

From: Deborah Cipolla-Dennis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 8:01 AM
To: Bambi Avery [REDACTED]
Subject: Development in Dryden

Hi Bambi,

Could you please forward this message to the Town Board members? Thank you!

Dear Town Board Members,

I'll try to make this short and to the point because I know how much stuff you have to read. :-)

I firmly believe that all of you care deeply about Dryden and do your best to make the best decisions for our Town's future. I also believe that you all listen to the thoughts and opinions of the public, so I would like to convey a serious concern that I have. That concern is climate change and it's inevitable effects on our future. We know that climate change is already harming many areas including Tompkins County. If you have not already, please take a look at the [tools developed by the Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions](#) that present the increase in precipitation and temperature rise over the past 30 years as compared to the prior 30 years. This clearly documents our peril. Our farmers, maple syrup producers, tourism businesses, and all that depend upon them (everyone) are greatly influenced by weather conditions.

Climate change is already upon us and it is our responsibility to do everything that we can to stop feeding it. This cannot wait. [The IPCC has called for immediate action in it's latest report](#). Your children and grandchildren are depending on you to take action where you can. It is imperative that you push forward on policies and legislation that require developers build using the best available technologies to limit, or better yet, eliminate fossil fuel usage and the generation of harmful greenhouse gas emissions. The standards must change. The Trinitas project needs to be held to task to put forth a design that is family-friendly for Varna and is planet-friendly for the rest of us.

I have no doubt that there will be more development projects in addition to Trinitas. Please, hold all of them accountable for responsible development that doesn't add to the problem of climate change. You are in a position to make a real difference with regards to climate change and it is important that we all do our part.

Thank you for your hard work on this and all the things that you do.

Sincerely,
Deborah Cipolla-Dennis

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"I know it's impossible. Do it anyway."

Tom Dennis

From: Nancy Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Bambi Avery [REDACTED]
Subject: Trinitas

Dear Town Board Members,

The Town of Dryden has been instrumental in leading the way in protecting the environment, banning fracking, setting precedents in following through with the court battles on fracking. But I have some real concerns about the Trinitas Project in Varna. It is the biggest single residential development in the history of the town. As such, it must be pressed on energy, emissions, and building efficiency issues. AS you deemed this project needed a Type I SEQR action, it is presumed to create one or more significant, negative environmental impacts.

I am asking you to hold them to a net-zero impact in their building and to use no fossil fuels for these buildings. In its newest FEAF, Trinitas says it is verifying a supply of natural gas and grid electricity to the site. The use of natural gas should not be acceptable. Alternative sources of energy such as solar, wind, ground source, the use of air source heat pumps should be required.

The Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions has just circulated a report documenting LOCAL global warming impacts. It shows that between 1980 and 2013, the annual average temperature rose 2 degrees Fahrenheit and that total annual precipitation rose 6 inches. The report notes that associated local, extreme weather events are harming farming and the rest of our local economy. [<http://climatesmartfarming.org/tools/csf-county-climate-change/>]

If Trinitas uses natural gas (and I see no evidence that it won't), its emissions will create a conflict with a community plan--the County's Energy Road Map. And thereby it will create another potentially significant, negative environmental impact under SEQR. Their Application should include how that impact will be mitigated by incorporating the County's "Energy Recommendations for New Construction (2018)."

The UN IPCC recent report on global Climate change stresses that drastic action must be taken NOW and in the next ten years to curb global warming. Dryden needs to continue to be on the cutting edge of these actions.

Mitigating global warming, NOT using fossil fuels in big residential developments, and cutting emissions through alternative technologies, renewables and high efficiency buildings are NECESSARY NOW.

Require Trinitas to hold to a high standard that accomplishes these goals!!

Sincerely,

Nancy Miller, 501 Midline Rd, Town of Dryden

To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness...

What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction...And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory." -- **Howard Zinn**

111 Pleasant Hollow Road
Freeville, NY 13068

Dear Dryden Town Board Members:

I've been pondering how very important the role of local government really is. It is at this level that the concerns of citizens are most directly expressed and the level where policy initially takes shape. Sometimes this function may get buried under all the work and complexity of governing and the difficulty citizens have in finding time to communicate and participate.

But it seems to me that now in particular is a time when the Town needs to have really clear policies about the most important issue of our time: climate change. In fact, every town should have such policies, but in particular Dryden because we have been a leader here in zoning out fracking and in approving large renewable energy projects. We are informed and care about our role in moving the Town, county, and state, ultimately the world, towards the goal of zero fossil fuel use. We know now from the latest IPCC report that our time to get to this goal is too short, 10-12 years. Most likely, we won't make it, but that makes it all the more urgent that we not dither and equivocate a moment longer. Knowing what you know and having the power that you have to act, I believe that you must now act in the best interests of the people who are depending on you, those now living and those to come in the future.

As you know, the IPCC has called for an immediate end to the use of fossil fuels in new buildings and for building new buildings to net-zero emissions. Here is policy at the highest level to support the Town in now meeting the popular expectations at the local level. You also have county and state policy to guide you until Town policies are fully formulated and codified. The TC Energy Road Map expresses the will of the people of the County and depends upon the municipalities within the County to realize reductions in emissions.

Given that the Trinitas development is the biggest residential development in the history of the Town, and that it is at just this time that we can no longer allow new building that uses gas or new building that adds to net GHG emissions, Trinitas needs to be held to these requirements. The Town needs for Trinitas to quantify the increase in emissions, including methane, that will result over the 50-year life of their buildings, and include these numbers in their FEAF.

Getting such information is authorized under Section 1103 B nos. 15 and 28 of Dryden's zoning law, and should be provided in FEAF Part 1, Question D2 h., or Section F, "Additional Information." In addition, the Town Board needs such information to answer related questions in the FEAF, Part 2 under Question 14.

Any increased amount in GHG emissions is significant in the current climate chaos scenario. With a significant increase documented, under SEQRA, mitigation to net-zero emissions can be required. If the company refuses, they can be seen as not friendly to our efforts and values here, as not cooperative in combatting climate change. A corporation should not be permitted to build in our town if they show themselves to be intent on violating important principles that we live by and are bound to support for our own health and well-being. We demonstrated that

gas drilling was not acceptable here; we now have good cause to insist that using fossil fuels in new building is no longer an option.

I believe that this is the right time to do the right thing. We truly have no time to lose.

Thank you for your work for the Town. It is so complex and difficult, and such a huge responsibility.

Yours truly,

Judy Pierpont

From: Kathy Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Bambi Avery [REDACTED]
Subject: Trinitas

Please circulate:

Dear Town Board members,

I would like to respectfully encourage you to look more closely at the potential fossil fuel emissions production of the Trinitas project. Climate scientists now agree that we must act faster than we originally thought we would need to to mitigate carbon and natural gas emissions.

At the very least, require this large residential project to follow state law and county green construction guidelines. Go even further!

I am saddened and even outraged that this project would be allowed to proceed without them planning to use such technologies as heat pumps, solar or wind.

I feel that all board members must study recent scientific statements about the severity of climate change. Also, please study the severe weather impacts of global warming.

If we in supposedly progressive locations, especially those like us in Dryden who have made such a dramatic impact on the banning of fracking, do not act fast, what can we hope for in other areas of the country?

As we did in the battle against fracking, we must show strong leadership.

I have been proud to be a Dryden resident for many years now. However, I believe that we must all engage in deep and meaningful philosophical reflection. And we need to have great empathy for those in other parts of the world and consider what are we asking them to do if we do not quickly assume responsibility for limiting carbon emissions.

Have you considered the possibility that citizens might sue you because you're not protecting us from current and future consequences of climate change? Study the arguments in the children's climate law suit.

The national climate assessment office suggests that the Northeast is expected to get much more rain. It has already increased 6 inches and our temperature has increased 2°.

Respectfully, I must ask - how can you ignore these issues? We have run out of time to wait for the future. The future is now.

Lastly, consider the fires in California that are causing such devastation this week. Do you doubt the relationship between climate change, drought and fires? If so, please improve your knowledge base about climate change.

Please deepen your ethical commitment to doing what we can quickly in our little town to stop it.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Russell,
434 Snyder Hill Rd.,
Ithaca, NY.

From: Laurie Snyder [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 6:36 PM

To: Bambi Avery [REDACTED]; Supervisor [REDACTED]

Subject: Please share with Dryden Town Board

Dear Dryden Town Board Members.

I am sorry that I am unable to attend the November 15, Board meeting.

I do want to register my concern and anxiety about two projects.

1. I still want to say that the community of Varna and Freese Road requests that the single lane historic bridge be preserved. I don't feel our views have been heard or seriously considered.

2. The Trinitas Project is completely out of scale to the community of Varna. It will have a drastic negative effect on the community as it will overwhelm the people that live here with increased traffic, noise, and lack of community engagement.

a. The project will have a significant effect on use of resources. It should have renewable resources planned for its heating.

b. The traffic generated by this housing development (read: dormitories) will be dangerous for the existing roads. The planned entrance to the development from Mt Pleasant Road is positively dangerous. The other entrance from 366 will also add risk. Serious consideration of traffic lights on 366 at the corner of Mt Pleasant/Freese Road and at the new entrance must be considered immediately.

c. Again, I feel that the DTB is only looking at possible tax revenues, rather than the overall health of a the Varna community. I am very disappointed. I feel that both the Two Lane Bridge and Trinitas Development will decrease my quality of life and that of my neighbors.

Sincerely,

Laurie Snyder
36 Freese Road
Ithaca, NY 14850