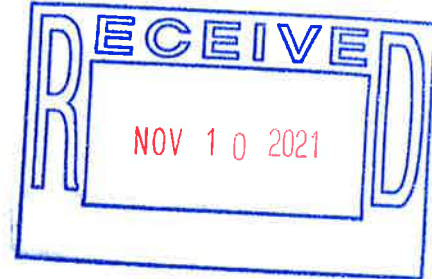


Leslie Burg  
PO Box 40  
Manchester, VT 05254

November 5, 2021

Ms. Holly Anderson  
Clerk of the Commission  
Vermont Public Utility Commission  
Montpelier VT 05620-2701



Re: Case No. 20 – 1261 – NMP

Dear Commissioners,

I recently became aware of your decision to deny a permit for MHG's solar project on Richville Road in Manchester. Frankly, I found it both disturbing and ill advised.

The project was thoroughly vetted and voted on affirmatively by our town's Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, and Select Board. If these three voted to approve the project after considerable public input, how is it that the State decided to negate their approval and deny the permit?

I was particularly troubled by the fact that your decision was based principally on "aesthetics". Yet aesthetics was certainly addressed in the project proposal. You seem to have ignored the fact that the use of a "green fence" of screening trees was judged be highly effective and environmentally sound, and the view of Mt. Equinox almost entirely preserved.

While aesthetics is an important factor to consider when evaluating any development project, it is also true that if we are to meet our climate goals (and literally save our planet) we may have to be willing to compromise on what some people deem aesthetically pleasing on occasion.

The MGH solar project is well and thoughtfully designed. It has the approval of three major governing bodies of Manchester. The State should be approving, not denying permits for such developments and I strongly urge you to reconsider and do so.

Yours truly,

Leslie Burg  
Vice Chair  
Manchester Conservation Commission

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