

## **Carpenter 5-12-17**

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

From: Donna Carpenter [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 7:47 AM  
To: Bambi Avery  
Subject: Solar panels

I believe the town has opened up a huge bag of worms where solar panels are concerned. They are absolutely ugly and take up an enormous amount of acreage to be productive. Where is all the wildlife going to go? What happens when the solar panels no longer work? Are we left with fields of garbage.

We were approached to have solar panels put on our property and the answer is absolutely not. We have deer, eagles and several variety of ducks on our pond. Where will they all go?

As I sit looking out my window and watching the deer graze I cannot imagine solar panels there. We need to put a stop to this before all of Dryden is so ugly no one will want to come here. No fracking, No Solar Panels. There has got to be better projects for our community.

Donna Carpenter

Sent from my iPad

President of the Board of Directors  
Willow Glen Cemetery Association  
2090 Dryden Road  
Dryden, New York 13053

1001  
of 2



Reverend Harry Dean  
331 Brookfield Road  
Mattydale, New York  
13211

4-19-2017



Dear Mr. Perkins,

As you know my wife Janice was daughter to  
Irene (OTIS) Updike and Harold Otis. Since I had been ordained to  
the ministry of the Christian Faith I had been asked to  
attend to many baptisms, marriages, and funerals of the  
large extended family. You remember that we buried the  
remains (DONALD OTIS) (his ashes) at the two plots of  
Irene and Delbert Updike. We now have a plate of his  
pictured FLATBED TRUCK over his place. Don had  
driven loads of steel over the MASON-DIXON ROUTE.  
Then the steel from the far east arrived and ruined the  
American economy. Anyway, Janice is now the only  
living MOTHER, FATHER, STEPFATHER, 3 BROTHERS  
and SISTER ALL IN HEAVEN, BIBLICALLY - ASHES TO ASHES,  
DUST TO DUST - SLEEPING FOR JESUS TO RETURN.

So, thank you so much for the timely  
notice. Do not hesitate to call or write if you  
require any help in your quest (STANDING UP TO A  
"BIG BROTHER.") I sent a letter to the DRYDEN PLANNING  
BOARD TODAY WEDNESDAY 4/19/2017. I suggest a BLITZ -  
you could contact local CHURCHES, MASONIC LODGES, FIRE  
MEN, AND AMERICAN LEGION. I included in the letter -  
NATIVE AMERICANS (SACRED GROUND) GRAVE SITES AND  
THEIR PROTECTING UP TO THE NEXT GENERATIONS.

VETERANS BURIED AT WILLOW GLEN. YOU PROBABLY HAVE A  
HISTORICAL HISTORIC DUTY TO PROTECT OUR FUTURE - THE  
AMERICAN CHILDREN, CERTAINLY, THAT JANICE & I (SIGNED) (DATED) OUR  
OPPOSAL AGAINST THE TWO PROJECTS. I ALSO STATED THAT

IF WWII WERE TO ERUPT IN OUR LIFE TIME, AS A RESULT OF MAN'S GREED, THAT ALL LIVING THINGS WOULD DIE. I'VE PROMOTED THE THOUGHT FOR MANY YEARS NOW, (MY BOSSES) (I WORKED AT BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB FOR 46 YEARS), MY BOSSES WERE CONFUSED "WHY DO YOU TALK OF WATER SHORTAGE?" MY CONSISTANT ANSWER "CONTAMINATED WATER CANNOT BE CONSUMED, AND - AS YOU KNOW - HDMANS CAN ONLY LIVE ONE WEEK WITHOUT WATER."

EINSTEIN WAS QUOTED - " INSANITY CAN BE DESCRIBED IN ONE SIMPLE STATEMENT - IT IS DOING THINGS THE SAME WAY, OVER AND OVER AGAIN, EXPECTING DIFFERENT RESULTS." THE BIBLE NEVER LIES - MAN NEVER LEARNS.

SO GOES EVERYTHING - ONE STEP FORWARD & TEN STEPS ~~BACKWARD~~. (SATAN AND ENTROPHY)

YOU AND I KNOW THAT ONLY BY CALLING UPON GOD, <sup>IS</sup> THE ONLY WAY FOR AMERICA TO SURVIVE. NOW, HERE ARE FACTS CONCERNING THESE TWO DESICRATIONS THAT ARE ABOUT TO BE CONSTRUSTED, EMINATE DOMAIN, AND GOVERNMENT BACKING FOR COMMUNICATIONS. CITY HALL HAS ALL THE MARBLES, BUT MAN PROPOSES AND GOD DISPOSES. MIRACLES DO EXIST, WE WON WWII BY MANY, MANY MIRACLES. BUT - NOT EVEN ONE WAR SINCE, GOD'S GRACE IS GONE, THE MIRACLE - USA GETTING ON IT'S KNEES BEFORE GOD, IT IS VERY LATE, TOTAL DESTRUCTION WILL ENSURE A CALL FROM THE GRAVE.

Lots of Love, In Jesus the Christ, Janice + Happy

May 11, 2017

To: Dryden Town Board Members

Cc: Tompkins County IDA Board Members, Dryden Planning Board Members

Subject: SEQR related to Dryden Solar Installation

As you all know, from the NYS DEC website, "New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) requires all state and local government agencies to consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors during discretionary decision-making." I have seen some of the SEQR forms at various stage of completion, but I have not seen anything that addresses the social and economic impacts of the proposed solar projects. If these studies exist, please point me to where I can find the information. If they do not exist, I truly hope that you require the assessments to be professionally completed by a disinterested outside party.

I would assume the SOCIAL impact study would fully address the issues of 1) dividing our community as evidenced by the proceedings at numerous public meetings; 2) the emotional impact on those with loved ones in Willow Glen Cemetery or those that own plots; 3) the irrevocable damage that will be done to Dryden's number one resource, its scenic beauty. Although, these two installations will not totally destroy the landscape, they will lay the ground work for a flood of such installations that certainly will destroy our beautiful town.

The ECONOMIC impacts should be much easier to quantify. A couple of the items that the study should fully address are:

1. The loss of property values for those close to the installations. The statement in Q & A handout from one of the public meetings (4/26 ?) stated that "there was little evidence that ground-mounted solar arrays impacted property values." Possible conclusions that could be drawn from such a statement are 1) there is some evidence that they do impact properties values, and 2) that the concern has not yet been properly investigated.
2. The loss of future construction of residences in the areas near the installations. Not only depriving the landowners of future development potential but also negatively impacting the local construction trades and supporting materials suppliers.
3. The loss of the land for future housing development and/or business/industrial applications. All of which could potentially have a much greater positive effect on our tax base and job market.
4. The impact to the desirability of plots within Willow Glen and the dollars those plots will be able to command. If the impact is large enough, perpetual care could at some point become an issue; at which time the town would become responsible for maintenance by law.
5. The ultimate cost of impact to electric rates to all residents within the NYSEG grid array to which these installations will be connected. The verbal statement by the Sun8 representative that those subscribing to the service could expect to save 10% on the applicable portion of their electric bill is fine, but certainly is not contractual and no guarantee in terms of assuring a financial benefit to anyone in Dryden.

6. Although these two installations will not in and of themselves have a great impact, what needs to be considered is the potential impact to energy costs if Tompkins County comes anyplace close to achieving their goal of 4,720 acres of solar installations. As you know Solar only generates during daytime hours and is greatly affected by time of year, clouds, fog, rain, snow, and dirt. Also, there are no storage provisions for the electricity that will be generated. If the amount of electricity generated by solar for the grid becomes significant, the efficiency at which Milliken Station will be able to generate electricity will be severely impacted. (I hope the IDA is considering potential job losses at Milliken as well.) One could postulate that due to the highly fluctuating nature at which solar generates electricity, Milliken will either have to overproduce (ultimately higher cost to the consumer and little to no reduction in emissions) or the community should expect the eventuality of brown or black outs. There may be ways to effectively mitigate these concerns, but they need to be fully assessed by professional non-interested parties in order to proceed.

Even in situations where Milliken does not have to overproduce, one could expect that certain economies of scale will be lost, also ultimately increasing the cost of electricity to all within the grid area.

Will additional tax breaks be required in the future to keep our non-solar generating capabilities viable?

7. When I raised the following concern (proposed installations exceeding NYSEG’s 17 MW 85% allocation level) at one of the public hearings, I was told by the Sun8 representative, in so many words, that I was wrong. I never received an explanation as to why I was mistaken. I encourage the board to fully evaluate the following in their decision process and to how it might impact the economics of the proposed arrays for the town residents and taxpayers.

“The March 2017 PSC order on the net metering transition plan eliminated the previous aggregate cap based on a peak load calculation. The PSC instead provided that all the projects interconnected after March 9, 2017 should not impact more than 2% of each utility’s incremental net annual revenue. The provision is put in place to limit the impact of VDER tariff on non-participants.

As a way of monitoring the impacts of the DERs the PSC requires the utilities to report when they hit 85% of the recommended capacity size allocations for each of the utilities. This will provide the PSC time to determine the subsequent action if necessary.

	CHGE	O&R	NGrid	NYSEG	CE	RGE
MWs	30	25	100	20	90	5
85% capacity (MW)	25.50	21.25	85.00	17.00	76.50	4.25”

<http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/DCF68EFCA391AD6085257687006F396B?OpenDocument>

8. Also a full economic assessment should consider the federal and state tax dollars that are being used; a portion of those dollars are Dryden taxpayer dollars.

I strongly encourage the Board to assure that a full SEQR, including evaluation of all social and economic impacts, is properly performed.

Sincerely,

Pat Fitzgibbons 315-405-1010 (Dryden taxpayer)

637 Wilson Creek Road

Newark valley, NY 13811

**Fitzgibbons 5-12-17**

**From:** pat fitzgibbons [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 8:11 AM  
**To:** Bambi Avery; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Please also provide the following to your respective board members. Thanks, Pat.

To: Dryden Town and Planning Boards  
12, 2017

May

CC: Tompkins County IDA

Subject: Net Metering

The amount of solar energy a utility must accept being fed into the grid is limited; the amount is relatively small. If Dryden allows large scale solar farms into our community we may essentially be barring the town's residents (actually all those that live in the grid area) from ever being able to reap the benefits of net metering on an individual basis. I know there are those that disagree, but this may be one of the reasons that the state limited net metering to 2MW or less. Without net metering, few individuals or businesses will be able to justify installing solar.

Why should we allow all our generous state and federal subsidies to go to an out of state business? Why should we further entice them to usurp our subsidies by providing additional property tax breaks? Please consider the above in your economic impact assessment required in the SEQR process.

Sincerely,

Pat Fitzgibbons [REDACTED] ) Dryden taxpayer

637 Wilson Creek Road

Newark valley, NY 13811

Graham 5-11-17

**From:** Janis Graham [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** Bambi Avery  
**Subject:** another solar letter for the pile! Thank you for distributing and posting

Many of the letters and speeches of support for the Sun8 application have made frequent reference to the fact that the concerns of the residents of Dodge Road have been addressed, with plenty of accommodations made.

But if you scratch the surface of many of these “accommodations,” you discover that what one hand gives, the other takes away.

For example:

\*One hand gives wildlife corridors and deeper setbacks in front of two Dodge Road homes, while, at the same time:

\*The other hand grabs 3 acres of trees on the road opposite the arrays. Why? Because due to the granting of the setbacks/corridor, the site now can't afford these trees throwing even a single hour of shade on the array in the afternoon.

As a result, the residents of Dodge Road, especially those whose homes are in front of the deepest setbacks (Daren Miller and Leslie Appel—both of whom have approved this letter) feel as if they are being forced into a no-win choice—no setback or no forest.

That many “concessions” have a price isn't surprising given that there have always been two non-negotiable elements in the application: The projects's site and size. It's hard to make real accommodations when there is no room to maneuver.

The one clear improvement? The switch from chain link to agricultural fencing. I'll definitely give Sun8 that.

Janis Graham  
1150 Ellis Hollow Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
cell: [REDACTED]



Krout 5-10-17

Hello

We are emailing to voice our support for the two solar projects recently proposed in the town of Dryden and approve the mitigations SUN8 has proposed.

Please do not institute a moratorium on solar projects.

Thank you.

John and Bobbi Krout

April 9, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a Dryden resident and am writing in support of the solar farm projects proposed by Sun8. I encourage the Dryden town board and the Tompkins County industrial development agency to approve the projects as I believe the positive features of the solar farm outweigh the negative elements required by this effort.

I have listened carefully - for more than seven hours - to those opposed to the solar farms while attending Dryden town board meetings this spring. Most of the arguments I have heard boil down to viewshed issues, whether the solar farm is located on Cornell land that is currently open fields or next to the cemetery in East Dryden.

We need a better way to generate energy where we live. We need to cut our dependence on fossil fuels. We need to be thinking beyond our existing paradigm and be willing to make reasonable concessions for the future of our town, our planet and our children. We need this type of alternative development, not only for the energy it will produce, but also for the example it will set.

This is also a social justice issue. Solar farms allow those who live in cities or rentals and those without the means to finance their own home solar, an opportunity to tie in with locally produced renewable energy.

The reason I heard more than seven hours of commentary and debate regarding the Sun8 proposal was because I was there at the Dryden town hall this winter and spring to oppose a very different energy project: the expansion of the Borger natural gas compressor station in Ellis Hollow.

Although local residents do not use the natural gas running through pipes that thread through our county as part of the 200 mile long Dominion New Market pipeline, we absorb the externalities and the risk, including the added emissions coming from the Borger compressor station. People who live somewhere else consume the gas.

While sitting and waiting for my turn to speak at the board meetings during the Sun8 deliberations, the irony of local residents objecting to a project that provides a safe and reversible source of energy was not lost on me. The attention to detail of the developer and the opportunity local residents had to air their concerns, and then have those concerns addressed, incited a combination of awe and envy in me, given the lack of public input related to ramping up fossil fuel enterprises that I was encountering.

I was worrying about emissions of VOCs, formaldehyde, hydrogen sulfide and fine particulates that have gone untracked for decades into our air, while my neighbors deliberated over an aesthetically unpleasing repurposed field and the view from a graveyard. If only we could see

the methane leaking (Ingraffea, 2015) from the pipeline at a rate 1.5 times higher than the Ithaca baseline, a measurement taken by Dr. Anthony Ingraffea when the Ellis Hollow compressor station was not operational, perhaps then we could capture more fully the concern of area residents, Dominion Energy and local officials, I thought.

We have a cultural disconnect when it comes to energy. We don't fully understand what it takes to fuel our way of life or where energy comes from and what sacrifices are made beyond our borders to bring it to us. We have become inured to the realities of fossil fuel consumption.

Development projects, like the Sun8 solar farms, begin to change that obscurity and literally bring the realities of energy production to light without forfeiting our health and the health of the planet. It is time to address the practical realities related to energy, whether it involves giving up a view or responding to unseen fossil fuel externalities in our local community.

Sincerely,

Katie Quinn-Jacobs  
Sodom Rd  
Town of Dryden

Silfer 5-11-17

**From:** Bethany Buhrmaster Silfer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2017 2:42 PM  
**To:** Bambi Avery  
**Subject:** Dryden needs solar

*Please distribute to town and planning boards—*

Dryden wants solar power, solar jobs, and a clean energy future for our children. Say “YES” to community solar.

SUN8’s projects have had input from the community already.

We need among other things the following benefits that community solar can provide:

- low-cost renewable electricity for everyone
- millions in new tax revenue
- clean, renewable power

Dryden is a leader in creating the clean energy economy we all want – we need to say YES to solar in our town, not a moratorium.

Sincerely,

Bethany Silfer

To Dryden Town Board  
Re Proposed Solar Projects for Ellis Tract and 2150 Dryden Rd.  
May 11, 2017

We are *not* the *enemy*. We *want* solar, and those of us who can, already *have* it. We *want* to support community solar for others.

But the process for these two projects has been absurd. The scale was way too big, beyond the existing zoning and original community solar plans (we were not even made aware of the new solar plan passed in January or February). Furthermore these Project Plans with Sun8 were made public way too late for reasonable discussion with parties most affected.

Existing zoning and the original community solar plans did *not* envision large scale industrial installations overwhelmingly in the face of the closest communities.

*We* have been trying to process and compromise.

The developer has been exceedingly willing to talk with those of us most involved in the Ellis and Cemetery projects, and he has already made modifications that help a great deal, but issues remain to be worked out. Some of the modifications solve one problem but create another; the idea of scaling back to a smaller size has been consistently refused. There is much confusion and misinformation. Everything keeps changing.

A six-month moratorium is *not* asking to *stop* the project, but simply to give time to consider seriously alternate sites, work out more details on current plans, and give some assurance that future projects will be handled more transparently. The environmental review is not complete — issues such as wetlands have not been resolved. It is important to do this *right*, a few months pause is *not* a refusal.

We much appreciate the time the Town and County Boards have given to hearing us speak and write, and to all the people who have voiced concerns. We hope that you will approve a moratorium to be able to provide solar for Dryden in the best possible way.

Thank you,

Beverly West  
1214 Ellis Hollow Rd.  
[REDACTED]

**Other thoughts after Planning Board Meeting May 3, 2017.**

**For those who say *I don't need a view, therefore you don't*:**

It may not be important to everyone, but the distant view from a cemetery is very important to *us*. We had been discussing purchasing a lot in Willow Glen precisely because it has the view of the valley and hills so central to our 50 years of living, driving, walking, hiking, biking all over Tompkins County. Now we are not so sure.

My husband's parents are buried in a hillside cemetery in Anadarko, OK and the view is crucial to our visits there. At Jim's mother's burial service the minister read that Edna had often quoted the Bible verse "lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help" and how her visits to us in central NY were so special for that reason. My father had his ashes strewn at sea, but my mother's are in a village cemetery in Weymouth Landing, MA. It is pleasant to visit there, but lacks the uplifting feeling we feel in Anadarko.

**For Bharath Srinivasan:**

It was good to hear on May 3 that you have already responded to Bruno Schickel's experiment with the tall pole, and we appreciated your working around the shagbark hickories that we heard about on April 26. We hope you will also respond to those of us who are asking for preservation of the natural barriers that exist on the roadside of Dodge Rd. and with the row of willows along Turkey Hill Rd. Where these natural vegetative screens already exist, saving them should save you expense of removal *and* of planting screening that may or may not achieve the desired results.

My experience of driving (unexpectedly) past the community solar at 7107 Jacksonville Rd. proved to *me* that the typical roadside brush, so similar to Dodge Rd, works very well (obviously avoiding plants that deer will devour or contributing to wetland invaders).

So the visual screening concerns along Dodge Rd should be directed

- 1) at protecting views from the homes directly across the street, with plantings to which they agree, and
- 2) at the places where the distant views are now visible, install plantings along your fence that will grow only to the height of the fence.

**To the Town Board:**

Scale of project is too big – Janis Graham and Terry Habecker, both Dodge Rd. residents, clearly expressed that a smaller scale installation would not encounter the pushback that is being expressed. The biggest problems seem to be that Cornell insists there are *no* other options, and the developer says anything smaller is a deal breaker. From the outside looking in, this is a ridiculous quandary.

The time pressure is also ridiculous. If we could have had these discussions much earlier in the process, in an open-minded way, we surely could have worked out a reasonable compromise given a county of 100 square miles, that could include *portions* in the Ellis tract on a scale more commensurate with the Town Zoning, Solar, and Comprehensive plans.

**From Town Boards letter April 30:**

The question of *views* for the solar farms is a bit tickly. It is true that having solar panels themselves "in our faces" is way too much, but another extremely important issue is the distant views. The modifications presented at the April 26 meeting attend only to the former, at considerable expense to the latter.

**Wetlands:**

Please look carefully at Bob Keohn's wetland photos: damage from test hole drilling, 1 trip in and out. He also mentioned running water channels and standing pools that we too have seen after every heavy rain.

*Beverly A. Keohn*