

Gronendyke, Kathleen M (EEA)

From: Devlin Marie <devlin.selman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 3:16 PM
To: EnergyPermitting (EEA)
Subject: Solar Suitability Guidelines- my family was impacted negatively by industrial solar
Attachments: IMG_7977.jpeg; IMG_7976.jpeg

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Dear EEA and DOER,

My family was negatively impacted by an industrial large-scale solar power plant that was developed in the forest on 30 acres behind our homes back in 2019, by Nexamp, who leases the land from our neighbors up on the hill- we are direct abutters. There were (and still are) negative environmental impacts (extreme erosion/drainage problems, litter, noise pollution, etc) as well as immediate problems in our home and with our physical and mental health.

I started an investigation and the plant disconnected from the grid in January 2022, 7months after it went "live", because it was pumping out electricity with harmonic distortion, also known as "dirty electricity" which impacted my family negatively for 8 months, as well as home appliances, and definitely harmed wildlife (our dog did not want to walk along the road, she was scared because the noise was hurting her ears coming from the transformers) with high frequency electrical noises coming out of anything electrical.

It was shut down for almost 2 1/2 years and went live again in May 2024. They put a capacitor bank on site which I still believe is not solving 100% of the problems, and there was a fire alarm that went off in September to one of their battery storage units- and the company was NEVER notified. We had to call a 800 number on their fence, and the company (Nexamp) didn't get out to the site for almost 5 hours later. The fire department and state police were at the site within a short period after calling them, and they waited up there until technicians could come and investigate the problem. It was nerve-wracking to say the least!!!

Please consider these edited comments relating to your site suitability guidelines drafts:

1- Section B-

For site suitability scoring, please ensure that any individual or group who feels impacted or harmed can request a score review under sections iv and v.

2- For Section C Criteria, I.

Climate Change Resilience. The criteria should include encouraging the maintenance of intact forests, protecting all water, minimizing storm water run-off, and retaining soil integrity, in order to achieve greater resiliency in a changing climate. The "Resilient Design Standards Tool" should also be used to determine if the project will contribute or add to local conditions of Extreme Heat in the community.

3 - For Section C. Criteria, II.

Carbon Storage and Sequestration: The National Forest Carbon Monitoring System and the Annual NLCD land cover data web sites are not user friendly making it difficult to review by local government or stakeholders.

4- For Section C. Criteria, III.

Biodiversity - There should be a process to ensure that a robust inventory of wildlife and rare species be applied in the Biodiversity index, plus a clear mechanism for inclusive local appeal of the biodiversity criteria.

5- For Section E. Other Considerations of Note, I.

Drinking Water Supply- Ensure that communities maintain authority to protect all drinking water supplies, including for private wells and aquifers. Provide assurance that communities can use land use or public health bylaws to create regulations for drinking water supply protection.

Sincerely,

Devlin Selman
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