

## MEMO

FROM: Joe Shanahan, Senior Project Developer, Con Edison Clean Energy Businesses

TO: Michael King, Chairman, Planning Board, Town of Wareham

SUBJECT: Proposed Solar Facility, 91 & 101 Fearing Hill Road

DATE: June 27, 2022

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At the Planning Board meeting on June 13, 2022, Wareham resident Eric Lintala made comments with regard to his concerns about the impact the subject solar project may have upon possible “cultural, historical and archaeological resources” at the project property known and numbered 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road. Mr. Lintala also submitted a letter to the Board reiterating those concerns.

In response, I reported to the Board, as I had done when Mr. Lintala first expressed these concerns at a meeting back on November 22, 2021, that there is absolutely NO evidence of any cultural, historical or archaeological resource at the project property. To the contrary, all of the credible evidence makes it clear that there are NO cultural, historical or archaeological resources at the project property.

I ask that the Board consider the attached letter from Atlantic which addresses the matter and should put it to rest once and for all.

If the Planning Board has any questions with regard to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.



June 29, 2022

Kenneth Buckland  
Director of Planning and Community Development  
Town of Wareham Planning Board  
54 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA 02571

**Re:    *Historic Location & Cultural Area Review Memo  
      Fearing Hill Road Solar Project, Wareham, MA***

Dear Mr. Buckland:

As part of project planning, Atlantic Design Engineers, Inc. (Atlantic), on behalf of Wareham MA 3, LLC (the 'Applicant'), has completed a multi-tiered review of available databases to screen for the potential existence of historic locations and cultural areas for the above-mentioned project location.

#### **Federally Listed Historic Locations and Cultural Areas of Significance**

The Cultural Resources Geographic Information Systems facility (CRGIS) provided by the National Park Service is an online GIS mapping tool that shows the location of over 87,000 properties listed in the United States National Register of Historic Places database.

Per CRGIS, the 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road properties and nearby abutters are not listed as registered Historic Places or as being within a Historical District. Additionally, the Site is not listed on the Pending List for the National Register of Historic Places as of June 17, 2022. The Pending List is a list of properties currently under review by the National Park Service to see if they meet the requirements to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Park Service also provides a data table containing all listed, eligible, pending, and removed properties within the National Register of Historic Places database. This table was last updated on June 17, 2022 and does not contain any listings for the 91 or 101 Fearing Hill Road subject site or abutting properties.

#### **Massachusetts Listed Historic Places and Cultural Areas of Significance**

The Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) is the online database for the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to research records and files on historical assets in the state of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) database consists of information from the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, National Register of Historic Places nomination forms, local historic district study reports, local landmark

reports, and other materials. The data contains any paper or digitized records on file at the MHC that have been compiled by or submitted to the MHC since its creation in 1963. The MHC inventory is updated daily and digitized into the MassGIS data layer. All resources submitted to the MHC are manually confirmed using aerial imagery from MassGIS, Google Satellite Hybrid imagery, historic maps, and United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quad maps.

The 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road subject properties and nearby abutters are not listed within the MACRIS as containing a historical house or other structure. A copy of the MACRIS database search is attached herein below. Additionally, per the MassGIS data layer of the MHC Inventory, the site at 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road was confirmed to not be within a MHC Historic Inventory Area.

### **Town Of Wareham Listed Historic Places and Cultural Areas of Significance**

The Town of Wareham Historic District Commission is the Town-appointed Commission responsible for protecting the integrity of the three (3) historic districts in Wareham. Per a review of the Town of Wareham Historic Commission website, the 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road subject parcels are not located within a Town-designated historic district. Additionally, per the Town of Wareham Zoning Map, the Site is not located within any historic overlay district. Additionally, the Town of Wareham Zoning Bylaws do not list Fearing Hill Road as a scenic road.

The Wareham Historical Commission also provides a Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) map showing properties of historical significance within the Town of Wareham. As of the last update dated September 25, 2015, the 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road subject parcels are not located within any historical area on the PAL map. Additionally, a review of Wareham Historical Commission Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2015, through June 7, 2022, indicate no records of the 91 and 101 Fearing Hill Road subject parcels.

If you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me at (508) 888-9282.

Sincerely,

**ATLANTIC DESIGN ENGINEERS, INC.**



Richard J. Tabaczynski, P.E.  
Vice President

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*MACRIS HISTORIC RESULTS LISTING*

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# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## MACRIS



### **MACRIS Search Results**

Search Date: 6/15/2022  
Search Criteria: Town(s): Wareham; Street Name: fearing hill;

Inv. No.	Property Name	Street	Town	Year	Designations
WRH.909	Fearing Hill Road Bridge over Weweantic River	Fearing Hill Rd	Wareham	1919	
WRH.68	Vose, Orin C. House	11 Fearing Hill Rd	Wareham	C 1850	