

From: [Town Clerk](#)
To: [Maura Weissleder](#)
Subject: FW: Statement for Proposed Local Law to Amend Chapter 300 - Solar Power Generation Systems & Facilities (2026)
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 4:34:20 PM

From: Corrine Simione <corrinesimione@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 2:41 PM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@yorktownny.gov>; Ed Lachterman <elachterman@yorktownny.gov>; Patrick Murphy <pmurphy@yorktownny.gov>; Susan Siegel <ssiegel@yorktownny.gov>; Sergio Esposito <sesposito@yorktownny.gov>; Ilan Gilbert <igilbert@yorktownny.gov>
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Hello,

Please pass along my comments on the public hearing for solar in lieu of my attendance at the public hearing which may not occur.

I would like to thank the board and supervisor for moving to ban large scale ground mounted solar farms in ALL residential zones. They do not belong in residential areas. as a blight to the community.

I understand the board is looking to grandfather two pending solar farm applications in residential zones that have been on hold since the 2024 moratoriums. These should not be allowed to proceed. Again, Yorktown should look to keep its character and these solar "farms" even with screening are not what residents want in their communities.

There are various concerns over land use, aesthetics, potential environmental impacts, and property values. These concerns stem from a desire to maintain the town's rural character and identity. Issues with these solar farm are:

- **Property Values:** A nearby solar farm will decrease the value of homes and adjacent farmland, citing studies that have found a decrease in value for properties within a half-mile
- **Decommissioning Costs:** The cost of decommissioning a solar farm (removing panels and restoring the land after its 25-30 year lifespan) will fall on taxpayers if the developer does not provide sufficient financial surety. There is no guarantee the developer of these "farms" will even still be in business come this time
- **Limited Local Benefit:** The project offers minimal benefit to the immediate community, especially since the power generated goes to the wider grid and the

developers are from outside the area. Again, there is very little if any benefit to the town itself. We take the risk with no reward. The power goes to the larger grid, not the town itself

- Visual Disamenity: Large-scale solar arrays are "eyesores" or "industrial sites" that destroy the natural, scenic, or rural character of the landscape - they certainly do not belong in residential districts
- Habitat Disruption: Clearing large areas of land can destroy wildlife habitats and disrupt ecological corridors
- Pesticide and Chemical Use: The use of herbicides and pesticides for vegetation management and the potential for toxic metals (like lead and cadmium) to leach into the soil and groundwater if panels are damaged. This is not being discussed enough. These solar panel are made with toxic metals and do break - leaching these chemicals into our ground and drinking water
- Construction Impacts: The use of heavy equipment during construction can compact soil, increase erosion and water runoff, and introduce invasive plant species of which Yorktown already has a problem with. Invasive vines are taking over our wooded areas, forests and trees in general causing them to rot and die

I appreciate your time on this matter and do hope that you ban ALL future ground mounted facilities and do not allow ANY grandfathering. The board has made such strides to protect the towns character and the residents way of life this year with provisions like the Battery facility ban. I hope that this ban follows suit.

Solar panels belong on rooftops, not precious land.

Thank you!
Corrine Simione
Walden Woods