

June 7, 2024

Chace Pedersen  
411 N Ruby St, Ste 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
[Chace.Pedersen@co.kittitas.wa.us](mailto:Chace.Pedersen@co.kittitas.wa.us)

Re: CU-24-00003 Schnebly Coulee Solar Farm

To Chace,

We own lot 13 of the Sage Hills development, neighboring the proposed solar project, Schnebly Coulee Solar Farm. We don't oppose solar energy, in fact there are many benefits to green energy, which is why we support this project. Considering this would be a huge impact on ourselves and our neighbors, we feel it is important to keep our dialogue open. Making sure that our questions and concerns are addressed when moving forward.

- 1) Glares: The reflective surfaces of solar panels can sometimes create disruptive glares. Given the number of panels that would be installed, this can be intrusive and disruptive to our daily lives. Are there plans to conduct an analysis of glints and glares that would come from a solar farm in proximity?
- 2) Visual impact: Solar farms that are in large open spaces can alter the visual landscape of an area. You'd be taking away our sage surroundings and replacing them with solar panels, which are not visually appealing to most. This will detract from the natural beauty of our surroundings. The reason we chose Sage Hills to build our forever home is because of the healing properties and beauty the sage provides. We feel devastated at the fact that our natural beauty will be replaced with acres of solar panels. Are there plans to maintain the beautiful landscape that we all enjoy and treasure?
- 3) Noise: Solar panels are generally silent, but the equipment used to maintain and manage a solar farm, which we assume can produce noise. Project this scale, will be utilizing industrial size equipment. Will measures be taken to minimize the noise level?
- 4) Land use: Only 40% of the 10.4 million acres of eastern Washington's shrub steppe habitat remains relative to the mid-1800s. Were there other areas that were looked considered? Are there similar areas available that would not be so intrusive? Why the property next to Sage Hills was selected?

- 5) Heat emissions: Urban heat island effect, this can raise temperatures at night by several degrees. The impact of heat emissions to this magnitude is unknown, so this obviously would be another concern.
- 6) Electromagnetic fields (EMF): Scientific research on EMF is ongoing, which makes exposure to EMF a serious health concern.
- 7) Decommission: When this solar farm reaches the end of its operational life, decommissioning activities may be required, which can have environmental implications. Will this information be made available?

I believe these disadvantages can be mitigated through careful planning, design, and communication between solar farm developers and local communities. Our hope is that our opinions and concerns are taken into serious consideration. On behalf of lot 13 and it's neighbors.

Sincerely,

Leo & Maricar Perrone  
Lot 13, Sage Hills Development