

Town of Wareham Conservation Commission

54 Marion Road Wareham, MA 02571-1428

Phone: (508) 291-3100 x6505 Fax: (508) 291-3116

Email: dpichette@wareham.ma.us

David D. Pichette, Conservation Administrator Kelly Barrasso, Dept. Assistant

MEMO

TO:

Planning Board

FROM:

David D. Pichette, Conservation Administrator

DATE:

July 9, 2020

RE:

Borrego Solar - 140 Tihonet Road

The Conservation Commission is currently reviewing the Notice of Intent application submitted for the proposed solar array project at the above referenced site. The applicant is proposing to clear cut approximately 76 acres of mixed pine forest to accommodate this solar array project. This level of alteration is significant and will result in a large continuous block of wooded land being destroyed so that a commercial project can be constructed within a residentially zoned area, and within close proximity to Tihonet Pond. Clearing is proposed to within 30 feet of the edge of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at its closest point. There are also two isolated wetlands within the project site, one of which is identified as a Potential Vernal Pool. The perimeter of the project will be fenced in with chain link fence thereby cutting off this large area as a wildlife corridor. A review of the wetland boundaries depicted on the project plans has not yet been completed. The Commission will await the results of the Town Engineers peer review of the project prior to making a final decision on this proposal.

cc: Conservation Commission