Public Comment

Cape Cod Country Club Solar-25009-Falmouth

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via online form

Comment

As a resident who cares deeply about the character, ecology, and heritage of Cape Cod, I feel compelled to express my strong disapproval of the proposed solar farm at the Cape Cod Country Club.

Let me be clear: I am not against solar energy. In fact, I wholeheartedly support the transition to renewable energy and recognize the urgency of addressing climate change. However, this particular project — in this specific location — is a profound misstep. It represents a short-sighted, opportunistic use of land that undermines both our environmental principles and our community values.

The Cape Cod Country Club is more than just a golf course. It is an integral part of our local history, an established green space, and a subtle but vital component of our ecosystem. For decades, this landscape has served as an unofficial preserve — a quiet stretch of open space where native species thrive, groundwater is naturally filtered, and the land breathes. To convert this into an industrial-scale solar array is to strip away a living, breathing piece of Cape Cod.

Replacing open green space with miles of solar panels may look like progress on paper, but in practice, it trades one form of environmental integrity for another. It sacrifices biodiversity, increases runoff risks, and erases habitat — all in the name of sustainability. But true sustainability should not be achieved by destroying what is already sustainable. The irony is hard to ignore.

Furthermore, the visual and emotional impact of this transformation cannot be dismissed. The Cape Cod Country Club is a place of memories — for families, golfers, walkers, and nature lovers alike. It has long offered a quiet sanctuary amidst an increasingly crowded region. Its loss is not just environmental, but cultural. It sends a troubling message that no green space is safe from industrial repurposing, even in a community that claims to prioritize preservation.

There are better locations for solar development — rooftops, parking lots, underused commercial zones — spaces already altered and paved over. Why must we target one of the few remaining areas of natural and recreational value? Why must we disguise the erasure of open land as environmental stewardship?

We need renewable energy, yes. But we also need forests, wetlands, meadows, and community spaces. We need balance. We need discernment. And we need leaders and developers who understand that not every green project is automatically a good one.

Let us not mistake this solar project for progress. Let us call it what it is: a failure of imagination and responsibility. Cape Cod deserves better.

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