

Barken, Marlene June 26, 2017

Subject: Dryden Solar Project

To the Dryden Town Clerk: Please forward this message to members of the Town Board, Planning Board and Conservation Board.

The voters in my family would all like to express our **STRONG** support for the proposed solar projects in Dryden. We were pleased that the Board has pushed back against expansion of the Borger Compressor Station, and the proposed solar projects are the way of the future. We have lived in Dryden for 27 years, and this is the first time we've seen Cornell University willing to invest in a project that will yield tax revenue for the community. This is a terrific opportunity for Dryden to take a progressive stand in tune with Governor Cuomo's stated commitment to pursue clean energy. The proposed site plans appropriately mitigate the concerns of neighboring landowners, and the projects are well designed. We urge you to approve the solar projects at your next meeting. Thank you, Marlene, Frederick and David Barken

Barken, Frederick M. M. D. July 12, 2017

Subject: To the Town Board Re: Proposed Solar Installation

To the Dryden Town Board:

A few signs along Ellis Hollow Road, adjacent to the proposed solar array site, protest against "industrial" solar. The specious use of the word "industrial" is meant to conjure an image of the loud, dirty, and unhealthy smokestack industries of a past century. Nothing could be further from the truth. A commercial solar facility quietly and cleanly will provide needed electric power, while adding measurably to Dryden's tax base and enhancing the lives of all our residents who drive our roads, attend our schools, or breathe our air. The quality of life for *all of* Dryden far outweighs the protection of property value and the view for a few.

The small town of Dryden achieved national notoriety when it bravely and successfully fended against hydrofracking. We proved that, regardless of enormous energy industry influence brought to bear on state and federal government, local residents have a say in the future of their town and the environment we leave to our children. Approval of a commercial solar farm takes this to the next logical step: embracing a safe and responsible form of local energy production.

Decades from now, perhaps when some other energy technology emerges, the Dryden solar array can be dismantled and recycled, allowing that land to be restored as an open field, leaving no trace and no toxic waste. Dryden residents of our time, however, will be remembered for having taken the high road, doing our part to set a new national energy policy, starting here and now. I intend to support and vote for those Town Board members with the vision to do what is right for us all. It's time.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Barken, M. D.

RECEIVED

JUL 13 2017

DRYDEN TOWN CLERK

EDWARD W. & NANCY E. COUCH

*87 Nelson Road
Dryden, New York 13053*

7/12/2017

Town of Dryden Planning Board Members
Town Board Members
93 East Main Street
Dryden, New York 13053

Dear Planning & Town Board Members,

Enclosed are two copies of letters sent in April 2017, concerning the Mega Solar Farm at 2150 Dryden Road.

After further research and talking with other Town Residents, our stance has not changed as to the location of a Mega Solar Farm. Not against solar, but it should definitely not be at 2150 Dryden Road(next door to the historic Willow Glen Cemetery). **VOTE NO TO THIS LOCATION!**

Sincerely, *Edward W. Couch*
Nancy E. Couch

Edward W. & Nancy E. Couch
Lifelong Residents Town of Dryden

Edward W. Couch

87 Yellow Barn Road
Proville, New York
13068-9667

Town of Dryden Planning Board Members
Town Board Members
93 East Main Street
Dryden, New York 13053

Dear Planning & Town Board Members,

I am a US Navy Veteran and a current lot owner at the Willow Glen Cemetery. Already resting there, my Parents (Dad a World War I Veteran), a Brother (World War II Veteran) and many other Veterans. I believe you the Board Members of the Town of Dryden and the Planning Board should respect those Veterans as well as all others and vote **NO** to a mega solar project and cell tower at 2150 Dryden Road.

The Cemetery is a sacred place and the view to the North and East should remain in the natural setting that has existed for the last several hundred years. I made a point of checking the Solar Farm at Cornell's Harford Farm and definitely do not believe we need anything like that as a neighbor to our Cemetery, no matter how many feet they are set back from property line.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Couch
Lifelong Resident Town of Dryden
~~COPY/4-18-17~~

NANCY E. COUCH
57 York Street
Dryden, New York 13820

4/18/2017

Town of Dryden Planning Board Members
Town Board Members
93 East Main Street
Dryden, New York 13053

Dear Planning & Town Board Members,

I firmly believe "There is a time and a place for everything!", and that 2150 Dryden Road is definitely not the place for a mega solar project or cell tower.

I am a current lot owner at the Willow Glen Cemetery, as well as having Parents and Grandparent already resting there. In my eyes a Cemetery should be a serene, tranquil area as it is today. I strongly urge you to vote NO to a mega solar project and cell tower at 2150 Dryden Road.

Sincerely,

Nancy E. Couch
Lifelong Resident Town of Dryden

Davies, Peter July 17, 2017

The article below, from interviews with many climate scientists, presents a sobering account of what is in store if we don't act to counteract global warming by reducing our carbon footprint. Think globally - act locally!

<http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2017/07/climate-change-earth-too-hot-for-humans.html>

Davies, Peter July 18, 2017

Subject: Re: Please approve the solar installations

To the Dryden Town Board:

Further to my observations below on the documentation provided in the SUN8 application I note further information provided on July 7th. In it the company further demonstrates consideration of requests by citizens including shorter screening vegetation to avoid obscuring the view, and pollinator-friendly reseeding. I consider that the company has gone above and beyond the requirements to ensure that their installations are both environmentally and community compatible. I urge approval of both solar installation proposals.

Peter Davies

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 10, 2017, at 08:19, Peter J. Davies <pjd2@cornell.edu> wrote:

To the Dryden Town Board:

I have examined the latest documents presented by SUN8 (Distributed Sun) and attended an information meeting. I consider that the projects are reasonable, appropriately sited, and beneficial to the community and the global environment. They will provide electricity on a substantial local scale to offset some carbon emissions and counter global climate change. I believe the main objections are to the visual effects, but the simulation photographs provided by the company indicate that the visual effects will be minimal and the installations will be screened by vegetation hedges. Even the effect on the horizon will be negligible compared to the current and growing presence of trees; however the Town Board could insist on lower growing shrubs than currently envisioned or require that they be mechanically topped at a certain height. The company has made every effort to accommodate objections to the visual effects by adding setbacks of the installations. In response to a request from the Conservation Board the company consultant returned to the sites in summer for a further biological inventory: nothing of special interest of significance was found. The intensity of this biological assessment may not satisfy some, but there was no indication that an ever-more-detailed survey would in any way change the overall conclusion – this is an installation over meadow (or what will be meadow) and meadow vegetation and fauna will continue to survive there; it is not an installation of a sterile housing development of similar use change. There is no need for further delaying studies given the suitability of the sites, the mitigation efforts by the company, and the barriers to other locations as a result of a lack of availability of grid connections in other locations. I urge the Town Board to approve the installation of these solar projects for immediate installation.

Thank you.

Peter Davies

(Written as a private citizen and not on behalf of any group to which I may belong)

*Peter J. Davies
755 Snyder Hill Road*

Ithaca, NY 14850-8708

pjd2@cornell.edu

1-607-273-0897

Mobile: 1-607-379-1062

Evett July 17, 2017

Subject: Distributed Sun application

Dear members of the Dryden Town Board,

I am unable to attend the July 20th meeting to be devoted to considering Distributed Sun's application for a Special Use Permit to construct two community solar farms in the town of Dryden and therefore I would like to use this means to express support for this project.

I have followed this evolution of this project for some time now and am aware of the objections of many town residents to the project. I find their objections without merit in the light of the larger and far more important question of the threat of climate change to the planet shared by all of us.

I have been very impressed by Distributed Sun's respectful, conscientious response to the objections to the project. They have spent much time and thought in order to alter their original plans in order to accommodate the view shed and environmental concerns expressed by these residents. They have demonstrated a sensitivity to community concerns that must be a rarity for a corporation of its size. They have skillfully juggled all of the considerations in this complex project. The town of Dryden should be grateful for this opportunity to bring such a forward-thinking project to the community. Please grant this company its Special Use Permit.

Sincerely,

Elisa Evett

Schmidt July 12, 2017

Subject: Yes to Dryden Solar

Hi Bambi, Please distribute to all town board members. Thank you for your time and all you do for our town. Ellen

Dear Dryden Town Board members

The quality of life for *all of* Dryden far outweighs the protection of property value and the view for a few. As a little town that blazed a brave trail and stood up to the fossil fuel industry to say what kind of town we do not want to have, we now have the opportunity to take a tangible, future-oriented step to say what kind of town we do want to have. We proved that, regardless of enormous energy industry influence brought to bear on state and federal government, local residents have a say in the future of their town and the environment we leave to our children. Approval of a commercial solar farm is a decision to make a safe and responsible form of local energy production.

A commercial solar installation quietly and cleanly will provide needed electric power, while adding measurably to Dryden's tax base and enhancing the lives of all our residents who drive our roads, attend our schools, or breathe our air.

Perhaps when some other energy technology emerges in the future, the Dryden solar array can be dismantled and recycled with no damage to the land which will be restored, leaving no trace, no toxic waste in our waters or in our air. We will be proud of our role in promoting a renewable, cleaner future for our children and grandchildren. We intend to support and vote for those Town Board members with the vision to do what is right for us all.

Thank you for bearing our views in mind.

Sincerely,
Ellen and Oskar Schmidt

Ellen Schmidt

www.WritingRoomWorkshops.com

Oskar Schmidt

www.OskarSchmidtMassageTherapy.com