

SOLAR ENERGY FOR DRYDEN NOW

We, the undersigned, ask the Dryden Town Board to continue their support of large scale solar development.

With global warming delivering climate change to our doorstep, the need to stop fossil fuel build- out is critical. Because the siting of solar development is contingent on nearby connection to the electric grid, we need to make the available sites work.

Homeowners and others are concerned not only about the visual impact of large acreage solar, but also the impact on wildlife and recreation. Therefore we also ask that, while continuing to support this project, the Town Board members consider the concerns of residents and require the developers to mitigate the visual impacts with performance specifications for good screening of the panels along property lines adjacent to houses, roads, and the cemetery. If allowable within the constraints of fencing requirements, access by wildlife would be beneficial.

In addition, we applaud the fact that, because some of the land in the current proposals is owned by Cornell University and thus currently tax exempt, this new use will bring added revenue to the town in the form of PILOT payments or property taxes.

Name	Town	Comments (Optional)
Patricia Dubin		This project should be approved.
Charles Geisler	Dryden	Do what's necessary to approve the two large-scale solar projects in Dryden with reasonable mitigations where possible.
Marie McRae	Freeville	
INSHIK LEE	Dryden	Great use for that land!
Sara	Groton	Please help our environment - we all live in it.
Sara Catterall	Ithaca / Dryden	I live walking distance from one of the proposed sites. Even though I prefer the sight of the open fields, I believe this is an important and necessary development and that the wildlife will be fine.
Catherine Wagner	Dryden (mailing address is Ithaca)	If we are to have any chance of reducing the impacts of climate change we must immediately take all possible steps to eliminate the use of fossil fuels. This means that solar farms are a very important and valuable addition to our energy mix. The land to be used is not a problem - there are plenty of other places for the animals to go without any problems of fragmentation.
Mark Pedersen	Ithaca	We have a solar array on our home and strongly support this endeavor.
Chad DeVoe	Freeville	
Rebecca Mosher	Dryden	
Mitchell Lavine	Dryden	We should certainly require visual screening of the panels and chainlink fencing. With that, we should certainly permit these proposals.
Irene Weiser	Caroline	Please find ways to mitigate impacts as best as possible and allow this project to go forward. Dryden led the County and the State in banning fracking. Now let's see Dryden lead again in allowing installation of much needed large scale renewables!! Thank you.
John Suter	Dryden	
Tom Blecher	Ithaca NY	Climate change is a real and needs immediate action. We cannot afford to satisfy all nimby proponents. Please figure out a way to make this project happen by requiring developers to mitigate any visual impacts from the solar farm.
Robert Parks	Ithaca	Solar is important. If people are willing to invest, the town should accept the development.
Ann Leonard	Freeville	Our family installed solar panels last year and they have proved a godsend. We live surrounded by state lands and permit the public to pass across our property for recreational purposes. We have had NOTHING BUT POSITIVE FEEDBACK from folks who have spotted our rather large (it serves a household of seven) solar array. Most folks acknowledge and appreciate every effort to obtain energy needs from renewable sources such as solar, and many wish they could do the same but are constrained by a lack of a place to put them. I fully support any and all efforts by the Town of Dryden to shift our energy debt away from fossil fuels. Thank you. Ann Leonard
Natasha Suter	Dryden	
Jackie Jablonski	Ithaca	
Ann Boehm	Brooktondale, NY	
Carol Clarke	Dryden	I'm a Dryden voter and I support this development.
Terezka Korinek	Dryden	
Anita Graf	Ithaca	I think solar panels are beautiful and powerful symbols of ability and willingness to avert global climate crisis.
Mary Zebell	Ithaca	Dryden is a beautiful village and town and we need to reserve and enhance the health and beauty of upstate NY for our children's sake.

deb benzer	Ithaca	
Avi Miner	Ithaca	
Jacquelyn Clinton	Ithaca	
Carmen Martinez	Ithaca	
Mary Alyce Kobler	Brooktondale	We need more solar power desperately!
Dan Apfel	Ithaca	
Elisa Evett	Caroline	Why don't you propose that the company look to install its solar panels on the acres of parking lots owned by Cornell instead. The company showed that it had experience mounting such installations.
Edwin Wurtz	Ithaca	I love this project.
Cornelia Farnum	Caroline	I hope Caroline will follow suit.
		For the rental property we own (an 1840 farm house), we have installed insulation and new windows, solar hot water panels, and solar PV panels as well as a ground source heat pump. Our own house is surrounded by shade trees, so solar is not practical for it, but we want to support solar development, including large scale solar for situations such as our own. We urge you to keep foremost in mind the urgent problem of global climate disruption as you deal with the large scale solar proposal.
Elmer & Marilyn Ewing	Ithaca	
Barbara Harrison	Ithaca	
Lynn Hoshino	Dryden	I very much support this solar project, but visual impact is also important, as well as effect on wildlife.
Judith Rothenberg	Caroline	The project needs to be carried out with these concerns in mind.
Barbara Barry	Groton,	
Jane-Marie Law	Ithaca	I realize I am not in your town. We need to start this transition and we need to do it now.
		Dryden has been leading the way with smart policies and decisions that help protect our future against the threat of climate change. I hope the town will continue this important work by supporting large scale solar in Dryden. Our shared future depends on decisions like this. Thank you.
Monica Hargraves	Ithaca	
Katherine Skura	Dryden	
Sara Hess	Ithaca	I fully support approval of the large scale solar arrays and also recommend visual and wildlife mitigations to minimize any negative impacts of the siting.
Joanne Corey	Vestal NY	We are happy to own panels in a community solar array in Trumansburg. I hope that Dryden will get on board with solar as a way to help NY get away from fossil fuels.
Martha N. Wilson	Dryden	
Claudia Brenner	ithaca	support solar
Jessica Evett-Miller	Caroline	
David Kalb	Dryden	I support solar!
Theresa Kalb	Dryden	
Gay Nicholson	Lansing NY	
Stephanie Ortolano	Freeville	
Judy Pierpont	Dryden	I applaud Dryden for working so hard to bring large-scale solar to the Town. I know that those who are opposed to it just don't understand the seriousness of climate change. They don't get it that its effects will disrupt their peace and that of their children and grandchildren far more than the occasional sight of PV panels near the graves of their deceased family members. For their benefit, please require as much visual mitigation at possible.

Whitney Wiggins Brooktondale
Thomas Shelley Ithaca
Gretchen Herrmann Ithaca

We need more solar and it should be done correctly.

The welfare and survival of future human generations-- as well as that of all species, requires the wisdom, foresight, and necessary action of our elected local, state, and national leaders to preserve our increasingly challenged environment by actively converting to renewable, non fossil fuels including solar and wind power. If "advanced societies" like those in America's towns won't do it-- WHO WILL ?????!!!!

Dennis B. Osika Lansing

Dryden has been in the forefront of other energy issue such as banning fracking and fighting the W. Dryden pipeline. Now is the time for Dryden to take a positive stand and show what the alternative is. Dryden, continue to lead Tompkins County into our energy future!

Susan Powell Lansing, NY
14882

For the comments section, I am copying the letter I sent this morning to the Village of Freeville listserv. Aside from some logistical parts about an upcoming town board meeting this email describes my support and concerns.

Hi All,

A fellow villager forwarded an email for another group about a week ago about meetings regarding an electrical power plant facility proposed in Dryden near Willow Glen Cemetery. What the email left out is that the facility is a solar farm.

There is another meeting tomorrow (or today depending on when you get this email) with the Dryden Town Board, March 23, 2017 at 7 pm. I am interested in going to learn about the pros and cons of this proposal. I presume that Dryden residents will benefit from this somehow since it will be in our town.

So far it seems like most of the folks that have showed up to the meetings showed up in opposition, which is puzzling for a the town that was the first to ban fracking. If we say no to fracking here, but also no to solar, where does that leave us?

I understand that solar farms are not without their issues, but given our need to be ENERGY INDEPENDENT and ENERGY STABLE, a solar farm does not seem like the worst option. As a lover of nature, any major development does concern me also, but I do think that our general Not In My BackYard (nimby) attitude requires revision at this time in our history.

I don't know the whole story yet, but I hope its helpful for folks to learn of the omission from the aforementioned email that this is a solar farm. I hope more Dryden residents look into this issue and look at the whole picture, and discuss among ourselves to understand whether this is really such a bad idea. Maybe the outcome of such a discussion would be an attitude that starts to embrace renewable energy and its impacts right here where we use it, rather than exporting the devastation of retrieving fossil fuels to the Middle East or Pennsylvania, where fracking communities can no longer drink their own water. That doesn't even consider the impact on all of us in all communities of burning fossil fuels.

Also, I bet if someone was proposing another sprawling storage facility to surround a cemetery that nobody would blink an eye. That's just to say that in America we have learned to put up with a lot of ugly development, and a solar farm in comparison to what's out there is simply beautiful. And it really only takes a simple turn of mind to see that a solar farm and a cemetery might actually make fitting neighbors, the former being a place where we look to the present and future and the latter where we honor the past.

Thank You for your time,
Lea Elleseff

Lea Elleseff

Dryden

I am for the solar development. I think it would bring in some tax money, but more importantly I think Dryden can be a leader in the sustainable energy movement, which benefits us all, as well as the wildlife. I understand that folks are concerned about the view, and they should be heard, but unless we come up with alternative solutions to our energy use, the view will only get worse as we pollute our environment and risk the health of our families with fossil fuel use. I feel that the loss of a view may not be a bad price to pay in order to become a more sustainable community, that supports renewable energies. Thank you very much.

Lily Gershon Freeville
Joni landau Dryden
Anurag Agrawal Ithaca

Thank you!

As someone who has already bought into a solar farm out on the Mecklenburg Rd (Rte 79 west of Ithaca) because my house in Ithaca is shaded by trees (and a physical location) that I don't control and cannot change, I think that this kind of opportunity should be available to everyone as both a cost-saving measure and a way to help each town and community in Tompkins County (and New York State) achieve its goals toward a low-impact energy footprint via sustainable, economical methods. Certainly the solar farm can be shielded from nearby property owners, if necessary, without using tall trees, which might reduce the solar exposure. Interestingly, I've found that people in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts who have community solar farms are proud of them, show them off, advertise them, and tout their benefits. I'm glad that New York is finally joining the 21st century and allowing these energy and cost savings opportunities for us, too!

David Ritchie City of Ithaca
Marina gershon Dryden

I strongly support the solar farm in Dryden...and I'm one of the neighbors to it. I'm soooo tired of the advocacy for carbon policies as long as it's NIMBY. Completely hypocritical. This land is a great place for it.

Chuck Bartosch Dryden
Martha Robertson Dryden
Peter Bardaglio Trumansburg
Susan Cosentini Ithaca
Karen Kaufmann Ithaca
Kimberly Anderson Ithaca
Rob Mackenzie, MD Hector

Certainly solar panels are more attractive than the alternative-- a gas or coal fired or nuclear plant

Elan Shapiro Ithaca
Aurora Namnum Ithaca
Lynn Johnson Dryden
Adrienne Wilson Freeville
Ellen and Oskar Schmidt Dryden

Our very survival depends on bold action now to getting off of fossil fuels. Please be brave and think of our future today.

Anthony R. Ingraffea Lansing
Mark Walsh Ithaca
Julie Hansen Brooktondale
Katie Thor Freeville
Fred Conner Freeville

I personally committed to solar and hope to see Dryden do it for our future.

I support this solar project.

Glenda Powers	Ithaca	Important for the future for our children and your children.
Gretchen Herrmann	Ithaca	
Barbara Chasin	Ithaca	This is an opportunity for Dryden to make a real contribution to dealing with climate change which is having such a terrible impact. I hope Dryden officials will act in away that we, Tompkins County residents, can point to with pride. Thank you. According to many experts we are already behind on our effort to decrease GHG emissions. Solar power in large amounts is one fast way to add a large amounts of renewable energy that does not hurt our environment..
Nancy Miller	Dryden	Solar panels are a lot better than any alternative. We have them on our place. Solar farms are sutainable, clean erergy. They create long-lasting jobs. Solar is one way to do large amounts of renewable energy quickly. The experts say we way behind the damage from GHG. Its the right thing to do.
Frank Barry	Groton	
Jerone Gagliano	Ithaca	I fully support the installation of renewable energy sources to replace the use of fossil fuels.
Nancy Miller	Dryden	At least the spills are cleaner than a propane storage facility.
Mary Lee	Lansing	
kathryn russell	dryden	
Peter Rothbart	Dryden	
Janice Burton	Brooktondale	
Julia Morgan	Ithaca	
Ramsey Brous	Dryden	
Karl Kolesnikoff	Dryden	
James M. Burlitch	Caroline	
Melissa Kemp	Ulysses	
Melissa Burress	Dryden	We all must act locally to have a positive global impact.
Jens Wennberg	Dryden	
Harmony Borchardt- Wier	Dryden	
Erika Harper	Ithaca	
Justin ross mascorro	Binghamton	
Andrew Miller	Freeville	I wholly support the solar farms that are planned. Neither are high-level importance habitats and it would provide a important source of renewable energy. It would also return a parcel of land back to the Dryden tax rolls.
Linda Copman	Ithaca	Thank you for your informed leadership on this issue.
Suzanne McMannis	Freeville	
Lynn McMannis	Freeville	This is how we start to make our world a better place. We start at Home - here in Dryden I would not want my neighbors to pollute. =) We all need to lessen our dependence on fossil fuels. If not now, when?
shirley hogg	freeville	
Barbara Pease	Ithaca	Solar is a great way to go!
Fred Schoeps	Ithaca	
Elizabeth Wijaya	Ithaca	This is a very good idea but the local concerns should be taken into consideration as much as possible.
Garry Harned	Ithaca	
Erin Root	Dryden	
Katharine Burlitch	Caroline	

Deborah Diehl Brian & Colleen Richards	Ithaca, NY Dryden	<p>This is an absolutely essential step forward towards reducing carbon emissions and literally saving the world as we know it (from utter devastation) for our children and grandchildren. Please allow the solar power project to move forward.</p> <p>Still disagree with cutting existing trees that might shade some panels; better to put one less row of panels and keep nearby trees to maintain habitat.</p> <p>I was a member of the County Energy Roadmap Steering Committee. As many storm events have shown, it is time to install renewable energy All throughout the county (including my own district). We can all adjust to solar, wind, micro-hydro, charging stations, etc. It will be good for our economy, our way of life and our children's futures. Thank you.</p>
Carol Chock Tim Allen Daven Harper Anna Kelles Cynthia Chase Barbara Edeb	City of Ithaca Ithaca Ithaca Ithaca Ithaca Ithaca	<p>I live with a huge solar array facing my back yard. It's not bad to look at, especially as the carefully sited plantings grow around it. I feel good seeing it and knowing that we are directly reducing use of fossil fuels to protect our environment for my nieces and nephews, and their children. I encourage you to take this step as well - it is such a small price to pay for something that important.</p>
Juliette Corazon Stephanie Goddard	Ithaca Freeville NY	<p>This is a difficult choice, but we are already facing devastating impacts of global warming. I recently traveled in Massachusetts and saw areas along the roadside that had been set aside for solar panel use. Understanding the benefits they would bring, I was happy to see them. I concur with the request to minimize the pact on the visual landscape and wild life. Good luck!</p>
Brett de Bary Philip Terrie Camille Tischler	Ithaca NY 14850 Ithaca Ithaca	<p>I agree with everything in the above letter. I can't say it any better. Serve the people.</p> <p>I would like to support the solar farm, as it will provide jobs and decrease fossil fuel imprint, as well as decreased energy costs. **Please do work on the visual screen and work on making future rail trails for Hiking still possible.** Thank you. Carrie Szewczyk</p>
Carrie Szewczyk Claudia Wheatley Ellen Harrison Robert Edgecomb	Dryden Dryden Ithaca/caroline Dryden	<p>A solar farm may destroy the view from the cemetery, however, it is a great environmental choice and so much better than if someone puts up a big building or worse in that spot. Tax payments will be beneficial too.</p>
Gry Wildenstein Sarah Brylinsky Daryl Denning	Dryden Ithaca Corning	<p>The Dryden solar project is a strong investment in our regional renewable energy independence.</p>
Sarah Kelsen Peter Hudiburg Louise Edelman Jon Harrod	Ithaca South Plymouth Dryden Ithaca, NY	<p>Solar is the answer & we can act now -- choose local jobs, clean energy, cost savings, & energy independence!</p> <p>We need to transition to a renewable electric energy economy as soon as possible.</p>

Jennifer Thaler	Ithaca	In almost all reasonable contexts of siting and placement, I support this installation being approved. To not take advantage of this opportunity for fear of eyesore, emotional distress or fear of localized habitat disturbance is only to doom other humans and creatures to the continual fallout resulting from coal and natgas prime mover (power source) generation facilities. I can not push this responsibility back upon them, when I am giving the opportunity to foster a much cleaner alternative.
Joe Fisher	Freeville	
Ann Boehm	Brooktondale, NY	
Mary Crosley	King Ferry, NY	
Cyrus Umrigar	13081	Solar energy is well worth the investment!
lisa hogarty	Brooktondale	We need to support renewable energy sources in every way we can.
John Booker	Ithaca	How in the world is it disrespectful to have solar near cemetery when we are trying to save the earth!?
Jonathan Comstock	Ithaca/Brooktondale (Caroline)	Please do your best to make this work, not forgetting environmental impact.
Thomas Shelley	Caroline	We absolutely need these developments! We must prioritize renewable energy of face dire consequences.
Lily Chan	Ithaca	We need to develop as much distributed solar as possible in Tompkins County.
Cait Darfler	Lansing	Tompkins County is working on lowering our carbon footprint and looking at renewable energy! Fossil fuels and natural gas are not.
Catherine Wakeman	Trumansburg	Please be a leader in our green energy future.
Martha Ferger	Dryden, NY	I applaud the willingness of our Town Board members to see to the needs of all of our community members, both local and large scale; immediate and long term. I believe that community minded citizens can work together to find acceptable solutions to all parties.
	13053	
	Dryden, NY 13053	

I am thrilled that Cornell is embracing solar power and utilizing some of their property as the site for a solar farm.

I have visited the solar farm near the airport (installed for Cornell), and am impressed with the attention paid to the natural environment, such as utilizing sheep to maintain vegetation height. I understand that a representative of Cornell is meeting with local birders interested in the strip of Norway spruce forest that will need to be cut along the road to prevent shading of the panels, and I think this is a positive sign that Cornell is willing to do whatever is possible to limit the impact on the current site. I urge the board to consider the issues raised by the nearby residents, and to address them as much as possible, but to also be aware that some of the decisions before you are likely time sensitive in terms of keeping the project viable.

I urge the board to help residents understand just what is planned, as some folks have heard that the entire forest patch is getting cut, when the proposal is for the installation of the panels on the field across the road from the trees. I also hope the board is taking into consideration the positive addition of tax revenue for our community.

I think we are lucky to have this "challenge" at this time. As a community we will have to sort out and balance the preservation of our immediate environment with the installation of alternative energies, such as solar, that will undoubtedly be required if we want to counter climate change and protect the environment into the future.

Sue Stein Freeville
John Ludders Ithaca

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Roxanne Marino Ulysses
Lauren Faessler Dryden
Kathy Zahler Dryden
Barbara Pease Ithaca
Donald W. Henderson Caroline
Tony Henderson Ithaca
Kathy Armstrong Trumansburg
Carolyn Kreisel Ulysses
Robyn Bem Dryden
Keli Carlson Ithaca
Gina Cusano-McLaughlin Freeville
Linda Yannone Ithaca

Thank you for your service and for your careful consideration of this request. Neither the NYS or Tompkins County Energy Plan goals for the future can be met without a continued, and significant increase in electricity generated from renewable, non-fossil fuel resources. The Town of Dryden was proudly a leader in the fight to stop hydrofracking for natural gas in our County and our State, and support of renewable energy production facilities such as the solar farms proposed is a completely consistent, and important follow-on.

With proper mitigation I feel the installations can be made acceptable. That said, it is vitally important that the all of the US move rapidly toward renewable energy sources. There is no other tenable solution.

Please support solar energy!

Rebecca Smyth Ithaca
Bob Teitelbaum Ithaca
Casey Cazer Dryden
Baylee Spackman Ithaca
Ann Marie Eckert Ithaca
Elaine Mansfield Burdett, NY
Susan Robinson Enfield

If you do it, I hope Hector will be next.

Tom Angie Aurora, NY

Community Solar Farms are the future! I am 100% Solar from a Renovus Solar Farm south of Trumansburg, NY and very happy with it! Solar farms are the best alternative for anyone that wants to go Solar but their location does not permit Solar Panels on your roof or property! I encourage everyone in Dryden to support this project! Renewables are the answer! Keep fossil fuels in the ground! Save our planet "Mother Earth" NOW!! Thank you.

In NYS we are lucky enough to be able to have community solar projects. This impacts renters as well as people without proper roof-space or -orientation to get their power from a clean source, rather than being dependent on whichever is being piped in via the transmission lines.

We can be a great example for other communities and/or states or we can just blow carbon and methane into the air till doomsday will surely come.

I am going for the version of acting at the forefront of the energy demand curve rather than trying to catch up under more pressing circumstances.

We all can do our part to cut our greenhouse gas emissions, little by little- and, if we all do a little, none of us will be shouldered by the huge burden of survival mode when we realize that we will burn up from having done nothing to alleviate Anthropogenic Climate Change aka Global Warming.

Just ask our fruit-growers and vintners. They will be able to tell you that, for the second year in a row, there will be no peaches, apricots, plums or cherries.

Aside from the lacking income for our farmers this is a blow to our whole area.

I have an inkling that this situation will not improve anytime soon.

Hence, let us err on the side of safety and do everything in our might to slow or even stop Climate Change before we run out of water to drink and food to eat.

P.S.: There are solar panels on the market now that exactly mirror their environ, making them practically invisible.

Sincerely

Thomas Reyer

Thomas Reyer Ithaca
Dan Wakeman Dryden
Sara bloxsom Ithaca
Meredith Williams Dryden (Freeville)
Diane Karasevicz Alpine

The petition statement is generally in the right direction, though not exactly my position.

There is no "Planet B"...keep Earth life-sustainable.

We desperately need Cornell to give back to the community in the form of PILOT payments or property taxes. Property taxes have doubled between 2009 and 2015, according to Zillow, which is putting an undue burden on local residents and furthering the affordable housing crisis. Local newspaper articles have discussed the affordable housing crisis in the area. Cornell also does not provide enough housing for their students, which furthers the housing problem. This crisis is felt by many residents, low and middle income, and including those with astronomical student loans to pay off from earning an education specifically to attempt to afford to live in the area they're from or migrated to in order to earn an education. Social mobility is not possible within this framework, nor is even matching one's family's level of prosperity. As it is, in the US, most people will not reach more than a sub socioeconomic class higher or lower than their parents. Additionally, last I was aware of, despite climate change, Cornell refused to subsidize public transportation costs, even though their students make up a bulk of bus riders, which raised costs for individual riders. Although Cornell maintains 'nonprofit' status, they do not advertise their libraries as open to the public. They contribute to disease burden by spraying their crops in residential areas, which statistically endangers residents up to a mile away for up to weeks at a time in utero, in infants, small children and in adults, concerning issues such as autism, leukemia, lymphoma and breast cancer (which is higher in Tompkins County than in other NYS counties), and whose rates continue to rise. This also furthers the health gap between the wealthy and rural residents. Poverty is also an independent disease risk factor. I have a masters in community health, yet have still struggled to find education-appropriate employment where Cornell favors their own graduates (even posting jobs asking for a Cornell public health degree only), another example of elitism in the absence of contributing to the community. This solar project is one way to partially address these issues. We need clean energy for our health and for the environment, as CO2 levels rise, which also increases disease burden. As it is, we are seeing drastic weather and will continue to see frightening future changes in our children's lifetimes if we do not act now. A quick internet search will speak to the magnitude of the issue.

Linda Mahony

Ithaca

We desperately need Cornell to give back to the community in the form of PILOT payments or property taxes. Property taxes have doubled between 2009 and 2015, according to Zillow, which is putting an undue burden on local residents and furthering the affordable housing crisis. Local newspaper articles have discussed the affordable housing crisis in the area. Cornell also does not provide enough housing for their students, which furthers the housing problem. This crisis is felt by many residents, low and middle income, and including those with astronomical student loans to pay off from earning an education specifically to attempt to afford to live in the area they're from or migrated to in order to earn an education. Social mobility is not possible within this framework, nor is even matching one's family's level of prosperity. As it is, in the US, most people will not reach more than a sub socioeconomic class higher or lower than their parents. Additionally, last I was aware of, despite climate change, Cornell refused to subsidize public transportation costs, even though their students make up a bulk of bus riders, which raised costs for individual riders. Although Cornell maintains 'nonprofit' status, they do not advertise their libraries as open to the public. They contribute to disease burden by spraying their crops in residential areas, which statistically endangers residents up to a mile away for up to weeks at a time in utero, in infants, small children and in adults, concerning issues such as autism, leukemia, lymphoma and breast cancer (which is higher in Tompkins County than in other NYS counties), and whose rates continue to rise. This also furthers the health gap between the wealthy and rural residents. Poverty is also an independent disease risk factor. I have a bachelors degree in computer science, yet have still struggled to find education-appropriate employment where Cornell favors their own graduates, another example of elitism in the absence of contributing to the community. I am forced to commute. I still find the Ithaca area unaffordable for myself, my newborn child and my wife. There are clear reasons why so many Ithacans rent and do not own, and Cornell is one of them. This solar project is one way to partially address these issues. We need clean energy for our health and for the environment, as CO2 levels rise, which also increases disease burden. As it is, we are seeing drastic weather and will continue to see frightening future changes in our children's lifetimes if we do not act now. A quick internet search will speak to the magnitude of the issue.

Joseph Glann

Ithaca New York

We desperately need Cornell to give back to the community in the form of PILOT payments or property taxes. Property taxes have doubled between 2009 and 2015, according to Zillow, which is putting an undue burden on local residents and furthering the affordable housing crisis. Local newspaper articles have discussed the affordable housing crisis in the area. Cornell also does not provide enough housing for their students, which furthers the housing problem. This crisis is felt by many residents, low and middle income, and including those with astronomical student loans to pay off from earning an education specifically to attempt to afford to live in the area they're from or migrated to in order to earn an education. Social mobility is not possible within this framework, nor is even matching one's family's level of prosperity. As it is, in the US, most people will not reach more than a sub socioeconomic class higher or lower than their parents. Additionally, last I was aware of, despite climate change, Cornell refused to subsidize public transportation costs, even though their students make up a bulk of bus riders, which raised costs for individual riders. Although Cornell maintains 'nonprofit' status, they do not advertise their libraries as open to the public. They contribute to disease burden by spraying their crops in residential areas, which statistically endangers residents up to a mile away for up to weeks at a time in utero, in infants, small children and in adults, concerning issues such as autism, leukemia, lymphoma and breast cancer (which is higher in Tompkins County than in other NYS counties), and whose rates continue to rise. This also furthers the health gap between the wealthy and rural residents. Poverty is also an independent disease risk factor. I worked for the county and became disabled due to chemicals such as asbestos and formaldehyde in the building. Although I scrimp and save and garden, I am unable to provide myself with adequate nutrition and own a piece of property that is not in agricultural area, due to the tax structure in Tompkins County. I had a rare type of skin lymphoma, and living in an agricultural area is a risk factor. This solar project is one way to partially address these issues for myself and other residents. I have lived here for over 35 years. We need clean energy for our health and for the environment, as CO2 levels rise, which also increases disease burden. As it is, we are seeing drastic weather and will continue to see frightening future changes in our children's and grandchildren's lifetimes if we do not act now. A quick internet search will speak to the magnitude of the issue.

Barbara Mahony Ithaca NY 14850
 Melissa Reynolds Dryden

For almost 80 years we have had property on Seneca Lake and consider the Finger Lakes our home. We must protect our home. Dryden has set a high marker in environmental sustainability and must continue to keep our country on that high road. Thank you.

Anne/John Elder Oberlin
 Marlaine Darfler Ithaca
 Michele Palmer Ithaca
 Gladys Birdsall Freeville

Thank you for considering the above issues. Greatly appreciated.
 Solar panels are an important of the new energy system. These solar farms are an important part of the future. The problem we have with any new item that causes change, is the fight between the "good of the commons" and the American ethos to be independent. The struggle played out in our 2016 election between the America First position(nimby) and the Bernie Sanders social contract between government and the people. Or what I consider the area of the commons. It is time for the pendulum to swing more to the side of what is good for the commons.

Karl Kolesnikoff Ithaca
 Lynn Garman Ithaca
 Kris Barth Dryden

We need renewable energy!

Dennis Osika
Laura Jones

Lansing
Ithaca

The timely conversion to clean, non-fossil fueled energy from solar power is critical to the future sustainability of mankind-- and all other species,, and morally necessary to meet our country's urgent responsibility to lead the world in sharply reducing destructive greenhouse gas emissions!!!!

Go Solar!

I live in Ellis Hollow and used Stevenson Rd. as my commuter route for 7 years. I always admired the fields on either side and thought they should be used for solar arrays. I am delighted to see that a developer is thinking the same thing.

When I was a kid, my family moved to Lansing because my dad was going to help lead the construction of a nuclear power plant there. Bell Station never got off the ground, so NYSEG continued to operate Milliken Station, an enormous, ugly, coal-fired plant that occupies one of the most beautiful lakefront properties in Tompkins County.

My family lived on Fenner Road, 1 mile uphill from Milliken and 1 mile downhill from the plant's fly ash dump. All day long, dump trucks went by our house taking fly ash to the dump.

Claudia Wheatley

Dryden

I don't think the Dryden project's detractors appreciate the significance of providing a clean, silent alternative to coal and a considerably safer alternative to nuclear power plants of the 1970s. But I do. I empathize with the anti- sentiment that this is not a locally owned company. My response is neither are their direct competitors- coal and gas fired generators. And the impact from coal and gas genrators in global warming impact a far greater footprint.

Don Barber

Ithaca

6105 Jones Road 6

Martin Dodge

Canandaigua

Iris Milich

Ithaca, NY

Carolyn Belle

Ithaca, Ny

barken 4-5-17

From: Frederick Barken [mailto:fbarken@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 7:50 AM
To: Bambi Avery
Subject: Dryden Solar Arrays

In support of Dryden Solar Arrays

We support plans to develop community solar arrays by Distributed Sun in the Town of Dryden. The community has had meetings with the developers that have corrected much misinformation. Changes have been made to take into account many objections, such as less obtrusive fencing, wildlife corridors added, setbacks from roads and residences increased, and added vegetative screening to soften views. This project will not only increase the amount of renewable energy available to the community, reducing the carbon footprint and greenhouse gases, but will be available to the individual households and businesses, not Cornell. While the Cornell pieces of land are tax exempt, taxes will be paid by Distributed Sun to the town and Dryden Schools. Construction of the arrays will create hundreds of local jobs; in the past this company has used union workers and we assume will do so again. Global warming is advancing! There are goals for carbon neutral and reducing greenhouse gases but no organized plan. This project increases the amount of solar in a bigger way than our solar panels atop our house. If not now, when? For our children, Dryden must do this now.

Frederick and Marlene Barken, Town of Dryden

Frederick M. Barken, M. D.
125 Genung Circle
Ithaca, NY 14850

607-279-7160

lavine 4-4-17

From: Buzz Lavine [mailto:mlavine@twcny.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 11:33 AM
To: Bambi Avery
Subject: Distributed Sun Solar Projects

Please be kind enough to forward my comments to Town Board,
Planning Board, and Conservation Board Members.
Thanks,
Buzz Lavine

Dryden Should Do Solar

I've been a Dryden resident for 45 years and believe that we must act locally to do our part to reduce the use of fossil fuels asap. Nonetheless, I was concerned when Distributed Sun's acres of solar arrays were proposed here in the Town of Dryden. I was afraid they'd ruin our rural landscape and way of life. After going to the meeting last night at the Ellis Hollow Community Center, my concerns are greatly reduced and my respect for the responsiveness of Distributed Sun company has greatly increased. They've listened to residents concerns and been wonderfully responsive. The new plans have, among other things: moved solar panels away from houses, changed to very normal rural fences, included wildlife corridors, included needed vegetative screening and explained why usable sites are so few. Now I feel greatly relieved that I can support the project wholeheartedly. Now I say: If not here, where? If not now, when? and If not us, who? The Town of Dryden should be happy to work with Distributed Sun to make this solar project a reality here in our town now.

Buzz Lavine

From Buzz Lavine
719 Ringwood Rd.
Town of Dryden

russell 4-5-17

From: William Russell [mailto:wcr6450@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Bambi Avery
Subject: Letter in Support of Dryden Solar Project

April 4, 2017

Dryden Town Clerk
Dryden Town Board
Dryden Town Planning Board
Dryden Town Conservation Board

Dear Dryden Officials:

We are very supportive of the plans to develop community solar arrays in the Town of Dryden. We have installed solar on our own property, joining the many other households in Dryden who have done likewise in a collective effort to enhance local renewable energy resources.

We have attended recent community discussions of the Dryden solar farm proposal. We were gratified to learn that Distributed Sun has modified their plans to take account of community concerns (including less obtrusive fencing, wildlife corridors, substantial setbacks from roads and residential properties, and attractive vegetative screening to mitigate the impact on the viewscape). Even some residents most impacted by the siting of these installations have been complimentary about the company's willingness to adjust their plans to address citizen concerns. We would also note that, though several of these arrays will be built on land leased from Cornell, the power generated will be utilized by homes and businesses in the area, not by the university.

Community solar will be a critical step in reducing our carbon footprint. That goal could not be more important, both for its actual impact in reducing global warming, and as a visible, practical demonstration of the viability of renewable energy.

russell 4-5-17
Bill and Kathy Russell

434 Snyder Hill Road

Town of Dryden

(607) 222-4635

(607) 351-0907

wcr6450@gmail.com

kathy.russell@cortland.edu

schmidt 4-5-17

From: Ellen Schmidt/ Oskar Schmidt [mailto:eandoschmidt@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 8:35 AM
To: Bambi Avery
Subject: letter for Members of the Town Board, Planning Board, and Conservation Board

Hi Bambi, Please distribute our letter to the above board members. Thank you for all your work. Ellen and Oskar

We are in favor of the modified plans to develop community solar arrays by Distributed Sun in the Town of Dryden. After meeting with the community, the developers for this project have corrected misinformation and responded to input and concerns. They have made alterations to address concerns, such as less obtrusive fencing, wildlife corridors added, setbacks from roads and residences increased, and added vegetative screening. It is a win-win situation all around: It will offer up to 7500 homes discounted energy from a renewable source. It will be available to the individual households and businesses, not Cornell. While the Cornell pieces of land are tax exempt, taxes will be paid by Distributed Sun to the town and Dryden Schools. It's pretty clear that climate change is on the move. Here's a project that increases the amount of solar on a much larger scale than solar panels atop an individual house. This project will increase the amount of renewable energy available to the community. It will reduce the carbon footprint and greenhouse gases. Now's the time for this project.

Ellen Schmidt
www.WritingRoomWorkshops.com
Oskar Schmidt
www.OskarSchmidtMassageTherapy.com

wennberg 4-5-17

From: Nancy Miller [mailto:ananda7733@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Bambi Avery
Subject: Please send to TB, PB, and CB

Hi Bambi,

Would you please send this to the Town Board, Planning Board, and Conservation Board? The

following message is also attached below as a Word Document.

In support of Dryden Solar Arrays

We support plans to develop community solar arrays by Distributed Sun in the Town of

Dryden. The community has had meetings with the developers that have corrected much

misinformation. Changes have been made to take into account many objections, such as less

obtrusive fencing, wildlife corridors added, setbacks from roads and residences increased, and

added vegetative screening to soften views.

This project will not only increase the amount of renewable energy available to the community,

reducing the carbon footprint and greenhouse gases, but will be available to the individual

households and businesses, not Cornell. While the Cornell pieces of land are tax exempt, taxes

will be paid by Distributed Sun to the town and Dryden Schools. Construction of the arrays will

create hundreds of local jobs; in the past this company has used union workers and we assume

will do so again.

Global warming is advancing! There are goals for carbon neutral and reducing greenhouse gases

but no organized plan. This project increases the amount of solar in a bigger way than our solar

panels atop our house. If not now, when? For our children, Dryden must do this now.

Jens Wennberg & Nancy Miller, Town of Dryden

Thanks very much

--

Nancy

"Laughter really is carbonated holiness" - Anne Lamott

wennberg 4-5-17

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." Desmond Tutu