

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AT PUBLIC HEARING | JUNE 20, 2019
PETITION OF OTTER CREEK SOLAR (WARNER SOLAR PROJECT)
PUC Case No. 19-0516-PET

At the public hearing held on June 20, 2019 in Bennington Vermont, several members of the public raised the following issues:

1. Potential impact on local businesses as a result of the views of the proposed project.
2. The proposed project does not qualify as “preferred site” under the Town Plan.
3. Removal of trees for the project will result in less carbon capture.
4. Birds that populate the area will be adversely affected by removal of the trees.
5. Noise from construction will adversely impact nearby businesses that rely on tourist business.
6. The use of sheep to control grass on the site may create adverse noise.
7. Will there be an adequate recourse if the project owner fails to meet permit conditions?
8. Concerns were raised about the possibility that persons who oppose the project may be sued by the project developers.
9. Consideration should be given to the words of the Town Plan and not just to the statements made by Town officials.
10. The project may have an adverse effect on the value of adjacent properties.
11. The existence of many solar projects in Bennington needs to be considered and not just this one project in assessing the visual and grand list impacts.
12. Will the actual appearance of the project be able to be accurately depicted by simulations including views from both nearby and distant locations?

Anthony Roisman
Hearing Officer