

Since passage of the Solar Energy Law, there have been changes in solar energy technology and use, and State legislation was passed relating to the regulation of solar energy projects. The local law would enact a moratorium for six (6) months from the effective date of the local law for approval or consideration by the Planning Board of large-scale solar systems in the Town of East Greenbush under the 2017 local law while the Town considers a thorough review of the issues.

A copy of the local law may be inspected at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours. A copy of the proposed local law is also available on the Town's website at: Proposed Local Law 10-2021 - Solar Moratorium

Written comments may be submitted to the Town Board by email to epangburn@eastgreenbush.org or by mail to the Town Board, Town of East Greenbush, 225 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, New York 12144 at any time prior to the hearing.

By order of the East Greenbush Town Board
Ellen Pangburn, Town Clerk

Open Public Privilege:

Michael Doud, who represents the proposed solar project on 1266 Best Road, introduced himself and officially wanted to offer his services. He discussed further community solar and all subjects involved.

Residents presented their comments to the Town Board.
*Please see attachments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was duly moved by Supervisor Conway and seconded by Councilor Tierney and brought to a vote resulting as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Pangburn
East Greenbush Town Clerk

Email submission: Hi, below are my comments for the Public Hearing.

I'm not sure what "issues" require a "thorough review" but I do support green energy and do think it's something we should be investing more into — I personally would love to see a solar farm where the casino was going to go.

With that said, my only concern about this moratorium is how it would impact the investor's incentives. We got solar put on our house this summer and besides all the benefits of harvesting natural energy to power our house, the current NYS rebates & tax credits were a huge push to do it now versus down the road. From what I understand, these financial incentives have slowly gotten worse and will soon be nonexistent.

I would hate to see this moratorium prevent a POSITIVE resource go into our community while these financial incentives are still around, albeit quickly fading. It's safe to assume that once there is no more financial incentive, the demand to install solar will decline. NYS currently has one of, if not the best, financial incentives for solar — I know that it helped to "offset" about 50% of our total cost. It's a costly investment, and an investment that takes about 10 years to see a return on, so the currently offered rebates/tax credits do help soften the blow.

I'm hoping that the meaning of Section 5 of Local Law No. 10-2021 covers this kind of concern.

As my husband always tells me, "don't let perfection get in the way of progress".

Thanks, Lillian Kramer

TOWN OF EAST GREENBUSH

RE: TO LOCAL LAW NO. 10-2021

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMENT ON LOCAL LAW NO. 10-2021
FROM TOWN RESIDENT AND LANDOWNER
WESLEY D. PETRONE, 1264 BEST RD. EAST GREENBUSH.

I AM A LIFE LONG RESIDENT OF RENSSELAER COUNTY AND LIVED IN THE CITY OF RENSSELAER, TOWN OF SCHODACK, TOWN OF NASSAU AND NOW IN EAST GREENBUSH.

I AM AWARE THAT THERE ARE MANY ISSUES AND FACETS THAT ARISE WHEN THERE ARE PROPOSALS TO ALTER TOWN LAW, PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS. BEFORE MOVING TO EAST GREENBUSH I LIVED IN THE TOWN OF NASSAU FOR 16 YEARS. ON MY ROAD THERE WAS A PROPOSAL TO BUILD A NATURAL GAS COMPRESSOR STATION THAT DID NOT FIT INTO A RURAL AREA AT ALL. I WAS ON THE TOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE BEFORE THIS PROJECT WAS PROPOSED AND WE NEVER GAVE ANY THOUGHT TO SUCH A LARGE SCALE PROJECT. MY POINT IS WITH LARGE SCALE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THERE ARE LOCATIONS THAT WORK, DON'T WORK, POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE BECAUSE OF MANY FACTORS. FACTORS I AM SURE MOST OF US IN THIS ROOM KNOW WHAT THEY ARE AND NEED TO BE ASSESSED FOR EACH PROJECT.

IN KEEPING WITH THAT THOUGHT I HOPE THE BOARDS CONSIDER THAT EACH PROJECT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED ON ITS OWN MERITS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LANDOWNER AND THE COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.