

Charles W. Campo

From: kabdent@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 10:03 AM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Question re: Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Hello,

I am an immediate neighbor to the South of the property in question in Case 162-S-25. I would like to know where the proposed solar farm is supposed to be built within the large field they intend to use. Is it going to be close to the North end by the railroad? How far South will it extend? Where do they anticipate putting the access road to the solar farm? There is a creek that feeds into Spring Lake between Spring Lake Rd and the location cited. There is a crude unpaved path over the creek where farm equipment has passed routinely. Will that be the access? My property is accessed off of North Shore Dr. The railroad spans the entire North side of the field. There is little room for additional pavement directed North at the curve of North Shore Dr. in front of my property.

My spouse and I do not object to the solar farm project. I am just concerned about changes there may be to the road ways for adequate access in any kind of weather. If the solar farm is located near a field, dry conditions in the Fall make any sparking a huge fire hazard, what is the plan for the fire department to be able to rapidly address any problems there. At risk are the crop planted around it, and the neighborhood nearby. Proper access is something that should be required, how do they plan to do that?

There should be a guarantee that they will clean it up if it goes out of business so as not to be a hazard or an eyesore.

Karen (and William) Boulanger
404 S. North Shore Dr.
Mahomet, IL 61853
217-621-5939 cell
kabdent@aol.com

Charles W. Campo

From: kabdent@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2025 4:36 PM
To: Charles W. Campo
Subject: more questions about 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Hello again,

I have more questions about 162-S-25, the solar farm project proposed near my neighborhood.

Has John Koller at the Corn Belt Fire District been contacted about the plans for access road and site access in case of fire? Fire trucks are heavy, will the culvert stand up to that kind of weight? Fire trucks get stuck? Will there be a requirement for fire extinguishers to be present on site? Will they be required to have key to gated area and all restricted areas available to the fire department in case of emergency?

Are they planning on putting rock or flame resistant covering over the ground under the panels so a spark will not start a grass fire under there that can spread?

Will they have a water source for watering all those new trees and for the site, will there be running water and facilities for the maintenance people to use while there? It is a big site to maintain.

I don't think visiting the site every 2 to 3 months is often enough for keeping grass and weeds down and watering new trees.

Are they planning additional solar farms? It looks like the name "Mahomet Solar 1, LLC" is a precursor for "Mahomet Solar 2, LLC" or more similar projects. Would they be planning to put those additional projects on the adjacent farm land? Does Nurmi Trust have other locations more suitable for this kind of venture?

There have been several derecho wind storms and other high wind events in the area which have caused damage to trees and crops in the area. Is this solar equipment going to be insured against weather related damage?

How will the neighborhood know what the emergency or complaint contact information is? Who is contacted if there is no response?

Will the site have lighting that will be on nightly? Will there be lighting available to turn on and off as needed?

Are they planning on keeping the access road clear of snow?

That is about all I can think of for now.

Karen (and William) Boulanger
404 S. North Shore Dr
Mahomet, IL 61853
217-621-5939 cell
kabdent@aol.com

Charles W. Campo

From: Diana Harmon <dianalharmon@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 9:08 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Proposed variance for setback for solar farm

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to express my concern over the proposed solar farm near my rural Mahomet home. I live at 1705 West North Shore Drive, Mahomet, IL. The solar farm would be less than half a mile from my home and many of my neighbors and friends. It is my understanding that the current setback for distance from homes is 1.5 miles. Therefore a variance has been proposed to allow for this wind farm to be built. I, along with many neighbors feel that variance should be denied and our safety and property values protected. I urge you to vote no on the proposed variance.

Thank you.

Diana Harmon

Sent from my iPhone

Charles W. Campo

From: Ryan Kutil <ryan@neghomes.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 4:26 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Solar farm proposal

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I am a Mahomet resident and I am strongly opposed to this solar farm proposal.



Charles W. Campo

From: Harris, Alana <apharri2@illinois.edu>
Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2025 7:59 AM
To: zoningdept
Subject: 162-S-25 Mahomet Solar1

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

To whom it may concern,

My family and I are residents of Champaign County, living on Spring Lake in Mahomet. I am writing to express my concern about the recent petition for a variance for a solar farm to be located within close proximity to the Spring Lake sub-vision and wider community. The solar farm would be positioned where run-off enters the lake. The lake is spring fed and home to wildlife. Families swim, fish and enjoy the natural beauty of this area.

The proposal does not provide the level of detail necessary to assure that the lake will be preserved, (erosion prevention, measures of impacts on vegetation, and water quality maintained) and that the property values will not be negatively impacted (there is mixed literature).

I urge you to request a more rigorous proposal with the necessary information to make an informed decision.

Thank you,

ALANA HARRIS, Ph.D.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ASSESSMENT AND STUDENT WELLNESS

Campus Recreation
Student Affairs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
201 East Peabody | Champaign, IL 61820
217.300.3953
apharri2@illinois.edu
www.campusrec.illinois.edu



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act any written communication to or from university employees regarding university business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

Charles W. Campo

From: Cheryl Sproul <outlook_0FE0BAF7B3A1CD44@outlook.com> on behalf of Cheryl Sproul <prayer@cmaillinois.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 4:17 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Public hearing Thursday. Feb 27, 2025 concerning waiver - solar farm

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals Members,

First, I would like to thank you for serving your community in this capacity. Having retired from local government after 30 years, I understand a little bit about what a difficult job you have.

Unfortunately, we will be out of town at the time of your meeting or I would be attending.

Our property is very close to the property requesting a waiver for a solar farm east of Spring Lake Road and south of Route 150, west of Mahomet. I am asking you to vote No on this request for several reasons.

This is a waste of precious farmland.

It is also an eyesore, and it would disrupt the natural feeding environment for wildlife that pass through this area 2 sometimes 3 or 4 times a day.

I would encourage you to take the time to drive out and look at this property, not just look at it on a map. See the neighborhood that would be impacted by this solar farm.

Put yourself in our place, having to look at it every time we leave our homes and return. Will there be some sort of natural berm around it?

I'm also concerned what impact this project would have on drainage in the area. We've invested money in improving our properties to relieve the concern of a flooding basement.

What will happen to our property values? Our homes are our biggest investment.

I also don't think the impact on people's health long term has been fully understood. As someone who's dealt with cancer and am 8 years cancer free, I can say this concerns me to have this so close to my home and not just because it's our neighborhood but close to any neighborhood. I would rather see these solar panels on roof tops of business or covered parking areas.

Please vote NO on this request and again thank you for serving as a public official.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Sproul
408 S. Bryarfield Ct.
Mahomet, IL

Charles W. Campo

From: Teresa D'Urso <durso1055@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 7:05 AM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Case 162-S-25 Solar Farm Waiver

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Good day,

I live in Springlake Subdivision in Mahomet and do not wish to have a solar farm within 10 feet of my property. This is proposed to be built across the street from my house - North Shore Drive. I request that the zoning board do not waive the 1 1/2 miles.

Thank you,
Teresa D'Urso
405 S N Shore Dr, Mahomet, IL 61853

Charles W. Campo

From: Jacob C. Hagman
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 9:34 AM
To: Charles W. Campo
Subject: 162-S-25 call

Hi Charlie,

I received a phone call from Jim Gunther in Mahomet. He owns two properties, 201 & 203 W Oak St. He doesn't want the solar farm for the following reasons:

- He believes solar farms are not green energy because of the concrete used in construction.
- He has concerns about the decommissioning process.
- He feels that a solar farm would ruin the landscape.
- He isn't happy with the current wind farms in the area and doesn't want solar in the area.

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

~Have a good day

Jacob Hagman
Zoning Technician
Champaign County Department of Planning & Zoning
1776 E. Washington St
Urbana, IL 61802
Phone: 217-384-3708
Fax: 217-819-7021

Charles W. Campo

From: Lisa Peithmann <lgpeithmann1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 10:45 AM
To: zoningdept; dawnmohr@mahomet-il.go
Subject: Planned solar farm Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I oppose this.
I don't live close, but I'd heard this was going to happen,
and that Pritzker would sign off on it. Sadly, he did.
I know I would not want this within a mile of our home.

The homes are too close to the proposed solar "farm".
Champaign County and the Village of Mahomet can
do better than this for their citizens.

Thanks,
Lisa G Peithmann

--

Pray softly, live simply,
love generously, care deeply,
speak kindly.
Leave the rest to God!
Lisa

Charles W. Campo

From: Burd, Nicholas A <naburd@illinois.edu>
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 2:31 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: 162-S-25 Mahomet Solar1

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I am writing as a concerned Champaign country resident in response to a recent petition requesting a Variance for a solar farm to be located within close proximity to the Spring Lake Sub-Division, Mahomet IL. It is surprising that the proposed considerations do not currently address that the location of the solar farm, which is immediately adjacent to a 32-acre spring fed lake, termed Spring Lake and a substantial residential area.

As elected officials, it is important that there is greater diligence required by the solar farms. It is obvious the submitted paperwork is a generic copy and paste job used by this company, and as it stands there has been blatant disregard to the location of this proposed farm. In particular, the proposed information surrounding erosion control is comical and should not be accepted. Again, the location of this proposed farm is unique and will require substantial field studies and more robust erosion control contingency plans. Simply, inspecting current drainage is not sufficient.

Moving forward, it is fundamental to be more thoughtful with regards to where you allow the placement of these solar farms within our county.

Dr. Nicholas Burd

Charles W. Campo

From: Linda L. Hambleton <linpersin@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 5:53 PM
To: zoningdept
Cc: Rick Hambleton; midwestnews@fws.gov; rockisland@fws.gov; r5hotline@epa.gov
Subject: Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Members of the Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals,

We are writing in opposition of the proposed waiver for a solar farm to be less than the 1.5 miles from our residential area as required by section 6.1.5 B.(2)a. of the Champaign County, Illinois Zoning Ordinance.

Questions regarding 162-S-65:

- Page 3 section B under Proposed Special Conditions – How long are the lights going to be on for?
- Page 5 section F.3. – what are the environmental impacts to Springlake due to erosion or runoff?
- Decommissioning Plan
 - Page 2 – first paragraph states 10,920 modules but last paragraph states 12,696 modules, what is the difference?
 - Page 3 – top paragraph states disposal of modules, inverters, transformers, etc will be at the County area landfill. Is the landfill capable of these waste hazards as units go bad prior to decommissioning?
 - Page 5 – Cost of decommissioning...will the taxpayers be responsible for any of the \$500K needed to do so? For that matter, are taxpayers going to pay for any of this project?

Other concerns regarding 162-S-65:

- Mahomet Solar Ambient Noise Study by RWDI
 - Page 2 – Inverters and transformers are continuous noise vs what we hear now which is intermittent highway noise from cars and trucks. Sitting out on your deck in the summer and hearing an occasional vehicle on Rte 150 is much different than the continuous noise these inverters/transformers make. The 1.5 mile requirement will help to ease this noise level from the inverters/transformers.
- There is currently a wetland area that this proposal will be disturbing with a road access.
- Springlake is home to migratory birds in the spring with swans and pelicans just to name a few. WCIA local news did a story on this lake and those migratory birds. We have to ensure this habitat does not get lost and the 1.5 mile requirement will help to ensure this. There is a resident bald eagle that we love to see fly around.

- The Sangamon River is home to many wildlife habitats...deer, turkey, fox, coyotes, etc., and the 1.5 mile requirement will allow for these to move freely as they are accustomed to.

Property devaluation:

In a study conducted by "Ben Hoen, a scientist in the Electricity Markets and Policy Department at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and one of the paper's authors" as reported in USA Today paper on 03/23/2023, found "Homes in rural and agricultural areas saw declines in home prices, especially where solar farms were replacing agricultural land uses, as opposed to urban or suburban installations which saw no change in home prices."

Is the county assessment on our homes going to be adjusted and how soon will we see that adjustment on our property tax assessment? Folks cannot continue to pay assessments on a \$200K home year after year and then go to sell it and only get \$150K.

What is the Emergency Plan:

- Train derailment – this solar farm is right next to train tracks. Is the Cornbelt Fire Department and other neighboring towns emergency services capable to controlling a catastrophe like this?
- Flooding (erosion and tile rerouting) – in researching some of the concerns on the construction of solar farms, often flooding occurs due to erosion. What will prevent this from happening here.
- Water contamination – what hazards are there for runoff into the lake?
- Ground contamination due to severe weather causing broken panels – we are subject to hail storms in the area, what chemicals/hazards are in the panels that can harm us or the ground that they break apart on?

Please don't approve anything less than the 1.5 mile requirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ricky Hambleton

Linda Hambleton

Charles W. Campo

From: Debra Bunch <debbierbunch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 10:10 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Fwd: Case No. 162-S-25 Waivers for proposed Solar Farm Mahomet
Attachments: Front Porch.jpg; Deer 1.jpg; Certificate.PNG; Deer 2.jpg

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Debra Bunch** <debbierbunch@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 10:09 PM
Subject: Fwd: Case No. 162-S-25 Waivers for proposed Solar Farm Mahomet
To: <villageofmahomet@mahomet-il.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Debra Bunch** <debbierbunch@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 9:59 PM
Subject: Case No. 162-S-25 Waivers for proposed Solar Farm Mahomet
To: <CWC47300@champaigncountyil.gov>

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I have lived on Bryarfield Ct. since 2003, and my husband's parents lived here before us starting in 1987. Please see the attached pictures. One I took this morning from my front porch. I really can't imagine walking out of the house every day looking at a solar panel farm in place of what has always been either a corn or bean field. I have also attached pictures of the deer who feed off the harvest leftovers of the field. I would much rather see deer in the field than solar panels.

Please do not make decisions about all the waiver requests for the solar farm without thinking about the long term problems that it could cause.

*Despite current discussions regarding decommissioning, the reality is that this rural land will be lost forever. Industrial-scale solar projects are typically for 30-40 years. Construction of an industrial-scale solar power plant requires removal of trees, brush and root balls prior to installation of the arrays, creating an ecological wasteland. Grading, pile driving, blasting, electric cable trenching and road construction will compact the soil, likely delaying agricultural use for years after the project's end.

*Uncontrolled runoff of water and topsoil is a well-documented byproduct of industrial-scale solar site development. Removal of all trees and deep-rooted plants, along with inadequate stormwater controls lead to long-term runoff. Local municipalities usually do not have adequate resources to monitor

construction and stormwater violations and, even when properly monitored, site developers have no problem paying fines, and there is no effective check on environmental damage. **We already have problems with standing water at the north end of Bryarfield Ct.** You can see the standing water in the Deer 2 picture. This would be from melting snow, but it is also like this for several days any time it rains.

* The expected reduction in property resale value depending on proximity to the solar farm is concerning. Granted the Springlake area and Bryarfield Acres have a wide range of property values, being close to a solar farm is not going to help the residents at the north end of Bryarfield Ct. I am sure our property taxes will continue to rise though. No one purchases a house "out in the country" anticipating living next to a commercial operation.

* Also it appears the recalibration certificate expired in May of 2024, but it was used for the sound testing in October of 2024. Shouldn't the machine used for the sound test be recalibrated, and the sound test performed again?

I encourage you to make the drive out to Bryarfield Ct., Mahomet and sit at the end of the cul-de-sac for at least a few minutes and look at the field through the eyes of someone who lives on this street.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Dan and Debbie Bunch

Charles W. Campo

From: Dave Sproul <dsproul32@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 5:15 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Regarding public hearing Thursday, Feb 27 RE: Mahomet solar farm waiver

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Dear Zoning Board of Appeals Members,

I would like to thank you for serving your community in this capacity. I understand that your job can sometimes be difficult.

Unfortunately, I will be out of town at the time of your meeting, otherwise I would be attending.

Our property is very close to the property requesting a waiver for a solar farm east of Spring Lake Road and south of Route 150, west of Mahomet. I am asking you to vote NO on this request for several reasons as follows:

1. This is a waste of precious farmland. I am not against solar energy, but taking away productive farmland for a solar farm is NOT acceptable.
2. It would disrupt the natural feeding environment for wildlife that pass through this area two, three, four times a day.
3. I am also concerned what impact this project could have on drainage in the area. We and our neighbors have invested money to improve our properties to relieve the concern of flooding basements.
4. What will happen to our property values? I am sure this will have a direct negative impact on all property values in the area. If I do not want to live next door to a solar farm, I am sure any future potential buyers will not want to do so either.
5. I also don't think the impact on people's health long term has been fully studied or understood. What sort of emissions do these farms generate? I doubt that they are actually completely safe for the surrounding areas.
6. What about weather effects? Based on some research I have done, solar farms are known to reflect heat back into the atmosphere, affecting local weather patterns.
7. Solar farms are an eyesore, a blight on the landscape. I encourage you to take a drive out and look at this property, not just view it on a map. See for yourself the neighborhoods that would be impacted by this solar farm. Would you want a field of solar panels next to your house?

It makes far more sense to build solar farms over large parking lots or on the roofs of large commercial buildings than to destroy farmland that is essential for agriculture.

Please vote NO on this request and thank you for your service to the people of Champaign County.

Respectfully,
David Sproul
408 S. Bryarfield Ct.
Mahomet, IL
217/649-1941

Charles W. Campo

From: Alexis Godbee <alexis.godbee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 8:54 AM
To: zoningdept
Subject: Proposed Solar Farm- Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Good morning,

My name is Alexis and I am reaching out regarding a letter I received in the mail notifying me of a proposed solar farm very close to my property. I have many questions and concerns about this solar farm, especially since it is so close to my home.

I was wondering, if I send my questions and comments over via email, is that something that will be reviewed and answered prior to the meeting? Or will my questions and comments be read aloud at the upcoming meeting on February 27th?

Thank you,
Alexis

Charles W. Campo

From: Alexis Godbee <alexis.godbee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 2:10 PM
To: Charles W. Campo
Subject: Re: Proposed Solar Farm- Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Thank you so much! If possible, I would like to submit a letter to be forwarded to all members on the champaign county zoning board. Is it also possible for it to be read out loud at the meeting on 2/27? Please let me know, thank you.
Letter below:

Hello,

My name is Alexis Godbee and I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed solar farm near Spring Lake in Mahomet. I strongly urge the Champaign County Department of Planning and Zoning members to please consider the negative impacts this will have on not only the people who live in that area, but also the animals in the area. The proposed location is not ideal and poses some major risks. I understand the landowner and developer will go to great lengths to get their projects approved, as they have put much thought and time into the preparation of the application. However, as the Champaign County Zoning Board, I desperately ask you to stand up for me and the other residents of Champaign County who do not want this project so close to their homes.

One of the enjoyable characteristics of Spring Lake is the peace and quiet. Most days and nights, you can hear a conversation being had somewhere across the lake, coyotes howling in the distance, or even a distant neighbor's TV or radio playing. Sound travels surprisingly far, and these noises are noticeable- especially for those who are sensitive and aware of their surroundings like myself. One major concern is the noise that will be emitted from the solar farm. I understand the panels themselves do not make noise, but the other electrical components will. I believe this will be very disruptive to those near this project. Not only the audible noise, but the radio frequency and added electrical components can negatively affect health in humans. The argument can be made that it is such a low frequency and under the "approved limits," but when you add that on top of all the other frequencies out there it all adds up and can be harmful to health short and long term.

Another enjoyable aspect in living at Spring Lake for many is the wildlife. There have been many times I see between 5 and 15 deer grazing in that field, and approaching Spring Lake to get a drink before running off back through the field. This project would displace the deer and other animals that so many of us enjoy seeing. The visual aspect of the open field when harvest is done, and watching the crops change from corn to beans year after year, are all part of what make that area great. The farmland that we have here in our area is also some of the richest soil in the world! It should not be taken up by an industrial solar farm.

The Spring Lake Association and its members also take great care in the health of the lake. Together, we have paid thousands of dollars to upkeep its health and, most recently, dredge out the silt that has built up over the years. Constructing a solar farm will cause soil erosion to run off directly into our lake. This is concerning due to the fact that soil erosion from the solar farm would not be 100% prevented, but only slowed. It is also my understanding that there will be a maintenance plan in place for the area of the solar farm due to weed growth and mitigation, and chemicals such as glyphosate are recommended to be used on such weeds. Glyphosate is a toxic chemical that has been known to cause cancer, birth defects, disrupt hormones in the body, and disrupt nervous system function. If this chemical is used, it would be running off directly into our lake where adults, children, and animals will come into contact with it. This can pose a huge health risk.

Another major concern is the close proximity to the train tracks. If (or when) things get thrown from passing trains (or if the train ever derailed), that can cause damage to the substation, panels, or other components that could pose a huge risk. Not to mention the fact that the solar farms increase the risk of fire in the area, and we all know how hot and dry it can get in this area during the summer. It is unsafe for this proposed solar farm to be located between a train track and a subdivision that contains many homes. The approval of this would cause many of us to feel unsafe in our own home.

Lastly, the inevitable decrease in property values or resale values of the homes nearby is going to be a major negative. Nobody when looking for a home requests to be 300 feet from a solar farm. Had there been a solar farm in place when I was house shopping, I would not have bought my current house. There have been many studies done showing homes in a rural setting (such as Spring Lake) show an average decrease in property value of 2.3% if located within a mile of a solar farm. That is pretty significant and preventable by not allowing this project to be constructed in this area.

I know as the Champaign County Zoning Board, it is your duty to uphold the Zoning Ordinance. I wholeheartedly believe this proposed solar farm goes against many standards meant to be upheld as listed in the Champaign County Zoning Ordinance, such as:

"(a) securing adequate light, pure air, and safety from fire and other dangers;
(b) conserving the value of land, BUILDINGS, and STRUCTURES throughout the COUNTY;
(d) lessening and avoiding hazards to persons and damage to PROPERTY resulting from the accumulation of runoff of storm or flood waters;
(e) promoting the public health, safety, comfort, morals, and general welfare;
(l) prohibiting USES, BUILDINGS, or STRUCTURES incompatible with the character of such DISTRICTS;
(n) protecting the most productive AGRICULTURAL lands from haphazard and unplanned intrusions of urban USES;
(o) protecting natural features such as forested areas and watercourses;
(q) encouraging the preservation of AGRICULTURAL belts surrounding urban areas, to retain the AGRICULTURAL nature of the COUNTY, and the individual character of existing communities; and
(r) provide for the safe and efficient development of renewable energy sources in those parts of the COUNTY that are most suited to their development. "

I hope you can really try to understand the concerns I bring forward, and ask yourself if putting so many people in danger is really worth it. I am begging you to please vote no on pushing this project through. Not only for me and my household, but my neighbors, friends, and future generations to come.

Thank you,
Alexis

On Friday, February 21, 2025 at 02:55:13 PM CST, Charles W. Campo <cwc43700@champaigncountyil.gov> wrote:

Hello Alexis Godbee,

Below is a link to the meeting packet which contains information regarding the project. Many of your questions are addressed in the packet. I have also forwarded your questions to the developer so they can provide responses either in writing prior to the meeting or at the meeting on Thursday 2/27/25. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

[Champaign County Board | Champaign County Illinois](#)

Charlie Campo, AICP

Zoning Officer

Champaign County Department of Planning and Zoning

1776 East Washington Street

Urbana, IL 61802

cwc43700@champaigncountyil.gov ph:217-384-3708

From: Alexis Godbee <alexis.godbee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 10:12 AM
To: Charles W. Campo <cwc43700@champaigncountyil.gov>
Subject: Re: Proposed Solar Farm- Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Thank you for the quick response. I have a variety of questions, and if you could answer what you know and pass the remaining on to those who may have answers I would really appreciate it. I am going to try my best to attend the meeting, but I may arrive late due to my work schedule. Are these meetings normally recorded live, or is there somewhere it can be watched after completion?

Thank you.

My questions are:

- 1.) Will there be light pollution from this project, and what would the light pollution look like at night?
- 2.) How many decibels will be produced from this solar farm when in operation?
- 3.) What are impacts on migration patterns of animals and the wildlife in this area?
- 4.) How far away from property lines will this project be located?
- 5.) Are you aware of the impacts this will have on home/property re-sale values?
- 6.) Where will any generated energy go? Who benefits from it? How much energy is expected to be generated from it?
- 7.) How will this project impact soil erosion with rain water running directly into Spring Lake? Is it possible this will increase the silt levels in the lake?
- 8.) Is there a plan for the panels to be hidden behind a privacy fence or trees that will be planted? Or will it be surrounded by a see through wire fence?
- 9.) Are there going to be any batteries, electrical distribution lines, inverters, transformers, common switching stations, or substations involved with this project? If so, exactly where will each of those be located?
- 10.) Are access roads going to be needed? Will there be heavy machinery using Spring Lake road or entering the Spring Lake neighborhood?
- 11.) Who is the developer of the proposed solar farm? Why did they choose this specific location on the land? Do they have any other solar farms in operation?

- 12.) What, if any, maintenance procedures will be implemented to ensure optimal performance of the panels?
- 13.) Will the panels need regular maintenance or cleaning? How will that impact the Spring Lake neighborhood?
- 14.) Will the panels be inspected regularly to ensure there are no micro-cracks in the surface of the panels? If so, how often?
- 15.) Is there a contingency plan in place regarding the event of severe weather, fires, or hail damage?
- 16.) What are the pros specifically for the Spring Lake neighborhood in regards to the solar farm being so close to peoples homes?

Thank you for your time,

Alexis

On Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 09:07:34 AM CST, Charles W. Campo <cwc43700@champaigncountyil.gov> wrote:

Hello Alexis,

I am the planner working on this zoning case for Champaign County. If you have questions about the project that I can answer, you can direct them to me by phone or email. If you have questions or comments for the developer or the Zoning Board that you would like to have answered at the public hearing on February 27, 2025, you can email them to me, and I can forward them to the developer and Board or I can include your questions as a handout to the developer and the Board at the meeting. You may also ask your questions in person at the meeting. Please feel free to call or email me with any further questions.

Charlie Campo, AICP
Zoning Officer
Champaign County Department of Planning and Zoning
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802
cwc43700@champaigncountyil.gov ph:217-384-3708

From: Alexis Godbee <alexis.godbee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 8:54 AM
To: zoningdept <zoningdept@champaigncountyil.gov>
Subject: Proposed Solar Farm- Case 162-S-25

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

Good morning,

My name is Alexis and I am reaching out regarding a letter I received in the mail notifying me of a proposed solar farm very close to my property. I have many questions and concerns about this solar farm, especially since it is so close to my home.

I was wondering, if I send my questions and comments over via email, is that something that will be reviewed and answered prior to the meeting? Or will my questions and comments be read aloud at the upcoming meeting on February 27th?

Thank you,
Alexis

Charles W. Campo

From: lalaschwaig <lalaschwaig@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 3:58 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: NO Solar farm in mahomet

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

As a landowner to the direct south of the proposed solar farm west of Mahomet I want to let you know we are opposed to the proposed solar farm.

Due to the deadline for receiving this email I will bullet point them and hope I do not forget any reasons for the opposition of this.

- 1: Noise. Inverters make noise. I personally am very sensitive to electrical noise and do not want to spend the rest of my life dealing with constant humming from the inverters.
- 2: reflective light of the panels and the night lights of farm ruining the perfect darkness we have out here.
- 3: my understanding is the panels follow the sun? The reflection and eventual noise as this happens is strongly unwanted.
- 4: breakdown of the panels- runoff from the rain and snow in this field goes right down my property and feeds into the spring fed lake and then the Sangamon River across the street. Taking with it any spills from broken panels.
- 5: noise from the construction of this solar field will be disruptive
- 6: concerned for the wildlife. Being near the river and lake wildlife abounds out here. I would like to know what studies have been done to make sure the wildlife is not being disturbed.
- 7: the sheer size of this project is not appropriate for this area and should be placed closer to an industrial area or nowhere near any existing neighborhoods. It is completely selfish and unrealistic to expect the people who live in this area to have yet another blight to look at (we now get to look at the lovely wind turbines as we exit our neighborhood and must be subjected to the obnoxious flashing lights on them at night).
- 8: does this benefit this area in any way? Or is it just benefitting one land owner?

I'm sure I have forgotten something,
Thank you ,
Lara Schwaiger

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Charles W. Campo

From: Sarah Vrona <sv3431@protonmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2025 2:07 PM
To: zoningdept
Subject: NO WAIVER on SOLAR FARM

CAUTION: External email, be careful when opening.

I am writing to request that the zoning commission not allow the solar farm between Mahomet and Mansfield to be built!!

This is an absolutely unacceptable location. It will be approximately .55 miles from village limits, and less than 250 feet from where people live!

This would be LESS THAN 1.5 miles from many houses.

It will create noise pollution, light pollution, soil erosion, disrupt animal migration patterns, and negatively impact the health of those living nearby.

It is NOT safe for anyone to live less than 1.5 miles from a solar farm.

The inefficiency of solar energy is not worth the risk to families and the environment!

Please do NOT pass the waiver to build this so close to homes.

Thank you,
Sarah Vrona
Mahomet resident