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Morris, Paige

From: Kenneth and Jeanne Van Staaldhuizen <kjvan@gotricounty.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2017 9:36 PM
To: Statements
Subject: EMP-93 Sub 0

FILED
OCT 02 2017
Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

North Carolina Utilities Commission,
Invenergy continues to sneak into communities. Please read the following. Thank you for your time!
Jeanne Van Staaldhuizen
EMP-93 Sub 0

<https://americanfarmpublications.com/solar-reps-flying-under-radar-editorial/>

The Delmarva Farmer

Solar reps flying under radar (Editorial)

by Kevin | Sep 22, 2017

(Sept. 26, 2017) The prospect of solar development gobbling up Eastern Shore farmland continues unabated.

That is particularly the case in those counties in which installations of vast solar arrays are not specifically prohibited in the county agricultural zoning provisions, such as Dorchester and Queen Anne's counties. Among the most recent solar applications to surface is in Dorchester.

The North Dorchester Neighbor Coalition, which formed to beat back an earlier 400-acre solar bid in the area of East New Market, has been asked to help some local citizens that were just notified of another 400-acre proposed solar project on Osborne and Shiloh Camp roads near Hurlock.

This project is listed as Richfield Solar and is proposed as a 50 megawatt installation occupying, about 400 acres on four farms.

The application has been filed by a company called Invenergy based in Chicago.

Reportedly, the company did not hold a community outreach meeting and the adjacent landowners were only informed of the project when they received a letter from the Dorchester County Planning and Zoning Commission advising them of the Board of Appeals hearing on Thursday, Sept. 21.

That meeting was subsequently postponed.

After receiving notice of the hearing, a landowner reached out to the North Dorchester Neighborhood Coalition asking for assistance.

NDNC did so at once, urging nearby property owners to attend the Board of Appeals hearing whenever it is rescheduled.

NDNC leadership warned that solar developers prefer to move quietly without attention and when people aren't looking.

We are aware that solar power generation is useful and environmentally desirable.

We are also aware that it is being heavily awarded financially.

We applaud the farmer who uses five acres out back to produce the electricity, which powers his farm and his farmstead.

But we view with great trepidation the current flood of applications to install, for example, 200,000 solar panels on 400 acres of a farm smack dab in the middle of a rural community.

"What will I do," a woman once asked us, "if I have to stare out of my kitchen window at a forest of glass?"

Solar developers argue — and we agree — that solar development will occupy only a fraction of the

farmland acreage on the Shore.

But put a value on that farmland — hundreds of acres of solar panels — and remember it has just started — and translate that annual loss into bushels of corn and soybeans and wheat and translate that loss into its impact on the poultry industry.

Consider erecting those columns of solar panels on the huge expanses of acreage provided by landfills, abandoned industrial properties, brownfields and the like.

We don't intend to lose our farmlands.

We chose the country. We will protect it.

Morris, Paige

EMP93 sub D

From: Kristina Van Staaldouin <kjv20@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2017 10:03 PM
To: Statements
Subject: Beaufort County's Favorite Private Educator
Attachments: TCCS Favorite .jpg

FILED
OCT 02 2017
Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

Dear Commissioners,

Terra Ceia Christian School has been voted Beaufort County's Favorite High School and Favorite Private School, amongst the county's seven high schools and three private Christian schools. This is evidence of the impact Terra Ceia Christian School has on it's community. Please help us in saving the Terra Ceia community from the disruption of Wilkinson Solar LLC.

Please thoughtfully consider how your ruling will effect this community.

Kevin Beasley