

Vern Tepe,

We are residents of West Highland Acres Subdivision in Elgin Township. Our address is 12N268 Jackson Drive, Elgin. We live next to the proposed commercial solar facility. We are in opposition to petition #4661.

Factors

- A. Our home and subdivision is going to be acutely flanked with 2 commercial solar fields. TNT Howard, LLC (petition #4661) to the south of our home (26 acres) & another Sunvest CSG Wilson School Solar, LLC to the Northwest behind our property in which we just found out about it on July 7, 2025. This subdivision is zoned for Rural Residential and the residents are worried about our safety & health and general wellbeing. The proposed solar facility is 150 feet from West Highland Acres subdivision and Almora Heights Subdivision. Solar fires can occur and can spread to our homes quickly. There was a solar field fire in Lily Lake 7/2021' incident #22000993. Commercial Solar Facility should not be placed on land that already zoned for Agriculture (A-1) in a rural area (RA). They are also too close to our homes at 150'ft. It should be way further away 300'ft or more. Two Pictures attached for Sunvest CSG Wilson School Solar, LLC & a google map of our home in between two solar fields.
- B. In November of 2024' on this proposed site, Tim Meyers had an unsupervised & uncontrolled fire. He was lucky the wind was not going towards the residential homes. Pictures attached. Fire Department was called.
Tim Meyers owns a tree that was damaged by a storm and a big limb fell in our yard. On 4/1/2023 we sent him pictures and text messages, and he never responded. He never cut the branch down or removed it from our property. Heck, the tree is almost dead with a hole in the middle of it and he still didn't remove the tree. He certainly cleared his land that he wants solar panels. Still doesn't take care of his property. Reckless abandonment. If solar panels do break or poison our well water due to lead and cadmium which is harmful to humans. Please vote NO on this zoning for special use. Two Pictures attached unsupervised fire. Two pictures of his tree branch in our yard.
- C. The proposed Solar field is injurious to us and diminishes our property values. Kane County needs to do an impact study on our property values based on multiple solar farms surrounding our subdivision. The sale ability of our homes will be affected. Undermining of local residents' property values. As of 7-14-25 we have 43 homes in the surrounding area of the field that have signed opposition to this petition #4661. Please protect your residents from this solar farm. Needs a different location.

D. All the Trees & shrubs for screening that TNT Howard, LLC are proposing are toxic to animals. As described in 4661-18

Fat Albert Spruce – toxic – breaks down to cyanide

Common Lilac – toxic to rabbits, sheep and dogs

Limelight Hydrangea – Toxic Cyanide

Prairifire Crabapple – toxic – Cyanide poisoning

Limelight Hydrangea – Toxic

Using these plants will have a negative impact on the wild life.

Obviously, he didn't hire an ecologist management consultant in which the letter from Illinois Department of Natural Resources told him to do on 6-24-24 (4661-20). See the letter submitted by Tim Meyers.

E. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.) prohibits the take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, transport, or export of bald and golden eagles, including disturbance of individuals, nests, or eggs. Based on a site-specific field assessment and the results of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool (EcoCAT), no suitable nesting habitat for bald or golden eagles was identified within the Project Area. Additionally, no eagle nests are documented within or immediately adjacent to the site per TNT Howard, LLC(4661-23). They chopped all the trees down last year. Resident (Brandon LaPortta) has spotted a golden eagle or a juvenile bald eagle. They live right next to proposed Commercial Solar Facility on Jackson Drive.

F. Fencing – Illinois Department of Natural Resources told TNT Howard that the fence should be 6" above ground for animals to escape. Restrict movement of wildlife in the area. (4661-20). The fencing picture in 4661-18 shows a fence all the way to the ground.

G. An incomplete Zoning application was turned into Kane County on 5/16/25.

Never put Proposed zoning district. Also TNT Howard, LLC was supposed to send a letter to all property owners within 250' of the property lines of the parcel. I have confirmed that he never sent one to my next-door neighbor (James & Kira Absolon, 12n290 Jackson Drive, Elgin) They are located less than 250' from the property line.

This zoning was kept on the down low. This letter from TNT Howard was supposed to be mailed out on the day the zoning application was submitted to the county. They dated the letter 5-16-25 but it wasn't received until 5-28-2025. We weren't given the proper notice. This should be done correctly.

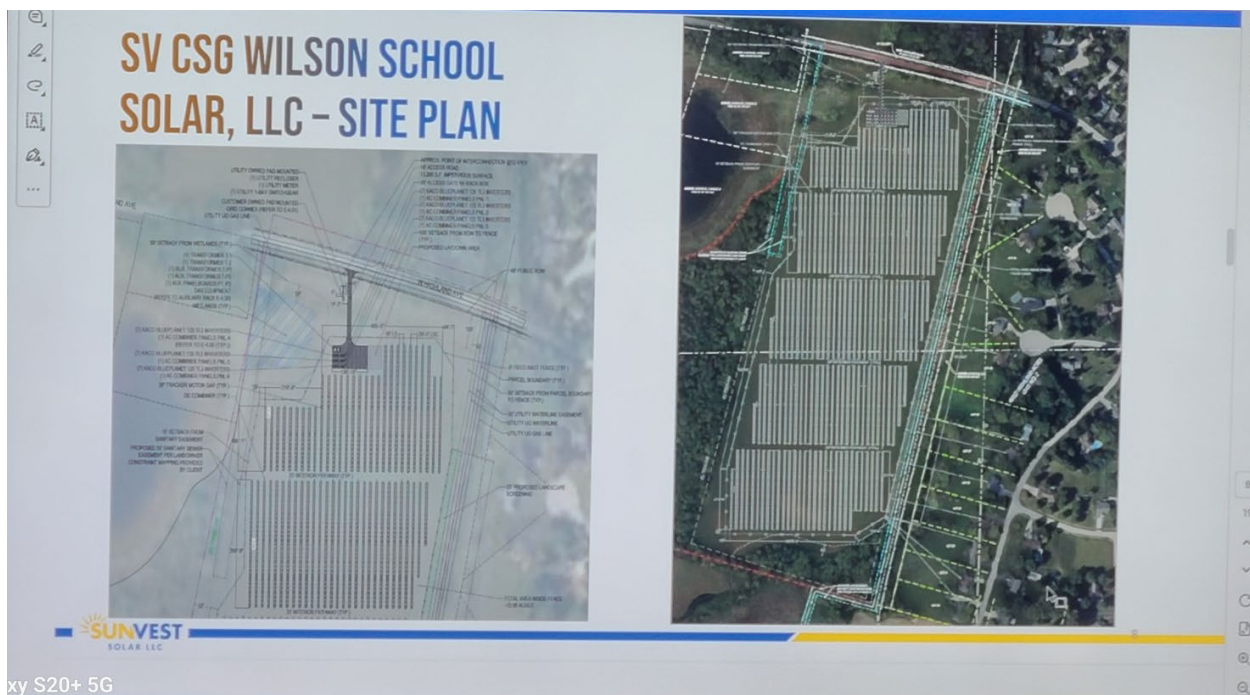
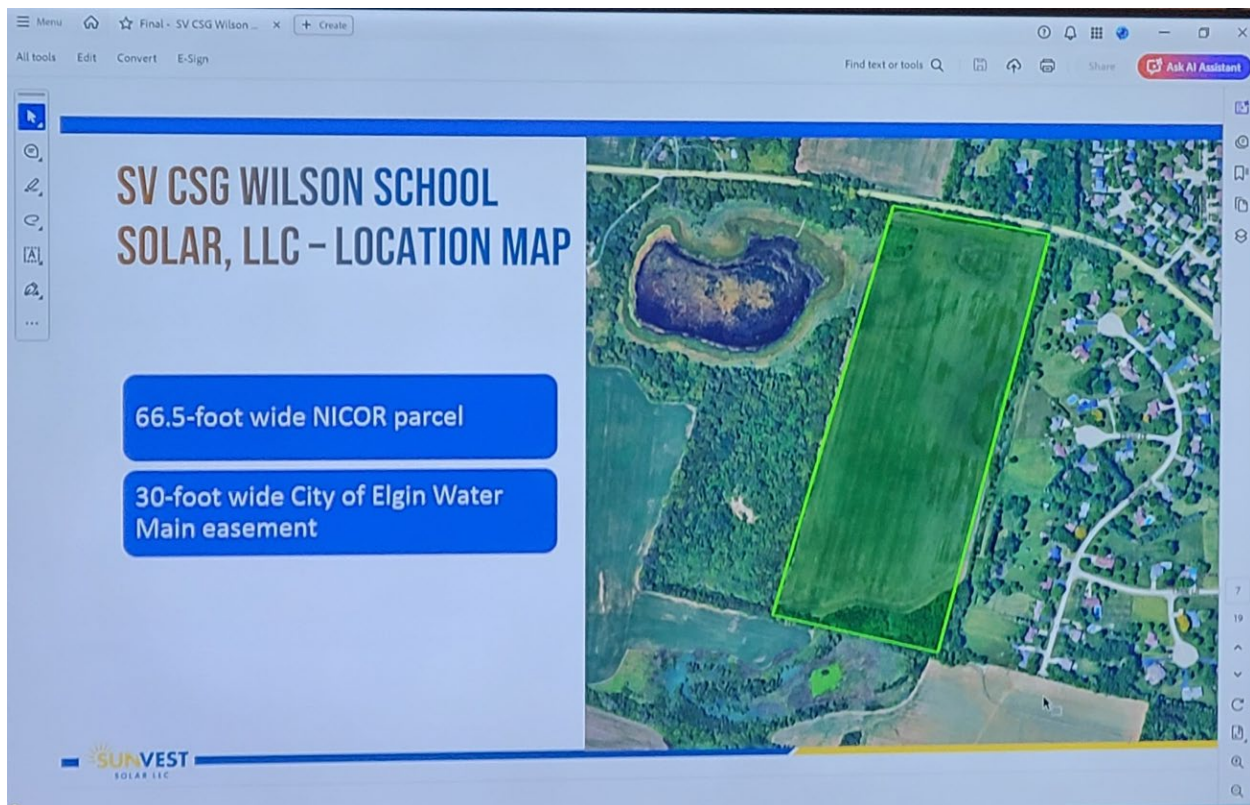
- H. Tornado striking a Commercial solar farm next to residential homes is so devastating and scary. Broken glass & wires and metal hitting our homes or us. Since 1954 there have been 81 Tornados in Kane County, IL. Four tornados hit Kane County last year alone(2024').
- I. Decommissioning , the reality is that this rural land will be lost forever. Construction of and ecological wasteland. Grading, pile driving, electric cable trenching and removal of the trees compacting the soil. A soil that was once used for food Corn & Soybeans. Leave the wasteland for our grandchild. Not good!
- J. Solar developers & owners usually sell their interest in their solar plant after 2-3 years of operation. This means that they will be long gone by the time that decommissioning come around. LLC's can walk away from the solar plant whenever they want. Then Kane County tax payers will be footing the bill for the cleanup. Please note on the Comstock Metals decommissioning plan TNT Howard, LLC didn't even sign it. Ref. 4661-08

Thank you for your time & please Vote No to petition #4661.

Bruce & Sharon Wright & 43 other home owners in West Highland Acres & Almora Heights
12n268 Jackson Dr
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Google Maps

