

**Barnicle, Abby (ENE)**

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**From:** Fred Beddall <mulchgulch@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 18, 2020 8:30 AM  
**To:** DOER SMART (ENE)  
**Subject:** straw poll on dual use

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hello DOER,

as a full time commercial farmer, who is concerned about expanding my own business, as well as the loss of farmland and local food in general, I DISAGREE STRONGLY with what appears to be the thrust of the proposed changes to dual use.

You appear to be removing the yield requirements (assuming you mean yield of crops/revenue from crops) which is the only real safeguard that farming remains financially viable under thee arrays. In other words, the farming would become a fig leaf for the new primary use of the land, which is solar.

You appear also to be keeping the 50% shade target, which should be significantly reduced. There are no crops that I have ever heard of which would be viable under this much shade at our latitude.

Moreover I disagree with what appears to be your intent to allow dual use on prime farmland, unique farmland, and additional land of statewide importance.

I no longer support the work of American Farmland Trust, which has betrayed its mission to preserve farmland. And I find it inappropriate to create a role for any non-governmental agency to be a gatekeeper to valuable state-issued permits. This is frankly corrupt. AFT does not speak for the people who care about preserving faremland. They have become a vested interest with a financial stake in its destruction.

Fred Beddall  
Northampton MA