

10/30/18

**Kristine Youman**

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**From:** polrm17@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 28, 2018 2:55 PM  
**To:** Kristine Youman  
**Subject:** Fwd: Special Use Permit 11000 Block Big Mound Road  
**Attachments:** SU Permit 11000 Big Mound Rd.pdf

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-----Original Message-----

From: polrm17 <polrm17@aol.com>  
To: mreibel <mreibel@oglecounty.org>  
Sent: Tue, Oct 23, 2018 1:09 pm  
Subject: Special Use Permit 11000 Block Big Mound Road

Please find the attached letter sent to members of the Ogle County Board expressing concern for the Special Use Permit requested for the proposed Solar Plant on Big Mound Road.

Ronda Poliska

Dear Ogle County Board Member,

I am writing to you as a landowner in Scott Township. My husband and I own farm ground in proximity to the proposed Solar Plant site on Big Mound Road. We raise cattle which graze on the fields we own and rent in this township. My son, his wife and their two children live in the house on this farmstead, having purchased it to be part of this rural community.

The intended zoning of the acreage on Big Mound Road to be used as a Solar Plant will have a definite negative affect on the values of the surrounding homes and properties. Young families are moving to this area to be part of the excellent school system. They have chosen this area to invest their money in homes and businesses. Those who grew up here stay to be a part of this rural neighborhood. The beauty of the landscape is a draw to those outside of our area to spend a day. This area is on the route of numerous bike and motorcycle rides which begin early spring until the snow flies.

As this is a newer form of energy production, there are a lot of unanswered questions regarding the affect this will have on the soil and groundwater. The components which make up the panels will not last forever. How will these components be disposed of? What guarantee will the residents of the township have as to who will clean up Solar Plants that investors walk away from? Will these be left as dumps for our residents to look at on a daily basis? Will the county inspect the materials before installation? Who will maintain the weeds on these properties?

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The comprehensive plans for Scott and Marion Township put together and submitted to the County Board did not include Solar Plants. These are industrial plants. They are not "farms". I am not against solar power or solar plants. There just needs to be some thought in the placement of them in our county. Has it been considered to put these solar panels on the landfill sites when they become no longer used? Has the County looked at using brownfield sites as opposed to taking farmland out of production?

Respectfully, I suggest that the Ogle County Board members delay making decisions on these Solar Plants. Research needs to be done before locations are approved. A long range plan for the county as a whole needs to be set forth for not only residential, agricultural and commercial areas but industrial growth. The proper placement in our county should be taken into consideration before approval is given. I ask that you consider those landowners who neighbor this property and the investment they have made in their land and homes and the negative effect it will have. Please slow this process down and construct a plan for this growth. Immediate decisions will directly affect those living here in years to come.

Ronda Poliska  
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