BLENHEIM VINEYARDS

Albemarle County
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

November 16, 2022

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to voice our support for the proposed Woodridge Solar project in southeast Albemarle. Blenheim was established in 2001 and is dedicated to sustainability. As a longstanding local institution, we firmly agree with the county's Climate Action Plan that incentivizing utility-scale solar is key to the climate battle. We have some skin in the game here, as the Woodridge project is within Blenheim Winery's viewshed, though it will be several miles away and screened by existing vegetation.

We encourage the county to look at some of the best practices for dual-use with solar projects that preserve the land under and around the panels while still allowing for efficient solar production. This will be a long-term project that impacts the county for decades to come and we hope to see it both developed and built in the most environmentally responsible way possible. Based on the plans in place for the project, we believe that the project developer is implementing these best management practices and ask that the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors act quickly to approve Woodridge Solar.

Sincerely,

Aaron Van Duyne
~~Business Manager~~ Vice President Blenheim Vineyards

Blenheim Vineyards
31 Blenheim Farm, Charlottesville VA 22902
434-293-5366
www.blenheimvineyards.com

From: Kyle Lewis <krl3b@virginia.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 1:40 PM
To: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@albemarle.org>; Board of Supervisors members <bos@albemarle.org>; Scott Clark <Sclark@albemarle.org>; Bill Fritz <BFRITZ@albemarle.org>
Subject: Support for the Woodridge Solar Project

CAUTION: This message originated outside the County of Albemarle email system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors & Albemarle Co. Planning Commission,

My name is Kyle Lewis, and I am a local long-time resident and taxpayer of both Charlottesville and the surrounding Albemarle county. I am writing to voice my support for the Woodridge Solar project proposed here in Albemarle, and I ask for your support towards this project.

I have long been a proponent of renewable resources and their expanded use in our local power grid. My wife and I were proud to install solar on our home in Charlottesville, and we plan on doing the same once we finish our build in Albemarle. It is a wonderful way to add power to the grid without burning carbon alternatives, which we will all need to do as much as possible to commit to America's greenhouse gas reduction and Earth's future in general.

Additionally, my family and I are proud apiarists and have seen the good that these projects do for our local bee populations. Replacing a crop that needs pesticides, a disused hayfield, or (in this case) a timber farm will provide more of the natural flower and grass cover that these insects require.

Ultimately, I urge you to support this project and others like it. Having utility-scale solar fields in place is the cheapest and fastest way for our society to benefit from clean, renewable generation of the energy that we continue to depend on. I strongly support Woodridge Solar and hope this email helps you to do the same.

Best regards,

Kyle Lewis

Th. Jefferson
MONTICELLO

LIZ RUSSELL
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING + SUSTAINABILITY

May 20, 2022

Scott Clark
Senior Planner II, Albemarle County
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Dear Mr. Clark:

On April 28, 2022, Hexagon Energy approached the Thomas Jefferson Foundation regarding a solar facility in the southeastern portion of Albemarle County. A small corner of one of the parcels under review is within the Monticello viewshed. In subsequent conversation with Scott Remer, the Director of Development for Hexagon, I learned more about the project and reviewed a visual of the proposed solar panels and an overlay of the Monticello viewshed. I appreciate that the developer has eliminated most of the proposed panels from the portion of the parcel that lies within the Monticello viewshed. Therefore, I believe the project will have no negative impact to the views from Monticello.

The Foundation appreciates the opportunity to work with the development community and the County on projects that could affect the historic, cultural, and economic values of Monticello. On behalf of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, I thank Hexagon Energy for their conscious efforts to be a good neighbor to Monticello.

I hope this letter will assist County staff in their review and am available for further discussion if necessary.

Best regards,

Liz Russell
Director of Planning and Sustainability

CC: Scott Remer, Director of Development, Hexagon Energy
Megan Nedostup, Williams Mullen



THOMAS JEFFERSON FOUNDATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 316 · CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902 · PHONE 434.984.7589 · lrussell@monticello.org

-----Original Message-----
From: Patricia Maida <sal1948@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 4, 2022 11:33 AM
To: Bill Fritz <BFRITZ@albemarle.org>
Subject: Woodridge Solar

CAUTION: This message originated outside the County of Albemarle email system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.

Thank you for your response to my previous questions. Yes, if you could forward the previous email to the Planning Commission along with these additional questions that you were unable to answer.

1. Will there be any additional use of herbicides in preparation for these solar panels? There was apparently an extreme amount used next to my home that caused a lot of damage. There was previously use of herbicides directly across the street that has allowed pines to grow back, not the case on the side of my home.

2. With the excess tax revenue Albemarle County will receive, will they put a new fire station to protect residents from possible fire from the photovoltaic panels, inverters and transformers? There have been previous fires with solar panels that caused a lot of damage. This rural community needs adequate protection from fire.

3. Radiation. How much radiation will these panels, inverters and transformers emit? Especially, this new electrical substation.

4. Where are these solar panels and equipment coming from? Knowing the quality of Chinese made products, do we want to cover Albemarle's agricultural and historical areas with any products from China?

5. Most importantly, the maintenance and disposal of this equipment, who will maintain it and for how long? Any literature regarding solar panels, maintains life expectancy is 20 years not 35. There is only insurance on the equipment for 15 years. With inflation the way it is, how could anyone calculate the cost in 35 years for removal? Will this area become an industrial dump?

We are looking forward to the Albemarle County Planning Commission meeting on December 13, and hopefully these and other questions can be answered.

Respectfully,

Patricia Maida

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Respectfully,

Patricia Maida

Community Development Department
Albemarle County
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Dear Albemarle County,

The Woodridge Sportsmen's Association has been hunting the Woodridge property owned by JD Landholdings for decades through a lease agreement. Many of our members live adjacent to or near the site, and we visit it regularly. We are very concerned about preserving our ability to hunt the site and to conserve the rural character of the area which is our home. We have been concerned about what would happen to this parcel for years, whether it would be developed for housing or some other use that would make it unusable to us.

We first heard about the proposed Woodridge solar project in the spring of this year from the landowners and from Scott Remer at Hexagon. We understand that the project proposes to fence approximately 650 acres of the property and that solar panels will be set inside of these fences. The panels and fenced areas will be broken up into several smaller areas, meaning that wildlife can still pass through the site, and wetland forest areas will be protected.

We have spoken with the landowners and Hexagon several times and have come to an agreement that will allow us to retain access to our clubhouse and continue hunting the property throughout the life of the project. The whole property is over 2,300 acres and only 650 acres will be fenced, meaning that we will still have access to the great majority of it. The solar panels will not change the nature of our neighborhood or community, either, since they will just sit quietly and will not increase noise or traffic in our area.

Based on these considerations, the Woodridge Sportsmen's Association strongly endorses the Woodridge Solar project and asks that the decision makers of the county approve the project's Special Use Permit. Hexagon has worked hard to make sure this project minimizes any negative impact to us—the neighbors—and maximizes its benefit to the local environment. Thank you for your consideration.

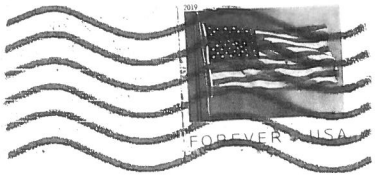
Sincerely,

Wallace Spradlin

Wallace Spradlin
President
Woodridge Sportsmen's Association

Woodridge Sportsmen's Association
5683 Jefferson Mill Road
Scottsville, VA 24590

GREENSBORO NC 270
PIEDMONT TRIAD AREA
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COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Department
Albemarle County
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902

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