

Please Say No to the Site Plan Approvals and Special Permit Extensions for Borrego in Wareham

WAREHAM TOWN CLERK
2023 MAR 27 PM4:01

Judith Grassi <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Thu 3/23/2023 10:22 PM

To: Jonathan Dickinson <JDickinson@wareham.ma.us>;

Wareham Assistant Town Planner Jonathan Dickinson,

Dear Wareham Planning Board,

Please say NO to the request of AD Makepeace and Borrego Solar-New Leaf to extend the Town's 2020 permits for the 105 acres of solar on forested land at 27 Charge Pond Road and 150 Tihonet Road in Wareham.

Since these projects were initially permitted in 2020 much has changed: the projects are stalled by a lack of transmission line capacity, the state is doing a new solar siting study that will likely reduce or eliminate subsidies for solar that cuts down rare forests like the Pine Barrens and Pine Barrens forests are being lost at an alarming rate by AD Makepeace's unregulated sand and gravel mining throughout the region.

These projects are two of the complex of 12 existing and proposed industrial scale solar projects by Makepeace and Borrego since 2014. Since then over 500 acres of Pine Barrens forest ecosystems and Indigenous cultural sites have been stripped and destroyed.

The three proposed Wareham projects are numbers 10, 11 and 12 that AD Makepeace has done in the 6,500 acres it owns and calls the "Tihonet Mixed Use Development" (TMUD) the TMUD area in Wareham, Carver and Plymouth. Makepeace promised the public this land would be "sustainably" developed, conserved, and Indigenous cultural sites would be protected. Massachusetts Historical Commission recognized the studies that designated the entire area as "archaeologically significant" to the Indigenous Wampanoag people. Makepeace has already destroyed many Indigenous cultural areas. Instead of protecting this land and building according to the TMUD, Makepeace did a bait and switch to sand and gravel mining and solar.

Please deny the extensions to protect:

- Indigenous cultural sites

- Globally Atlantic Pine Barrens ecosystems

Prevent the extinction of 220 species of plants and animals listed under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act

- The Plymouth Carver Sole Source Aquifer that serves Wareham and seven other towns
As the only drinking water supply.

- Wetlands and waterways, including the Wankinko River, Tihonet Pond and vernal pools
- Since the two proposed solar projects were first permitted by Wareham in 2020, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has increased protection for Northern Long Eared Bat from Threatened to Endangered meaning it is more critically in danger of extinction.
- The Wankinko River fish run including habitat for endangered river herring
- The project site for 150 Tihonet Road is mapped within the Priority Habitat zone for the NORTHERN LONG EARED BAT.

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Petitioners

1. Melanie Roderick
2. Kathleen Melker
3. Peter Crawley
4. Devlin Selman
5. Janet Sinclair
6. Craig Simpson
7. Priscilla Lynch
8. Megan Martins
9. J. Michael Gilbreath
10. Lynn Waldron
11. Jeffrey aka Cloudy Holman
12. Betty Krikorian
13. Melissa Brown
14. Laurel Facey
15. Marilyn Ray Smith
16. Dorothea Melnicoff
17. Rachel Atkins
18. C.J. Bishop
19. Eric Lintala
20. Nohham Cachat-Schilling
21. Rosemary A Seifert-Graf
22. Janet Pixley
23. Audrey Schulman
24. Pat Irwin
25. Robin Bergman
26. Dan Ferrini
27. Donna Ferrini
28. Kenneth Lederman
29. Amy Meltzer
30. Josephine Beadling
31. Michael Kellett
32. Darcy Sweeney
33. Enviro Show
34. Jodi Rodar
35. Rosemary Kean
36. Dee Boyle-Clapp
37. Thomas Desellier
38. Peggy Matthews-Nilsen
39. Janet Powers
40. Brittany Gravely
41. Dev Singer
42. Christopher Spears
43. Glenya Moakley
44. Leslie Cerier
45. Lynne Pledger
46. Dale LaBonte
47. Will Bandler
48. Judith Grassi
49. Jeannie Lennon
50. Cynthia Parker
51. Bill Larkin
52. Patricia Volk
53. Gloria Kegeles
54. Nancy McHale
55. Joyce Eichacker
56. Kathleen Pappalardo
57. Lauren Labbe
58. Rema Loeb
59. A. Flint
60. Dana Phillips
61. Seth Wilpan
62. Joanna Kent
63. Marian MacCurdy
64. Libby Shaw
65. Gia Neswald
66. Garrett Whitney
67. Fergus Marshall
68. Anna Callahan
69. Charles Freifeld
70. Brenda Eckstrom
71. D Hunter