

To the Wareham Planning Board, Conservation Commission,
Historic Commission.
From Eric Lintala

March 12, 2022

The following material is being submitted in support of the document that Save The Pine Barrens sent to the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission and the Historical Commission on November 7, 2021. Their document clearly states and shows credible evidence to warrant a historic and archeological survey under article 12, Performance Standards. To further give credence to the detailed information they sent, I have attached a letter dated February 11, 2022 from the Wareham Historical Commission, in which they voted at their Feb second meeting, unanimously supporting their opposition to building this solar project on Fearing Hill road. I also am providing a small portion of another detailed document from the "Massachusetts Historical Commission, Historic & Archaeological Resources of Southeastern Massachusetts, A Framework For Preservation Decisions". If you would look carefully at the third page "Contact Period Native Trails", Map #3, Shows a detail of the major transportation routes in Southeastern Massachusetts. Two major routes go east to west and four go north to south. What is highlighted and circled involves the Fearing Hill site the native trail corridor and the north directional trails that branch off from it....The fourth page shows a detail and present day road map of the Wareham area. Note the highlighted Native Trail and the area circled which includes the Weweantic Conservation area and the proposed area of the solar field just to its left....Page five shows both the contact period native trails map and an overall map view of the east west native trail corridor which includes Fearing Hill Road which is circled. Also note here the east west road of Rt 6 which is much further south of this trail and the east west Rt 195 which did not exist long ago. I will read a few important passages from the Massachusetts Historical Commission Document...

" part C. Transportation Corridors

During the contact period, native travel relied on an extensive overland trail system as well as water transportation."

" Most important within the overland network were a series of inter-regional trails which connected southeast Massachusetts with settlement and resource areas north, west and south of the study unit. There were six primary corridors along which these trails ran. Four of these were north-south oriented, the other two east-west. See map 3."

" 2. The second of the north-south trails went south from the Blue Hills through Abington and the Bridgewaters, forded the Taunton River at Titicut and continued southeast through Middleborough (Nemasket) to WAREHAM." (This trail

interestingly ends on Fearing Hill Road)

“ 6. A second east-west trail ran closer to the Buzzards Bay Coast. From Cape Cod, it went west through WAREHAM and Rochester, crossed the Acushnet River and continued through Dartmouth and Fall River to the Taunton River estuary.” (This native trail IS Fearing Hill Road)

So it seems there is credible evidence to warrant a historic and archeological survey under article 12, Performance Standards.

Sincerely

Eric Lintala