August 5, 2025

Cape Cod Commission
3225 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

Re: Project: Cape Cod Country Club Solar (CCC File No: 25009)
Project Applicant: ASD Cape Cod Holdings, LLC
Property Owner: Cape Cod Country Club, Inc.

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is written in support of the above-referenced project, currently under review by the Cape Cod Commission.

The Falmouth Pond Coalition is a 501c3 organization that seeks to protect and preserve Falmouth's freshwater ponds through organizing, partnership, and education. To achieve this mission, we provide educational resources to hundreds of residents through annual meetings, webinars, and monthly newsletters. We help to build new pond associations and collaborate with other pond coalitions throughout the Cape. Last year we successfully advocated for the Falmouth Select Board to create the Freshwater Ponds Advisory Committee, which recommends effective policies and strategies to the town government for protecting freshwater ponds

The Falmouth Pond Coalition supports the proposed plan to convert much of the land used by the Cape Cod Country Club to a new solar array. The plan aligns with our mission to protect and preserve Falmouth's freshwater ponds. Many of our ponds are degraded or are at risk of becoming degraded due to unsustainable land use.

Like all freshwater ponds on the Cape, Coonamessett Pond is threatened by overdevelopment. And because this pond is a source of drinking water for Falmouth, there is a critical need to protect the land surrounding the pond from alternative development that could increase the load of nitrogen and phosphorus released into the aquifer.

There are several benefits of building the solar array for the wellbeing of Coonamessett Pond and the community.

1. Replacing the golf course with a solar array would significantly reduce the nitrogen load from the current 2.9 mg per liter of (which is above the 1 mg per liter maximum that's required in potential public water supply areas) to 0.05 mg per liter.

2. The development plan includes key features to improve the natural habitat of the site, including replacement of trees removed during construction, seeding of exposed fields with native pollinator plants, and restoration of an existing vernal pond on site.
3. PureSky has committed to ensuring Coonamessett Pond water quality is monitored by funding a regular water testing program and has demonstrated a willingness to make the site accessible for the public to enjoy via new trails and public access to popular sledding areas.
4. Our region needs additional renewable power generation to keep up with the demand for clean energy to meet sustainability goals. Federal tax incentives for commercial solar development will expire within the next year, therefore, this may be one of the last solar arrays built in our area until new federal legislation is passed restoring the growth of clean sources of energy.

In summary, we urge the Commission to expeditiously approve the development of the proposed solar array for the health of the pond, for the good of the community, and for the sake of supporting clean energy.

Respectfully, Pond Coalition Board of Directors

Joyce Bock
Kim Comart
Ken Jones
Mark Kurz
Maggie Megaw
Anya Suslova