

WADMALAW ISLAND LAND PLANNING COMMITTEE
WADMALAW ISLAND, SC

December 12th, 2020

Duke Energy Renewables, Inc
550 S Tryon St
Charlotte, NC, 28202-4200

RE: WILPC unanimous opposition to proposed solar farm on Wadmalaw Island

Mr. Graham Furlong:

This letter serves to notify Duke Energy Renewables of the Wadmalaw Island Land Planning Committee's (WILPC) strong and unanimous opposition to the proposed 375-acre 50-megawatt solar site to be located on 3 contiguous parcels (TMS 199-000-00-108, 199-00-00-109, & 199-00-00-110).

The WILPC is an 18-member committee formed at the request of Charleston County Council, to study land-use, zoning, growth, and development issues on Wadmalaw Island. Our founding members developed the Wadmalaw Plan, which was adopted by County and incorporated into Charleston County's Comprehensive Plan. Our Mission is:

"To preserve and maintain the unique and cherished character of Wadmalaw Island by encouraging only the most appropriate and sustainable land use and development and opposing unplanned and inappropriate use and development. To endeavor to represent the varied interests on the Island while protecting its diverse cultures and natural beauty for future generations."

At our monthly meeting on November 9, 2020, committee members met to discuss the project. Committee members reviewed the proposed project information to include meeting notes from the previous discussions with Duke Energy Renewables, information obtained from the Charleston County Planning Department, and the Leasing Agreement between Duke Energy Renewables and Adjacent Tract LLC. At the conclusion of review, the WILPC voted unanimously to oppose the project.

The WILPC assessed the proposed project within the framework of the special exception approval criteria outlined in the Charleston County ZLDR. In our view, such an industrial project is not consistent with important elements of that criteria, is not in keeping with the guidelines set forth in the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan, and is not compatible with the character of the types of land uses that are allowed in the AG-15 district. Furthermore, we believe that it will adversely impact the general welfare and character of the immediate community.

On November 10, 2020, the WILPC held another meeting to discuss the solar project with island residents. The vast majority of the community present were opposed to the project. The WILPC will continue to inform and involve the community throughout the process.

We intend to submit detailed opposition letters and provide representation at any future meetings, in response to a formal site plan review, should one be submitted, any County BZA meetings or other county proceedings, any potential state and/or federal permitting milestones, and at any other public meetings or hearings related to the proposed project.

We respectfully ask Duke Energy to reevaluate the location of the proposed project to locations off of Wadmalaw Island, which are more suitable for industrial operations of this type.

Respectfully,

Burrow Hill

BURROW HILL

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WADMALAW ISLAND LAND PLANNING
COMMITTEE