

To increase public awareness...

A solar farm, the Ancram PV, LLC Solar Project, of approximately 10 acres, is being planned just off of Rt 82 adjacent to the over 250 year old family owned Millerhurst Farm. This industrial addition to our rural farm landscape will forever change the character of our town.

Plans for the array have been percolating with the Town Planning Board for nearly 11 months, during which time the developer, RIC Energy, has been moving forward with studies, permits, etc. The proposed array - with panels that can tilt reaching a height of 12 feet, a tremendous concern for closest neighbors, visibly detracts from the natural beauty of the rolling landscape, and changes the historic character of the site. Even though it won't be entirely visible from Rt 82, it is not clear what will stop future expansion or more solar farm installations that could very well take away from the bucolic landscape of our town. As an example, note the controversial Shepherd's Run solar farm project proposed in nearby Copake.

The public is being told that the town will see increased tax revenue from this project when in fact a Real Property Law 487 will exempt them from taxes for 15 years. The Town Board has the option to change this.

The Planning Board held a public hearing to discuss the project on 4/3, and after the company presentation, several residents expressed their concerns about the development and site selection. A planned walk through of the site, which was open to the public, was scheduled for 4/5, but was canceled. The next meeting will be held on 5/1 at 7pm. If you are concerned about this development, please plan to attend. If you want to sign a petition in opposition to the array, one is available at the Millerhurst Farm barn, The Farmers Wife, Ancram Little Store, and at Fulton Forbes. Letters can also be sent to the Planning Board and Town Board with your concerns.