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Comments to the Vermont Public Utility Commission (PUC) Re: Case
#25-2346-PET – Proposed 4.999 MW Solar Project in Lowell, Vermont by
Northland Solar LLC (MHG Solar) Submitted:

To the Commission,

These observations and reflections are of how the community of Lowell, Vermont, views and dearly loves our beloved town in the Northeast Kingdom. We choose to rest and reside here, so we can explore and capture the scenic beauty as you drive through Route 58 and Route 100 in Lowell, Vermont. Motivations for keeping this site as an agricultural use, or for residential homes, or possibly a future community center. This is not a site for the largest solar farm plan in the state of Vermont. There are plenty of other suitable places for this large-scale project.

- Public impact- Sensitive areas- surrounded by residential homes, an elementary school, maple sugaring, the local Mountain View Cemetery, Lowell Fire Department, local Churches, local businesses, Town Building, and wildlife, to name a few
- It would change the rural characteristics, have a visual impact of the scenic beauty of the center of our town, surrounding towns, and it would be an unappealing site during our tourist season in the fall, for its dramatically colorful leaves seen by others from all over the world
- It would threaten our rural community, traditional way of life, and the natural landscape, and decrease our land availability for agricultural use
- To preserve food, large-scale solar farms may threaten the future viability of economies that depend on agricultural production
- Environmental impact of water resources, daily noise pollution level impact on neighbors, school children, and employees of the Town Community
- Property values will decrease

- This site is used by the VAST Snowmobile Trail. Community People walk on these trails and use them for sled rides
- Long term effects from pollution from solar panels, glare from panels, when it becomes outdated, clean up debris
- We already have energy alternatives- Wind Towers, local residential and business small-scale solar panels
- Who will reap the benefits at our cost of living- The Federal Government, Vermont Green Energy Groups, Northland Solar LLC, VT Coop Electric, and disadvantaged households.

There are many others to list, but these are just a few of the reasons why we should not permit Northland Solar LLC to build a Large-Scale Solar Farm at this site.

As a resident and property owner in the beautiful town of Lowell for 36 years, I remember my first time driving through Vermont and exploring its scenic beauty in awe. As my family continued to drive North on I91, we ended up traveling on Route 58 and Route 100 and stopped in Lowell. We were looking for a place to call home. We found many aesthetic sites throughout Lowell, the largest town in square miles, but the most beautiful, and this is the place we chose to purchase land, build a home, and settle down.

Some of my family members were students at Lowell Graded School and are now employed and work at the Lowell Graded School. I have been employed there for twenty- five years. When you look through the windows or stand and look across the road, you see charming panoramic scenery. We as a school community enjoy going outside, listening to the sounds of wildlife, the wind, staring at the beautiful autumn leaves, playing in the field out front, or enjoying the serenity of calmness and quiet. This would no longer be our view or experiences if you place the largest-scale solar farm across the road, and it would become an eyesore in the heart of Lowell, Vermont

We may be small in population, but we are very passionate about the place we live and love. Tourism and leaf peepers are an important part of what brings visitors to our community. Many travel and stop to explore and take scenic, magazine-worthy photos of our Lowell mountains and landscapes!

Please consider our thoughts and experiences living here in Lowell, Vermont

Respectfully,

Mrs. Sonja Blodgett and Family

