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**From:** Kim Pertzborn <kimspa68@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Planning & Development <plandev@countyofdane.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Electric Generating Facility - 15 acre solar array farm 3725 Schneider Drive, Stoughton WI

Hi, please confirm receipt of this email.  
Kim

On Mon, Nov 7, 2022, 9:31 AM Kim Pertzborn <[kimspa68@gmail.com](mailto:kimspa68@gmail.com)> wrote:  
11/7/2022

Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee

My name is Kimberly Pertzborn homeowner 2048 Green Rd, Stoughton WI 53589 and I am opposed to the proposed 15-acre solar array farm to be located at 3725 Schneider Dr, Stoughton WI.

I was born, raised, and have lived in the Town of Dunn most of my life except when I was deployed for combat duty overseas for Desert Storm.

I purchased my home in 2005 from my parents, David and Nancy Nelson (Town of Dunn), who purchased the home from the original owners Joe and Doris Everson, who purchased the land from Bob Green (hence Green Road); Joe was a farm hand for Bob Green.

My husband Bill Pertzborn and I have been opposed to this proposal since we first learned of the solar array while talking with our neighbors. We had a sign in our front yard from March through the Town of Dunn approval of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). We were never given notice by the Town of Dunn and when we asked why we were instructed that our property is not within the required 300 feet for formal notice. This is a huge misstep from the Town of Dunn. The more town people we spoke with, the more it is apparent that there is complete lack of transparency from the Town of Dunn Board regarding this horrible proposal.

To date there are no solid plans for this build. At the last Town of Dunn meeting 10/10/2022 regarding the approval of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) several items of the CUP conditions were struck through, and content was added during the meeting. Notes can be accessed via Town of Dunn, Town Board Meeting Minutes 10/10/2022. There is an added proposal for 20 ft high structures versus the maximum height of 14. There is discussion of changing the plans from an all-fixed solar array to a variation of some fixed and some not fixed. There is ongoing discussion regarding if there is the ability to add a driveway to access the build site or if they can leverage a current access point. How and when the under-ground cabling to the sub-station has not been fully discussed, planned for or cost association. Point being – there is an approved CUP without full transparent planning with cost association, and extremely limited (exactly one family that we are aware of that received notice) outreach to the town people of this proposed build.

My top four concerns and associated questions are:

**1) Application Requirements**

a. How did the applicant fulfill the Application Requirements of the following?

i. Highlights in green for emphasis as taken from ORDINANCE NO. 11-25 TOWN OF DUNN in DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN AN ORDINANCE FOR REGULATING SOLAR PANELS

**Sec. 11-25-7 Criteria for Review.**

(a) The license application shall be evaluated according to the criteria in sub. (c) and the purposes of this Ordinance. Pursuant to Section 11-25-1 (d) and Wisconsin law, evaluation of the criteria requires a case-by-case evaluation. Notwithstanding the forgoing, all System installations shall:

- (1) have a post-construction vegetative ground cover with native, pollinator-friendly vegetation according to 11-25-7 (c) (11) to allow storm water infiltration;
- (2) comply with local, state and federal environmental requirements including storm water management;

(c) The criteria to evaluate the application is as follows:

- (1) Whether the System will be appropriately buffered and screened from public view and the view of adjacent residences.
- (2) If the System is located outside of the Town's Limited Service Area, whether the System will sit on fewer than 5 or more total acres of Group I or Group II soils as defined by the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) from the USDA and depicted on the Agricultural Land Evaluation map of the Town of Dunn Comprehensive Plan.
- (3) Whether the System and supporting infrastructure meets the siting standards of the Town of Dunn Comprehensive Plan and Town of Dunn Ordinance 13-3 Regulating Development Siting.
- (4) Whether the height of the solar energy system and associated structures do not exceed a height of 14 feet.

**2) Environmental impact**

a. Solar panels are dumped into the landfill when they exceed 25 years (life expectancy of solar panels), are broken, cracked or no longer produce energy.

i. Has Dane County considered this reality as more solar farms are created, and what is the environmental impact of dumping solar panels into the landfill?

b. Rain/snow runoff. This 15-acre farm will include 10 acres (4,300 panels) of solar panels that tilt to the south, directly towards a natural navigable waterway that feeds Lake Kegonsa. The navigable waterway floods routinely in the Spring and Summer months during periods of heavy rain.

i. Given the accelerated water runoff of south sloping 10 acres of solar panels, what is the environmental impact to the natural waterway and further the downstream impacts to Lake Kegonsa?

ii. What are the specific permits that need to be secured to allow for a 15-acre solar farm adjacent to a navigable waterway?

iii. What is the associated cost and who will pay for the cost?

iv. How is it determined that the appropriate steps were taken to protect our water systems?

v. What specific steps will be taken to continuously monitor the health of the solar panels for cracks, leaks, chips, and general seepage that will naturally flow towards the water based on south-sloping land and the south sloping panels?

vi. What specific steps will be taken to continuously monitor and mitigate any underground or above ground electrical issues that could impact the low marsh ground and waterway?

### **3) Natural habitat**

a. The proposed built site is a natural habitat for the Sandhill Cranes, Canada Geese, Deer, Raccoon, Fox, Waterfowl and a host of other animals, birds, and insects.

i. With 15 acres of solar farm and safety fencing, what is the impact to the natural habitat that the Town of Dunn specifically has called forward as part of their mission to preserve Farmland and its natural habitat?

ii. There is no environmental beautification of solar farms; what is the specific plan (when, type of plants, trees, shrubs, maintenance etc.) to have a more aesthetically pleasing view when looking into the east morning sunrise of the proposed solar farm?

### **4) Spirit and Intent**

a. The proposed build was originally pitched as Agrivolatics or the simultaneous use of areas for both solar and farming.

i. This is a farce plain and simple. When asked about this approach back in the Spring 2022, the first report to us was that UW Students would access the solar farm for research purposes.

ii. Then the approach shifted because it is a high voltage area and students would not be permitted access to the area and instead instruments would be used for students to monitor from the UW campus in Madison.

1. Given that instruments will be used and no student access due to safety concerns, it is prudent for the UW to leverage their great relationship with Alliant Energy and Dane County to access and utilize the 90-acre solar farm in Cottage Grove which is already under construction for their research purposes.

Attached to this email is a copy of a letter from Nancy Nelson and accompanying signatures as well as a copy of additional Town of Dunn signatures opposing this proposal.

I strongly encourage the Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee to deny Alliant Energy and the UW Board of Regents their request to build the 15-acre solar array farm to be located at 3725 Schneider Drive, Stoughton, WI 53589 as there is another viable alternative for research purposes.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Pertzborn

Cc: Town of Dunn

Bill Pertzborn

Nancy Nelson