



**Town of Wareham
Conservation Commission**

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

MEMO

TO: Planning Board

FROM: David D. Pichette, Conservation Administrator

DATE: August 6, 2020

RE: Borrego Solar - 27 Charge Pond Road

The Conservation Commission is currently in the process of reviewing a Notice of Intent application for the proposed installation of a large ground mounted solar array project at the above referenced location. The wetland boundaries shown on the site plan have been reviewed and there were several changes made to the wetland boundary delineations. The plan is in the process of being revised to reflect the changes made. The Commission continued its hearing on this project to its meeting on August 19th, 2020.

Wetland resource areas on this site are extensive and include several vernal pools. Clearcutting to the extent proposed could lead to a heat sink effect that could adversely impact the vernal pools and the surrounding habitat. During the review, it was also observed that there is a section of the site in the northwest corner, along the wetlands bordering Parker Mills Pond, where there are piles of debris, tires, construction waste, scrap metal, etc., that had been dumped at the site years ago when this property was apparently used as a dump site. The tires and debris are on the surface and mixed into the wetland. It is my recommendation that if a project is approved, a condition of approval should be that the pollution in this area be cleaned up and removed from the site. Please contact me with any further questions on this issue.

cc: Conservation Commission