

December 16, 2024

Zoning Board of Appeals
Town of Washington
10 Reservoir Dr.
Millbrook, New York 12545

RE: Arcadia Field's Solar Development – Public Comment

Dear Board Members:

I am a resident of the Town of Washington, and my property is adjacent to Arcadia Fields. I recently received public notice that there is a pending matter before you regarding solar panels which were placed on Arcadia's property known as parcel #727971-0000.

I wanted to express my objection to the installation of the solar panels by Arcadia, and request that the Board reject the building permit that was issued for this solar development for several important reasons. The installation is in direct conflict with the Town's mission to protect the integrity of the natural environment of the area. The installation can easily be seen off of Route 82 resulting in long lasting nonaesthetic visual impacts to the Town and to adjacent residents such as me. With that being said, it is my understanding that the Town's solar law requires that the solar panels be completely screened. However, given the location of the solar panels, the topography of the land, and the destruction of existing vegetation along Route 82, these solar panels cannot be 100% screened from the roadway or from adjacent residents. Nor is there any guarantee to adjoining neighbors that such screening will be completely and adequately maintained by the current owner of Arcadia or any future owner. Arcadia is a large-scale commercial property. The solar panels must be relocated elsewhere on its property so that the impacts to all adjacent neighbors be eliminated permanently.

Thank you,

Gayle Bontecou