

From: Charles C. Geisler
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 7:30 AM
Subject: DRAC letter to TB

Oct. 6, 2020

Dear Town Supervisor Leifer and Dryden Town Board Members,

The Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition (DRAC) members listed below wish to state their views on the site plan amendment to the interconnecting infrastructure of the solar facility at 2150 Dryden Road. The original site plan, which we favor, relied on underground wire connection of the solar farm in question to NYSEG's street power grid. You approved this feature in August 2017. The applicant, True Green Capital, now proposes to connect the solar farm to via 18 50-foot utility poles near the intersection of George Road and Virgil Creek, abandoning the underground connection.

At its Sept. 24 meeting, the Dryden Planning Board drafted a list of recommendations to the Town Council, the first being a return to the underground installation. They further recommended that a second PB review occur before this matter is finalized. Echoing the concerns from public testimony, the Planning Board cites important visual and agricultural access difficulties with the above-ground infrastructure.

The site plan amendment sought by True Green Capital is a very bad idea. Dryden residents who sought the approval and installation of the companion solar farm near Dodge and Stevenson Roads are today appalled by the ugly array of 24 utility poles and above-ground transformers now blighting the pastoral landscape there. No amount of vegetative camouflage, were it considered, can obscure this massive eyesore. Please don't repeat this error a second time at 2150 Dryden Road. NYSEG's seeming support for the proposed amendment on Sept. 24 was incoherent. It amounted to bad-faith reasoning that, if valid, should have been made public in 2017 as part of the original solar farm negotiations and SPR.

Sincerely,

Marie McCrae, Fred Conner, Bill Griffin, Buzz Lavine, Judith Pierpont Kathy Russell, Martha Ferger, Nancy Miller, Charles Geisler, Simon St.Laurent, William Russell