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From: Lisa Ostrove [mailto:mostrove@nyc.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 11:40 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Cc: michael Ostrove <mhostrove@gmail.com>; towncouncil@newmilford.org; cmdjr@aol.com; Mark McCloskey <markmccloskey1023@gmail.com>; steve.kleppin@newcanaanct.gov

Subject: Ameresco Industrial Solar Power Project- petition 1312

Dear Ms. Bachman,

Thank you in advance for your kind regard reviewing the grievances i have with the Ameresco solar project. I implore you to please conduct a full environmental review for the following reasons.

1-This is the largest solar project ever in the State of Connecticut. It is an enormous clear cut of what started out as 55 acres has now grown to 68 acres. This land is part of a 250 acre intact "core" forest block.

This alone would require a full and complete environmental review.

2-All of Candlewood Mountain is in a natural diversity data base area with at least one vernal pool on site.

This alone would require a full and complete environmental review.

3-The stormwater plan does not seem adequate due to the enormous amount of non absorbing solar panels which will force rainfall into the ground in specific concentrated areas causing new patterns to form that could carry sediment into wetlands near and well below the project. There is also no plan for maintenance as Ameresco says they install and leave only to cut grass twice a year.

This alone would require a full and complete environmental review.

4-This is an enormous 80 acre industrial project. Any project of this size in any municipality would require extensive environmental review based on sheer size alone.

5-I don't see how this project is consistent with the Town's plan of conservation and development.

6-Please if you can, refer to the articles on energy sprawl and the recent Connecticut legislature enacting new rules to protect prime farmland and "Core Forest" which this is. These projects do not belong on natural resources.

As you may know, on Tuesday evening, July 25th, the Zoning Commission held a public hearing at Town Hall in New Milford. The following list are the conclusions and suggestions by the Zoning Committee:

1-There was overwhelming opposition voiced at the hearing!

2-The project is contrary to local zoning including industrial use in a residential zone and noted the necessity for a town permit to cut trees over 8" .

3-The huge clear cut of 68 acres!

4-There was huge opposition to the use of Candlewood Mountain Road as a primary access road.

Ameresco should improve a secondary access from Route 7 for truck traffic in and out of the project and not go over a brand new town road.

5-The buffer from neighboring homes is not adequate. Industrial uses should buffer 60'-100' when it looks like the planned buffer is only 10' in spots.

Thank you kindly for your time and consideration. I look forward to meeting you in person at the Siting Council meeting on September 26th.. Please can you let me know if we have to register to speak. I thought I saw something that said to register by September 19th in order to be heard at the meeting.

Thank you again,
Lisa Ostrove