

## **TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT**

### **Zoning and Planning Office**

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802.728.5433 x13

To: Norwich Solar Technologies, Inc., 15 Railroad Row, White River Junction, VT 05001  
Attn: Martha Staskus

From: The Town of Randolph, Planning Commission, 7 Summer Street, Drawer B,  
Randolph, VT 05060

Subject: Notice of Discrepancy in the Davis Road Preferred Site Location for a Solar Array

On 7 December 2021 Joan B. Allen and Michael J. Binder of 1953 Davis Road, Randolph Center, VT came before the Randolph Planning Commission requesting that the Planning Commission reconsider and rescind the Town Planning Commission's Preferred Site located in East Randolph at LAT: 43.904700°N and LONG: -72.568771°W.

Allen and Binder claimed that Norwich Solar Technologies violated the prohibited locations clause in Randolph's Town Plan prohibiting energy facility development in lands over 25% slope. The over 25% slope prohibition is to protect soil erosion from occurring when any construction occurs in those areas. The steeper the slope the greater the erosion, especially with heavy rains.

To bolster their claim Allen and Binder presented a colored map showing, in red, slopes over 25% that covered the majority of the 10 acres allowed for the project. The Planning Commission noted that the map had a disclaimer stating that it is "for general reference only and data layers may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable."

Slope issues were not addressed at the June 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 PC meeting with Norwich Solar Technologies when they gained support for their site as being "preferred." A more detailed topographical map (Attachment A.) provided recently by Norwich Solar Technologies with an overlay of the planned placement of solar panels shows that most panels will reside on slopes less than 25%. However, the Commission agrees with Mr. Binder's contention that there are some panels on the eastern side of the array that appear to be on slopes greater than 25%. If this proves to be the case then the Town of Randolph may have to rescind our support for this site as being a "preferred" site.

We ask Norwich Solar Technologies to respond to this letter NLT 13 December 2021.

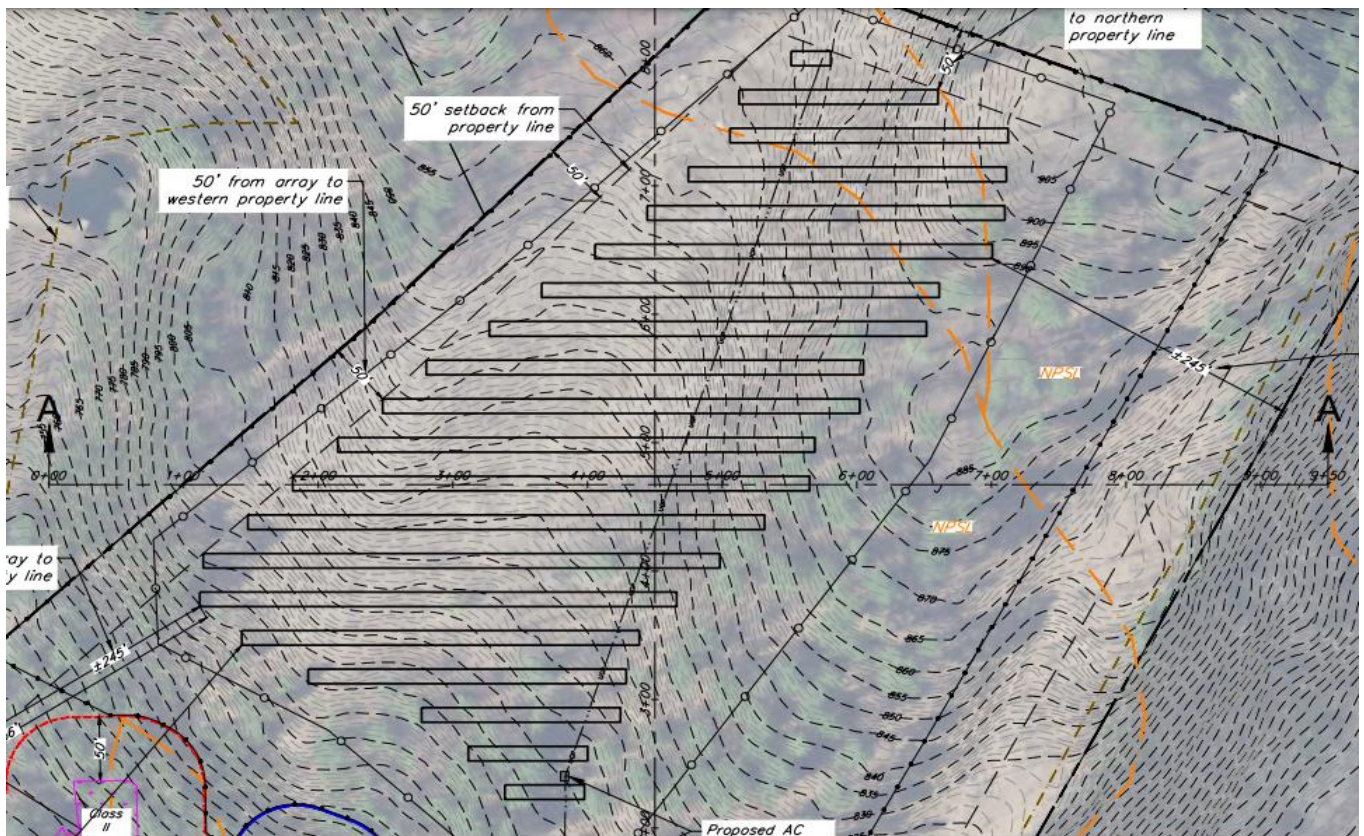
Respectfully

//original signed//

George "Sonny" Holt

Chair, Randolph Planning Commission

Attachment A.



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