotsysalem@gmail.com; Aimee Mann; Paulette Mann; Wanda Parrish
Subject: Arcing and other causes of fires in photovoltaic systems - pvBuero

<https://photovoltaikbuero.de/en/pv-know-how-blog-en/arcing-and-other-causes-of-fires-in-photovoltaic-systems/>

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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Donna Mayfield

From: Robin Sutton <robin13720@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 03, 2019 8:38 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; Gary Skinner; Chris Yakabouski; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; Wanda Parrish; David Ross; David Ross; Patrick White
Subject: Hiring???

Importance: High

This is a job listing for sPower. How is it they're HIRING for a project NOT yet approved? And they have a five year OFFICE LEASE at the Courthouse area? for a project NOT approved yet?

https://careers-mortenson.icims.com/jobs/4748/senior-safety-engineer---solar-group/job?mobile=true&width=1024&height=569&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-480&jun1offset=-420&fbclid=IwAR0bpvi_Vf6Dk2MuTNRTJrnqaPcxjhzgPAOx-ZupiSpw0qaAnJ3O4InaE

There are workers drilling on the sites each day as well- and the project is NOT approved. HOW is this possible and WHY is it being allowed?

Robin Sutton

Robin13720@verizon.net

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Donna Mayfield

From: Sally Fowler <fowl1844@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 2:05 PM
To: 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: Vote NO to SPower

Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sally Fowler and I am a resident in the Livingston District. I listened to the hearing Tuesday night concerning SPower and the massive solar farm. I am highly concerned and frustrated about the information provided by the real estate "consultant" brought in by SPower. He claimed that sales in Fawn Lake, my neighborhood, have not been affected by SPower. My question for the board is where did he get this information. Did he call the buyers to inquire if people had knowledge of the solar farm. From talking with neighbors and others who have recently purchased homes, not a single new home buyer was told about the solar farm.

As a matter of fact, we purchased our home in December 2018 and had NO idea this was a possibility. We moved from Florida and even asked the NTS developer what would be behind our home. His answer, "oh nothing for several years and then maybe more houses". He lied right to our faces. Why? Because he has a direct financial benefit to the solar farm. Had we had the correct information and if he was honest about what was really going in our backyard, we would have bought a house somewhere else and NOT in Spotsylvania County. Our lot will be surrounded by the solar farm on 3 sides. I can't begin to imagine the decrease in our property's value because no one (myself included) is going to want to live 350 feet from a solar farm. The citizens of this county do not deserve to suffer financially so that businesses can swoop in and cash out big. This is not their home, they DON'T CARE.

This does not in any way benefit the citizens of Spotsylvania County.

As a reminder, as an elected official you are elected by the people to represent the people. It is so obvious there are so many special interests in this project for a select few to make millions. There is NO benefit whatsoever to help the citizens of the County.

May I make a suggestion that if the BOS is concerned with going green, perhaps we should start simple and clean up the abundance of litter that lines the streets and shoulders of nearly every road in our county. Just take a drive down Orange Plank Road Or Plank Road. Or is this not a "Green" Concern because people aren't gonna make money. Please remember who you are voting for and vote NO!!

Sally Fowler

Sent from my iPhone

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Donna Mayfield

From: Aimee Mann
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 9:22 AM
To: Charles Tatum
Cc: Wanda Parrish
Subject: RE: SPower permit
Attachments: image001.png

Good morning. I have copied our Planning Director on this email so that she may guide you in getting the information you need. Should you need additional assistance from me, please let me know. Thank you.

Aimee Mann, CMC
Deputy Clerk/Records Officer
Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors
PO Box 99
Spotsylvania, VA 22553
540-507-7010



From: Charles Tatum [mailto:wizard1073@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 7:02 AM
To: Aimee Mann
Subject: SPower permit

Charles Tatum, Berkeley District

I would like to see language in the Special Use Permit for sPower that explicitly preserves the right of neighbors to bring nuisance actions to court. For example, if the placement of the inverters does not sufficiently mitigate the noise, or if a heat island effect really does form despite predictions to the contrary, that the permit by itself does not shield the owner of the plant. Essentially can you protect the people by not prejudicing the ability to obtain legal remedies.

I would also like to see a hard noise limit put on the normal operating sound from the plant, in lieu of the absent noise ordinance limit, so that the County and the neighbors have protection that they can enforce in a court of law.

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Donna Mayfield

From: Robin Sutton <robin13720@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 03, 2019 8:38 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; Gary Skinner; Chris Yakabouski; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; Wanda Parrish; David Ross; David Ross; Patrick White
Subject: Hiring???

Importance: High

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https://careers-mortenson.icims.com/jobs/4748/senior-safety-engineer---solar-group/job?mobile=true&width=1024&height=569&bga=true&needsRedirect=false&jan1offset=-480&jun1offset=-420&fbclid=IwAR0bpvi_Vf6Dk2MuTNRTJrnqaPcxjhzgPAOx-ZupiSpw0qaAnJ3O4InaE

There are workers drilling on the sites each day as well- and the project is NOT approved. HOW is this possible and WHY is it being allowed?

Robin Sutton

Robin13720@verizon.net

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- By **SANDRA EMERSON** | semerson@scng.com |

PUBLISHED: February 28, 2019 at 5:50 pm | UPDATED: March 4, 2019 at 10:06 am

About five dozen people addressed the supervisors, including residents supportive of the ban.

county is already the largest producer of thermal electric energy in the state. “In this case, there are alternatives that need to be looked at that don’t disturb, or impact, or create any loss of jobs.”

The policy, commonly referred to as Policy 4.10, is part of the county’s Renewable Energy and Conservation Element in the General Plan. The element was [approved in August 2017](#), but the supervisors sent the policy back to planning.

In May, the Planning Commission rejected a revision that would have required projects to be approved on a case-by-case basis, rather than a flat out prohibition, in favor of the original policy.

Still, commissioners were concerned that the policy was too restrictive. So on Tuesday the supervisors agreed to include language that allows developers to apply for a General Plan amendment, or a boundary change, if they have a site that meets the county’s criteria but is within the prohibited zones. Any exception, however, would require supervisor approval.

Some developers and utility company representatives found the policy too restrictive, saying it limits development to areas that are already disturbed from uses such as agriculture and mining and the remote areas of Amboy, El Mirage, Hinkley, Kramer Junction and Trona.

Eight projects currently are being reviewed by the county. More than 20 have been approved in the past decade.

Justin Lanford, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 477, has worked on many of the solar projects previously approved in the county. He opposes a ban on solar projects.

“All of (the solar projects) that I’ve worked on have followed the rules very strictly in regards to environmental impacts,” Lanford said. “Also, there’s a lot of jobs that are created by these projects. Yeah, they’re temporary jobs, but that’s what we make our livelihood off of.”

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But some residents say the prohibition will protect communities from potential health hazards caused by blowing dust, which increases when pristine desert land is disturbed by construction. They also cited the protection of scenic views, carbon sequestration from desert vegetation, and preservation of habitat and wildlife as reasons to prohibit large solar development.

“You’ve been told by many, including solar developers, labor (and) the construction business that they are stakeholders in our community. They are not stakeholders in our community,” said Brian Hammer, who owns property adjacent to a proposed solar project in Lucerne Valley. “They have no enduring interest in the long term health of our community. They will use us and leave us with the environmental mess and community nightmare that will last for decades.”

Chairman Curt Hagman voted against the policy, saying the county’s definition of utility-scale development could prevent future projects that use advanced technology to generate energy on fewer acres.

Under the new rules a project is considered to be utility-oriented if more than 50 percent of the energy generated is for use outside the local area and and is sent to the energy grid. This does not include community-oriented renewable energy, such as rooftop and parking lot solar panels.

In addition to Policy 4.10, the supervisors approved a rule to allow existing energy generation sites in prohibited areas to continue operating and make technology upgrades. They also approved a policy to encourage developers to work with state and federal agencies to build on public land, which makes up most county property.

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Donna Mayfield

From: Etter <seamrun@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 2:16 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; David Ross; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; Chris Yakabouski; Paul D. Trampe; Gary Skinner
Cc: Wanda Parrish; Paulette Mann; Patrick White; 2012sheriffsmith@gmail.com; concernedcitizensspotsylvania@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed Solar Power Project

Dear Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to express my concern about the special use permits requested by sPower to build solar power facilities within Spotsylvania County. Having reviewed information available about the benefits and negative aspects to this proposed project I strongly urge you to vote against this project.

I believe that the size and scope of this proposed industrial solar power facility in rural Spotsylvania County is inappropriate for our county and will forever change and damage this area. I am convinced that over the life of this project the damage done to this land, the surrounding environment, and its current and future residents would far out weigh any benefit derived from the power produced. If approved and built I'm very concerned that the harm caused would last many generations and could not be undone. I don't believe the benefits claimed by sPower come close to overcoming the negative impact to Spotsylvania County and its residents if this project were to be approved. Please do not approve the special use permit applications.

Respectfully,
Steve Etter
Livingston District Resident

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Donna Mayfield

From: STEPHEN DOSS <dosshaus@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 3:11 PM
To: Wanda Parrish
Subject: RE: Staff Report to PC 11/19/18 & 12/27/18

Wanda, I must point out that the 'assumption' of trips 'out' is clearly missing in the narrative in the Site A presentation and no further evidence (i.e. a table depicting it) in the report points to it while clearly, again, the correct figures of 'in' and 'out' movements are presented in the narratives of both the Site B and Site C Staff presentations for the PC to evaluate. It really should be corrected in the narrative and referenced as a total of "937" and "140" respectively as is does for the numbers in the other two Staff Reports to the PC and ultimately Board of Supervisors for their edification. ~ Thanks Wanda. ~Steve.

On February 26, 2019 at 2:43 PM Wanda Parrish <WParrish@spotsylvania.va.us> wrote:

Stephen, Thank you for your comments and I apologize that Patrick did not follow up on this topic. Table 2 is daily construction traffic during peak construction time and the trips are measured as round trip, so 467 trips means 467 trips in and at some point later in the day 467 trips out. The levels of service are calculated on the peak hour trips, not the daily trips. Our Traffic Engineer calculated the AM and PM peak hour levels of service using the County's Travel Demand Model using local traffic counts.

Thanks

Wanda

From: STEPHEN DOSS [mailto:dosshaus@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 1:57 PM
To: Wanda Parrish <WParrish@spotsylvania.va.us>
Subject: Fwd: Staff Report to PC 11/19/18 & 12/27/18

----- Original Message -----

From: STEPHEN DOSS <dosshaus@comcast.net>
To: WParish@spotsylvania.va.us
Date: February 26, 2019 at 1:45 PM
Subject: Staff Report to PC 11/19/18 & 12/27/18

Wanda,

I am reaching out to you today , in this 11th hour , in an effort to point to a very grievous error in the Staff Planning Report prepared for presentation to the Planning Commission referenced on the above dates.

In that report under the heading 'Transportation Access' ,page 5, the narrative addresses the four primary Site A entrances as depicted on the GDP for SUP 18-0001. The report cites it's observations from the applicant's own supplied traffic studies and estimates referenced in the Kimberly Horn report dated Feb. 16th 2018 (rev. 6/12/18).

Wanda, the Staff Report , in para. #2, erroneously states :

*"During peak construction periods it is estimated that **467** daily employee trips would use one of these four entrances .. In addition to employee trips it is estimated that **70** daily delivery trips will occur .."*

I refer now to the Kimberly Horn report , page 6, **Table 2**, which clearly shows that these '*daily trips*' are only one half of the total for Site A.

The total daily employee trips to and from site A is 934 and the total daily delivery trips is 140.

This 50% margin of error then renders a 30% error in total traffic activity across all three of the applicant's sites. Further evidence of this error is supported in the separated Staff Reports for both Site B and Site C in which the totals drawn from the Kimberly Horn analysis are correct.

Wanda, referring back now to the Staff Report ,page 6, should not the conclusions of 'transportation impacts' on the 'Levels of Service' on both Orange Plank Rd. and W. Catharpin Rd., drawn by the Staff, be readdressed before any presentation to the Board of Supervisors?

The application of these revised figures can only further reduce the 'Level of Service' on these two

county roads most likely to unacceptable conditions.

I have tried to bring this to the forefront twice with Patrick White in discussions as I thought it might be best if it was resolved

by Staff in an annotated correction in the public records or as a separate submitted document. Twice he assured me it would be addressed. To date, I have not found evidence of either.

If I am mistaken please do advise . Stephen Doss.

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Donna Mayfield

From: ColleenTurley@pobox.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 9:35 AM
To: Timothy J. McLaughlin; Thomas G. Benton; Chris Yakabouski; Kevin Marshall; David Ross; Paul D. Trampe; Gary Skinner; Aimee Mann; Wanda Parrish; Paulette Mann; Patrick White
Cc: berkeleymaddox@gmail.com; grenewpc@gmail.com; Paulette Mann; 2012sheriffsmith@gmail.com; spotsysalem@gmail.com; TravAAU@cox.net; concernedcitizensspotsylvania@gmail.com
Subject: sPower - NO!

Supervisor McLaughlin,

As your constituent, I ask that you vote to stop this rezoning. There is NOTHING good for Spotsylvania in this proposal.

The fact that this rezoning was not denied by the Planning Commission is disheartening. The lack of conviction to do what is best for Spotsylvania County has put us back at square one. I have no problem with alternative energy - solar panels on individual homes or buildings is one thing - a massive industrial plant dropped among homes, historic battlefields, farms, and rural woodland, benefiting ONLY the corporation and companies buying tax credits is NOT good planning.

I am including all the Board of Supervisors to stress how critical it is to put the residents and Spotsylvania County's best interests first and vote NO. The damage done by the proposal will forever alter our beautiful Spotsylvania County.

There is no solar site of this scale so close to residential areas — anywhere in our country — why should Spotsylvania be the first? 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 from the destruction of thousands of acres of timberland and wetlands.

The loss in property value for all homeowners would be a breach of confidence by the Board. Homes are a major source of financial security and future plans for every family. The drastic impact of this change in zoning would leave our residents with a financial loss never anticipated. This decrease in property value also cuts into the County's tax revenues.

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 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.

The Board of Supervisors must put the lives of the residents they serve first - not the financial pursuit of a corporation descending upon us. The request for rezoning by the land owners is a drastic change from the county plan; lives and homes were built knowing the property was zoned as rural - never expecting a leap to an industrial mega-site. Each Supervisor was voted in to serve the County and the residents' best interests. sPower fulfills neither of those.

Sincerely,

Colleen Turley
8404 W Harrison Ct
Fredericksburg,VA 22407
(540) 548-3965

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18 February 2019

Supervisor McLaughlin,

Like most people, initially I thought the Solar Farm would be good for the people of this county, but the more I learned about the overall project the more disenchanted I became.

I have tried to look at possible benefits to the county; temporary construction jobs and a few permanent jobs thereafter seem to be all anyone can specifically cite/guarantee. We know the county will not receive any of the power generated, there would be excessive wear and tear on the existing infrastructure, and additional infrastructure would be required to support the solar "farm." SPower is allegedly going to pay for some of the costs for wear on the infrastructure, which implies the county would have to pay for the remaining costs. As far tax revenues, closest thing to a semi-sure estimate would have to be based on the current population and existing businesses (the county could see increases or decreases in the future). Given the county's current fiscal constraints; within the last year the county had difficulty figuring out how to pay for additional security at our children's schools; how can the county afford this solar project today without a significant change in the tax base especially since there is no significant benefit to the county or its residents?

The size and scope of the entire project is overwhelming especially since we don't know how something this huge will affect the surrounding environment and people. Some experts believe that it most likely will increase the ambient temperature and interfere with signal transmissions in the area. It is anticipated the project will adversely affect the water and life in the surrounding area. How much of an effect no one can say for sure because it has not really been studied for a project this large. There have been all kinds of articles and studies produced, pro and con. Looking at other Virginia counties who had significantly smaller solar projects has provided a lot of "lessons learned," none of which seemed to be positive. With so much conflicting information, it seems it would be more prudent to study the project until more definitive results can be obtained.

As a fellow Marine, you grew up during a time of base consolidation and turning over land for public and private use, BRAC. You well know then too that none of the initial cost

estimates to clean up these lands came close to the actual costs. As Marine and an engineer you know how difficult and costly cleanup of any hazardous material is. SPower is supposedly going to set aside funding to close this site in 20-30 years. Can we be sure that this is really enough funding? And what happens if this project goes "sideways?" We've already seen how difficult it will be to fix liability to the "company," especially if SPower and the other companies involved file bankruptcy. Which means the citizens of this county will have to pay for it.

When we lieutenants years ago, we used to joke about betting our "bars," when in actually we know we did do just that. We evaluated the situation based on known facts, assumptions, and possible outcomes to decide if this is something we really should do; was it worth the risk. As a program manager, I'm sure you're still doing risk analysis quite often. This Solar "farm" project will make a lasting impact on the countryside and goes well beyond 30 years. Personally, this is not one I'd be willing to "bet my bars" on. I am sure that as a leader of Marines and of the citizens of this county you will do your due diligence to determine whether this project will truly benefit this county and it's citizens or that the cost simply does not justify the perceived benefits.

Semper fi,


Richard B. Fitzwater

COL

USMC (RET)

1) Forbes: Innovation is making solar panels harder to recycle:
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffmcmahon/2018/09/04/innovation-is-making-solar-panels-harder-to-recycle/#4f7c0ee4c0aa>

2) From Solar Power World Online: (Kelly Pickerel)
<https://www.solarpowerworldonline.com/2018/04/its-time-to-plan-for-solar-panel-recycling-in-the-united-states/>

There's just not a large amount of money-making salvageable parts on any type of solar panel. That's why regulations have made such a difference in Europe.

"In Europe, we've seen that when it's mandated, it gets done," Libby said. "Either it becomes economical or it gets mandated. But I've heard that it will have to be mandated because it won't ever be economical."

Cara Libby is senior technical leader of solar energy at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

3) From Forbes, "If Solar Panels Are So Clean, Why Do They Produce So Much Toxic Waste?" Dtd May 23, 2018. By Michael Shellenberger, President, Environmental Progress:
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/05/23/if-solar-panels-are-so-clean-why-do-they-produce-so-much-toxic-waste/#72d6a3a121cc>

Since 2016, Sungevity, Beamreach, Verengo Solar, SunEdison, Yingli Green Energy, Solar World, and Suniva have gone bankrupt.

The result of such bankruptcies is that the cost of managing or recycling PV waste will be born by the public. "In the event of company bankruptcies, PV module producers would no longer contribute to the recycling cost of their products," notes Milliman, "leaving governments to decide how to deal with cleanup." Milliman is an insurance actuary that has studied the PV module waste stream.

4) This is a different solar technology and contract arrangement (directly with utility) but still an indicator of what can happen when a utility level solar facility does not deliver as contracted. "On the cusp of defaulting on its deal with Pacific Gas & Electric, last week the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System was granted one year to increase electricity production.

If it still fails to deliver, the plant will be forced to shut down. The 377-megawatt facility — built by Bechtel and owned by BrightSource Energy, NRG Energy and Google — opened in 2014. Built with the help of \$1.6 billion in loan guarantees from the Department of Energy, the 3,500-acre facility is the largest solar thermal plant in the world, according to Bechtel. In 2014, Ivanpah delivered only 45 percent of its contractually obligated electricity.” <https://www.manufacturing.net/news/2016/03/near-default-federally-backed-22-billion-solar-facility-granted-extra-time>

From: Kevin Brancheau <KBrancheau@FIRSTSOLAR.COM>

Date: August 10, 2018 at 9:20:51 AM EDT

To: "sfogarty77@verizon.net" <sfogarty77@verizon.net>

Subject: Recycling Cost S6

Hi Sean,

The current recycling cost is \$6.50 per panel. That number will increase next year, I don't know what that number is at this time.

Thank You,

Kevin Brancheau

Representative II - Global Customer Support Services

Technical Service and Warranty | First Solar, Inc.

Cell: [419-324-5825](tel:419-324-5825)

Office: [419-662-6876](tel:419-662-6876) | ON-NET: [81506876](tel:81506876)

=====
From: Timothy Kimmel <timothy.kimmel@cleanlites.com>

Date: September 24, 2018 at 1:06:49 PM EDT

To: Sean Fogarty <sfogarty77@verizon.net>, USA Sales <usasales@cleanlites.com>

Subject: RE: Solar panel recycling

Sean,

All great questions. We currently do not recycle the Cadmium Telluride panels but if you are purchasing these from First Solar, they have a built in recycling fee and should take them back at EOL for no charge [that program ended 5 years ago]. I say should because I am not sure how their program works exactly.

For the crystalline silicon panels, we do accept these for recycling and are currently charging \$0.48/lb. We are currently researching ways for us to reduce the cost to recycle these panels but currently are charging the above rate. I have attached a small brochure that explains some of the details of the recycling program. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

Tim Kimmel

Vice President

Cleanlites Recycling, Inc

513.388.6872

-----Original Message-----

From: Sean Fogarty [<mailto:sfogarty77@verizon.net>]

Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 11:15 AM

To: USA Sales <usasales@cleanlites.com>

Subject: Solar panel recycling

I'm interested in your current costs for solar panel recycling and whether or not you recycle Cadmium Telluride or just crystalline silicon panels. The Solar Energy Industry Association (SEIA) lists you as a Preferred Recycling Partner and suggested I contact you directly. A utility scale (500MW) solar facility has been proposed for our county (Spotsylvania County, VA) and is going through the review process with County officials. There have been many questions about the recycling costs of the panels upon decommissioning in 35 years and even an assumption that there will be over \$8M in net recycling value for the 1.8 million panels proposed for the site. Our community wants to make sure the panels are recycled whenever the facility is decommissioned and not sent to local landfills which is apparently being done in some places now. The panels proposed are an even mix of First Solar S-6 panels (w/CdTe) and Jinko 360s panels (so 900,000 of each type).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sean Fogarty
Spotsylvania County, VA
540-972-4957

=====

From: Sean Fogarty [<mailto:sfogarty77@verizon.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 10:02 AM

To: Casey Hines <CHines@thinkdynamic.com>

Subject: Re: Solar Recycling Follow-up

Thanks Casey. We appreciate the info. I've passed your contact info along to our County staff (Spotsylvania County, VA). They may reach out to you to confirm what we discussed.

Sean

[via phonecall with Mr Hines, he provided the recycling cost of \$0.40/lb for crystalline silicon panels]

On Oct 2, 2018, at 4:32 PM, Casey Hines <CHines@thinkdynamic.com> wrote:

Thanks again for reaching out, Shawn. Please feel free to pass along my contact information to any interested counties and I'd be happy to help them out!

Casey Hines

Inside Sales Representative

main 608.781.4030

direct 608.779.1208

chines@thinkdynamic.com

ThinkDynamic.com

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Donna Mayfield

From: Sean Fogarty <sfogarty77@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; Paul D. Trampe; Chris Yakabouski; David Ross; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; Gary Skinner
Cc: Wanda Parrish; Karl Holsten; Mark Taylor; LecLewSherman; Dave Hammond; Edward Petrovitch; Aimee Mann; sfogarty77@verizon.net
Subject: Decommissioning surety and recycling credits
Attachments: recycling cost emails.docx; Decommissioning articles.docx

Supervisors,

The staff reports for today's Public Hearings on sPower's three SUPs provide notification that sPower would like credit given for recycling value in the decommissioning and bonding conditions. **CCSC recommends strongly against modifying the PC approved (and the staff recommended) conditions to provide credit for recycling value.**

After extensive research over the last year and a report from the county's consultant (Dewberry), the staff recommended that the Planning Commission provide no credit for recycling values. The Planning Commission agreed and included that provision several times in their approved conditions. From the staff report for SUP18-0001, Page 18: "Since recycling values and costs in the future is unknown, no credit is permitted in the current conditions."

Summary (details below):

- 1) Recycling of panels cost \$\$\$. The minimum value of \$36.7 million that the Planning Commission and staff have established should be significantly higher because there is a cost to recycle solar panels. The decommissioning cost estimate should be **at least \$67 million**.
- 2) sPower has not demonstrated that there is any market for used PV panels.

From the Planning Commission's decommissioning conditions page 6:

"Prior to the issuance of a land-disturbing permit to construct the Facility and in no case later than three (3) months after approval of this Special Use Permit, the Operators shall produce to the County an estimate of the above costs by line item and the surety guaranteeing the payment of those costs and the decommissioning work. The amount of the surety shall be no less than the Property's proportionate share of the Thirty-Six Million Seven Hundred Five Thousand Six Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$36,705,641.00) already estimated, and excluding recycling credits, as provided by the Applicant's 'Project Decommissioning and Site Restoration Cost Estimate' attached hereto as 'Exhibit G'."

For background, sPower has submitted three decommissioning plans with cost estimates. Each one has been determined by staff to be inadequate and not responsive to the staff and Commissioner's concerns about adequate bonding amount. Ultimately, the Planning Commission approved detailed decommissioning conditions to ensure that the county is adequately protected and to ensure that sPower complies with the County's SEF ordinance 23-4.5.7.

The purpose of the decommissioning bond is to protect the county if/when the site is being abandoned. Decommissioning will occur when it is no longer economic to operate and maintain the facility –

for whatever reason. The company that owns it (whether sPower or another entity) is no longer making money and they can't find another buyer for the asset so it must be shutdown. The bond ensures that the decommissioning will be done properly. If the company going out of business does not have a big enough bond to cover the costs, then they are likely to just walk away - the LLC structures allow for streamlined corporate decision making in this instance. The site then becomes the county's problem and expense. In this case, a large site filled with toxic material.

1) Recycling of panels:

During the Planning Commission Public Hearing, the staff noted that they don't see eye-to-eye with sPower on recycling of the solar panels. That's an understatement. The first version of the staff report for SUP 0001 dtd Nov 29th (pg 15 under Key Findings, Against) said that: "The decommissioning bond value cannot be accepted as proposed." The staff report also required "decommissioning plan revisions as recommended by the County's consultant (Dewberry) to address the full breadth of decommissioning a SEF."

sPower has not changed the recommended bond value since then and has not accepted the higher amount. Additionally page 3 of Dewberry's report (dtd 11/26/18) stated "Dewberry recommends that the County require bonding the actual cost of the decommissioning before the recycling amounts are figured in."

sPower's latest decommissioning Conceptual Cost Estimate lists a cost of over \$11 million to remove and recycle the photovoltaic modules. It also includes a credit of over \$8 million as a result of recycling the panels. No reference or evidence was provided to support the \$8 million estimate. Even sPower's consultant, Dr Fthenakis testified on Jan 2nd that First Solar charges to recycle their panels. I've contacted two of the PV panel recyclers that sPower lists in their decommissioning plan and was provided the following costs to recycle the Jinko (crystalline silicon) panels (correspondence from recyclers included as an attachment to this email)*:

Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations: 40 cents/lb

Cleanlites Recycling: 48 cents/lb

The Jinko CrSi panels weigh 58.4 lbs

Using 100% CrSi panels (as specified by the PC's conditions):

1,800,000 CrSi panels (Dynamic Lifecycle @ 40 cents/lb and 58.4lbs each): \$42,048,000

*while sPower or the county may be able to negotiate bulk or industry discounts with these recyclers, sPower has provided no information to indicate that these price quotes are incorrect.

Based on these estimates, the county would be facing over \$40M to dispose of these panels (in today's dollars) - not an \$8 million credit as sPower's estimate assumes. Since only \$11 million is included in their cost estimate to remove and recycle the panels, there will be an additional cost of approximately \$31 million to dispose of these panels. These estimates will force sPower to adjust their total decommissioning cost from the PC and staff recommended \$36.7 million to over \$65 million. Dr Fthenakis mentioned that he expects the market for panel recycling to change as panels become obsolete and need to be replaced or facilities are decommissioned. If that prediction is correct, then sPower can work with the county to adjust the bond downward every two years as their attorney has suggested. **However, there is no market now.** If anything the county should over calculate the bond to provide an incentive for the developer to do the decommissioning work themselves rather than walk away and leave it to the county. This protects the county and is in accordance with the SEF ordinance.

Additionally, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) conducted a study in 2018 to estimate decommissioning costs for a conceptual 11MW solar plant at the end of its useful life. Their key finding was negative net salvage value of \$83/KW which equates to \$41.5 million for sPower's proposed plant. The actual

cost for sPower's plant will be higher since the study assumed panels will be landfilled. Link: <https://publicdownload.epri.com/PublicDownload.svc/product=000000003002013116/type=Product>

Additional supporting information is attached:

- Emails from recyclers.
- Links to 4 articles on the current state of the solar recycling industry

2) Market for used solar panels

sPower contends that since they are making such a large investment in this utility solar facility that someone will purchase the used panels intact on the resale market. However, we have found no evidence (and sPower has not provided any) that there is a market for used panels. What developer is going to install 5 or 10 year old solar panels of unknown condition when newer technology is available? The technology in this industry is constantly changing.

CCSC recommends strongly against modifying the PC approved (and the staff recommended) conditions to provide credit for recycling value and recommends a bond value of approximately \$67 million to cover the full costs (in today's market) to properly dispose of this facility.

Thank you and please contact me with any questions.

Sean Fogarty
Livingston District

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This email was Malware checked by UTM 9. <http://www.sophos.com>

Donna Mayfield

From: Cynthia Stalker <cynthia.d.stalker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 3:01 PM
Cc: Thomas G. Benton; Chris Yakabowski; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; David Ross; Paul D. Trampe; Gary Skinner; Aimee Mann; Wanda Parrish; Paulette Mann; Patrick White; concernedcitizensspotsylvania@gmail.com; Helen Bradley; RBerry@ntsdevco.com
Subject: Please vote no on the spower solar plant
Attachments: image002.jpg; image004.jpg; image006.jpg; image008.jpg; image010.jpg; image012.jpg; image014.jpg; image016.jpg; image018.jpg; image020.jpg; image022.jpg; image024.jpg; image026.jpg; image028.jpg; image030.jpg; image032.jpg; image034.jpg

Dear Spotsylvania Planning Commissioners:

I moved to Spotsylvania in May of 2017, from Boston. I moved to this area because of the natural beauty, the amazing history, and to enjoy wildlife in its natural habitat. I was looking for a slower lifestyle for my retirement, in an area that



respected its natural and cultural heritage

I care deeply about our natural world; I try to live my life in as “green” a way as I can. I conserve water, I plant flowers and vegetables as habitat for wildlife, I minimize my use of plastics as much as I can, I don’t eat beef... and I support the use of alternative power.

I do NOT support spower’s solar plant in my neighborhood. And, if I had known this was in the works, I would have looked for a different place to call home.

They are planning to destroy 6350 acres of wildlife habitat, dislocating an unknown number of animals. This is heartbreaking. Wild animals are a voiceless population, deserving of our protection – we should not be destroying them!

This wonton destruction of habitat is the moral equivalent of ivory poaching: All for profit, benefitting an amoral



few; who cares about the animal? Well, I do – and I hope you do too.

In addition: this is a neighborhood – granted it is delightfully rural - but it is still a neighborhood! People live here – people have lived here for centuries; they have chosen to be here. It is not fair to destroy their (our) life. There must be more suitable locations for this type of power plant – deserts seem to be a viable location – no neighbors, lots of sun, no de-forestation needed... and it is where they have already been built without harm to neighborhoods.

There are so many unknowns that are frightening about this power plant.

I do not believe their hired property assessor who claims there will be no property devaluation. **I fear** that my retirement funds that are invested into my home will lost if this is allowed to be built.

I fear for my health, and the health of my neighbors who suffer with asthma and other respiratory diseases.



I fear for the bird population who may be harmed by this power plant.



I fear for our waters should some of the panels get destroyed and the cadmium poisons leach into our



waters.



I fear for the frogs, and snails



, and toads , and snakes, and



rabbits



, and groundhogs



, and wild turkeys



and fox , and deer , and bears, and predator birds, and song birds who will be dislocated.



I fear for the pollinators , upon whom all life depends.

I fear for my neighbors whose property borders this power plant – I have seen video of the runoff that is happening on some of their properties now – the result of the deforestation that the power plant people & current owners have already done in anticipation of the project. It is terrible.



I fear for the loss of the sacred grounds that are everywhere in our county; and the loss of history and peace that exists now.

I fear for the drivers on our small country roads when the trucks are coming through. **I fear** for our first responders who will have to deal with the results of these accidents or with on-site fires or emergencies.

I am forced to rely upon you to protect me from this solar power plant. I am only one voter, with a small voice and tears in my eyes, *begging* you to protect us. All of us.

“When the last tree has been cut,
When the last river has been poisoned,
When the last fish has been caught.
Then we will find out that we cannot eat money.” Anonymous proverb

Cynthia Stalker
11201 Bluffs Vw
Spotsylvania, VA 22551
617-645-7400



"God requires that we assist the animals, when they need our help. Each being (human or creature) has the same right of protection." St Francis of Assisi

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This email was Malware checked by UTM 9. <http://www.sophos.com>

Donna Mayfield

From: Irvin Boyles <irv.boyles@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Thomas G. Benton; Chris Yakabowski; Kevin Marshall; Timothy J. McLaughlin; David Ross; Paul D. Trampe; Gary Skinner; Aimee Mann; Wanda Parrish; Paulette Mann; Patrick White; concernedcitizensspotsylvania@gmail.com
Cc: berkeleymaddox@gmail.com; grenewpc@gmail.com; Paulette Mann; 2012sheriffsmith@gmail.com; spotsysalem@gmail.com; TravAAU@cox.net
Subject: Vote No on sPower Applications for Special Use Permits
Attachments: Electric Grid Hearing Feb 27 2019 (1).docx

To Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commissioners;

As you are approaching your time to vote on approval of the Special Use Permits for sPower's proposed 500MW solar farm here in Spotsylvania County, and its tie in to the electric grid through Dominion Power, I want to remind you of risks you would be exposing residents, wildlife, land use, and historical legacy if the electric grid goes down. And if it goes down due to electromagnetic pulse (EMP), cyber, or high power microwave (HPW) attacks, or even a GMD (geo-magnetic disturbance) anywhere in the grid, we in the County could be without electric power for months, while the solar farm continues to generate up to 500MW of electrical energy daily, which can result in voltage overloads resulting in overheating transformers, inverters, and even transmission lines. And we residents couldn't access any of this power that is on our doorstep when the grid is down because no one had made it condition for approval.

So far, sPower addresses this concern only by proposing "The solar farm will be continuously monitored with a SCADA system, an acronym meaning Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. These systems are essentially control centers which monitor levels of energy output throughout a facility at a per panel level but which also include site surveillance. These systems also monitor for potential ground faults which are indicative of a failed connection and immediately shut down any inverter to cease energy flow and trigger alarms via the SCADA system. This same SCADA system can be used to safely stop the delivery of all energy to the Dominion Substation." I have asked an sPower representative about the vulnerability of the SCADA to cyber, EMP, HPW attacks, or GMD and he admitted he didn't know that it had been addressed. And there is nothing in their emergency action plans that address this.

Now, I'd like to call your attention to a Congressional hearing transcript from 27 February 2019 on electric grid security held by the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (full transcript attached). Please note that one of the witnesses at this hearing was Dominion Energy Electric Transmission Operations & Reliability Director, David Roop, in which he states:

"Dominion Energy is headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, and provides electricity or natural gas to nearly 7.5 million homes and business across 18 states. The service area for our regulated utility, Dominion Energy, Virginia, is in close proximity to the District of Columbia and is close to many vital national security and defense operations.

We also provide electricity to a large percentage of the internet traffic in the world. During my 43 years at Dominion Energy, my focus has been on electric transmission and substation operations. At Dominion Energy, we consider all hazards, manmade or acts of man as well as naturally occurring events in both our planning and operations. Protecting our system for GMD (geo-magnetic disturbance; i.e., high intensity solar storm) and EMP is part of that mission.

Over the many decades, we've hardened our substation components to better enable them to survive the impact of GMD event. This hardening has occurred as we upgrade or replace equipment at the end of life. Over the course of many years, Dominion Energy has made investments and developed contingency plans to improve the resiliency of our network in confronting with EMP events. Making these simple changes has also improved our day to day operations for challenges such as lightning and transients.

But we now have come to a point that requires additional research to guide our future efforts to improve system resiliency for EMP events. This research is extremely important and even helping us to make prudent investments." Note that at no time does Mr. Roop address or even acknowledge threats from cyber attacks or HPM, where cyber attacks are probably the most likely. Also, he noted if "and we have to overload a transformer for a period of time, we'll do take risk on the loss of life of that unit. And that's what we would do in those kind of events in lieu of collapsing the grid." Note that an overloaded transformer usually results in fire and spewing out toxic materials.

Again, all of this evidence confirms the risks that the large scale of the proposed solar farm so close to residential and wildlife areas carries too great of risks, and no real benefits to Spotsylvania County, and a no vote on all applications for this project would be in the best interests of you and the residents of the County.

Irvin Boyles

11501 General Wadsworth Drive
Spotsylvania, VA

Noise - Richard and Judith Genaille (traveler9722@gmail.com)

**** DENY** sPower application because there is no way to mitigate the noise level to a decibel level which will not cause Noise Induced Hearing Loss

Noise Induced Hearing Loss is permanent

The EPA “calculates the safe noise level for the public to prevent hearing loss to be 70 decibels.”

The EPA states, “Children can have permanent hearing loss at 80 decibels.

Increased decibels over 65 decibels can cause: hypertension, heart attacks, low term birth weights, pre-term labor, endocrine disorders, hearing impairment and deafness

Impulse sounds such as pile drivers can cause Atrial Fibrillation and can increase the effects of PTSD as well as cause hypertension and other stress induced disorders

Biosolids – Richard and Judith Genaille (traveler9722@gmail.com)

**** PROHIBIT** use of biosolids.

Biosolids contain live drug resistant pathogens and toxic heavy metals

Biosolids cannot be used near headwaters of York Watershed. The York Watershed cannot become contaminated per state regulations. This watershed provides drinking water for municipalities.

Burning versus Chipping - Richard and Judith Genaille (traveler9722@gmail.com)

**** PROHIBIT** all burning to include trench burning.

Smoke from burning will cause permanent lung damage, i.e. DNA damage and damage to proteins in lungs.

Extremely detrimental effect of smoke on pregnant women, babies, children, senior citizens, people with heart and lung disease

Chipping can be used instead of burning and trench burning

Fire Hazards - Richard and Judith Genaille (traveler9722@gmail.com)

**** DENY** sPower SUPs because serious fire risks cannot be mitigated to insure safety of residents of residents on or near the site boundaries

2800 acres of electric infrastructure energized to 1500 volts to be intermingled in close proximity with 2400 acres of high fire fuel load in RPAs and other natural areas INSIDE the site

Solar panels, junction boxes, combiner boxes and connecting cables remain energized continuously up to 1500 volts when panels are illuminated by sunlight, spotlights or firelight

Fighting a fire amongst solar arrays energized to 1500 volts is extremely hazardous to firefighters

Local firefighting units do not have enough firefighters, apparatus and water supply to fight a large fire on site

Firefighter response times are too long to prevent fire from reaching homes on or near site boundaries

Firefighters cannot use water or wet foam to extinguish DC electrical fires due to electrocution risk

No hydrant system available

Site internal road structure suitable for heavy fire fighting vehicles, very limited

Large areas of site not reachable by fire fighting vehicles

From: Paulette Mann
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 8:49 AM
To: Wanda Parrish
Subject: FW: Lasting Impressions from the Open Hearing on sPower Applications - 26 Feb 19 (I wish to have my letter entered into the public record)

Paulette Mann
Office Manager
Department of Planning
9019 Old Battlefield Blvd, Suite 320
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553
(540) 507-7447
pmann@spotsylvania.va.us

From: rickschwartzman@comcast.net [<mailto:rickschwartzman@comcast.net>]
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2019 11:34 AM
To: Thomas G. Benton <gbenton@spotsylvania.va.us>; Chris Yakabouski <CYakabouski@spotsylvania.va.us>; Kevin Marshall <KMarshall@spotsylvania.va.us>; Timothy J. McLaughlin <McLaughlinTJ@Spotsylvania.va.us>; David Ross <David.Ross@Spotsylvania.va.us>; Paul D. Trampe <PTrampe@Spotsylvania.va.us>; Gary Skinner <GSkinner@spotsylvania.va.us>
Cc: Paulette Mann <PMann@spotsylvania.va.us>
Subject: Lasting Impressions from the Open Hearing on sPower Applications - 26 Feb 19 (I wish to have my letter entered into the public record)

Dear County Supervisors,

Thanks for your incredible endurance at the marathon open hearing on the 26th. Like you, I stayed until the bitter end.

I believe this is the most important decision facing our County since actions at the Battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House in May, 1864. I mention the County as the "Crossroads of the Civil War," because as we look at the future, history often goes without comment and it is all that will truly outlive us, lest we forget.

After listening to 150 or so impassioned presentations, I want to share just two lasting thoughts that I don't believe have received enough attention. In my mind, these are pivotal and support a decision to vote against the sPower applications, along with other factors such as human, animal and environmental risks – to name a few of many.

- **Future Technology is on the Horizon... Why commit to the first offering “in the door.”** **Speaker comment:** “35 years ago there wasn’t an internet.” **Take-away:** Think about that! How true, and imagine where solar technology will take us in 5, 10 or 15 year? It will be cheaper, have a smaller footprint, and be much more efficient. Based on today’s realities, please don’t commit to today’s technology, or to using 6350 acres of County land, nor to locking in any project for 35-40 years. When venturing into utility-scale solar for Spotsylvania, go slow; go small; and if you have any doubts that this is the best that you can envision for your constituents, don’t go. **Bottomline:** Small or not at all is a wiser choice today. You can surely get a much better deal in a few years.
- **Utility-Scale Solar facilities increase the cost of electricity – it’s a fact.** **Applicant’s statement:** “Not true.” **Take-away:** Sadly, the applicant’s position is wrong, self-serving and disingenuous. Allow me to callout just two factors influencing higher costs: 1. The applicant fails to state that solar architecture is ALL additive and or duplicative to existing grid architecture; and 2. The applicant also ignores the realities of 24/7/365 electricity management across the grid. (By law, utility companies are forced to accept solar energy production into the grid even when they do not need it and although it create severe grid and production problems and inefficiencies.) Please see the attached article from Forbes. It uses actual examples of existing utility-scale facilities and methodically and factually describes a plethora of factors that are driving electricity costs higher wherever utility-scale solar activities tie into the grid.
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/04/25/yes-solar-and-wind-really-do-increase-electricity-prices-and-for-inherently-physical-reasons/>
Bottomline: Spotsylvanians will pay more for electricity because of solar, it’s no myth, it’s a fact.

Thank you for your time and attention. Thank you for running for office and for serving our great County. May God bless you and may He grant you good judgment as you reach your decision.

Richard Schwartzman

Livingston District

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