

From: [Michael Behrendt](#)
Subject: Solar arrays - agricultural issues
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 2:06:52 PM

To the Planning Board,
Please see the email chain below.

Michael Behrendt

Durham Town Planner
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From: theresawalker@comcast.net
[mailto:theresawalker@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Michael Behrendt; 'Carroll, John'
Subject: FW: Solar arrays - agricultural issues

My comment last fall still applies, below. Thanks, Theresa

From: Theresa Walker <theresawalker@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2017 8:40 AM
To: 'Michael Behrendt' <mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us>; 'Carroll, John' <John.Carroll@unh.edu>
Cc: 'external forward for cforcey' <cforcey@me.com>; 'Barbara Dill (barbaradill@gmail.com)' <barbaradill@gmail.com>; 'Audrey Cline' <acline@ci.durham.nh.us>
Subject: RE: Solar arrays - agricultural issues

Hi everyone - John's suggestions are very helpful. We should also keep in mind the underground power lines leading to and from the arrays which would preventing tilling of soil in these areas. Thanks, Theresa

From: Carroll, John [<mailto:John.Carroll@unh.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 1:38 PM
To: Michael Behrendt; Theresa Walker (theresawalker@comcast.net)
Cc: external forward for cforcey; Barbara Dill (barbaradill@gmail.com); Audrey Cline
Subject: Re: Solar arrays - agricultural issues

Small ruminants (sheep and goats) can graze under solar arrays. So solar arrays and that form of animal agriculture can coexist. (Less likely cattle, although Dexters, which are small, and other small breeds, might work. I would not recommend pig grazing near or under the arrays, since they could destabilize the units.) This is done in numbers of places around the U.S. and elsewhere, for trackers as well as stable arrays. As for till agriculture, solar arrays should obviously avoid the better agricultural soils. We don't want to remove those good soils from the potential of food production. For legal purposes, we can use existing state agricultural soil definitions and put those into the zoning ordinance.

John

From: Michael Behrendt <mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us>
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 12:01 PM
To: Theresa Walker (theresawalker@comcast.net); Carroll, John
Cc: external forward for cforcey; Barbara Dill (barbaradill@gmail.com); Audrey Cline
Subject: Solar arrays - agricultural issues

Hello Theresa and John,
I am working with Charlie Forcey, Barbara Dill, and Audrey Cline to develop a draft ordinance for solar arrays. Certainly, farm properties could be candidates for installing a solar field of some type. Are there any particular agricultural issues that we should be aware of as we prepare his draft ordinance? Thank you.

Michael Behrendt

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