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**From:** Josh Whatley <whatley.joshua@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 1:44 PM  
**To:** Amanda F. Butler <abutler@calcasieuparish.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed zoning exception

I was informed to send this letter to you since Ms. Tammy Tonn is out currently. I was hoping to send the letter typed below to the members of the Planning and Zoning Board. It is a list of some of my concerns about the proposed zoning exception.

Dear Planning and Zoning Board,

I am writing to you in regards to the proposed zoning exception planned off of Highway 14. The proposed solar farm was an unexpected and largely unknown topic to myself that resulted in several questions, especially after doing a brief internet search. The information provided by Aurora Solar, both referenced at the Police Jury website as well as at the question/ answer session at K-Bon's, has helped to answer some of my questions. However, I still have several concerns about the proposal.

-Property value: I understand Aurora Solar has stated they are unaware of solar farms affecting property value. From my personal experience, I am not sure this would be applicable to our community. I recently purchased property in the vicinity of the proposed solar farm, no less than 3 months ago. Had I known a solar farm would be constructed close to it, I would not have purchased the property or have offered a much lower price. I know several other people close to my property who feel the same way. I'm concerned that if the solar farm was built to the extent that is proposed, myself and other property owners in this area will find it taking longer to sell their property or getting offers for far less mainly due to the solar farm.

-Precedent: In the proposal, Aurora Solar has listed several other exceptions for zoning that have occurred in the area. None are of the same size or scope as proposed for this solar farm. They have been much smaller in scale and without as much negative connotation as this proposal. I am concerned if this exception is made for a project this large that it may lead to other industrial projects of this size to develop in this area. My above-mentioned property is surrounded by a little less than 800 acres, all zoned A-1. I purposefully chose this location due to this, to allow me to use my property for residential/ agricultural purposes. I would be regretful to see these properties request zoning exceptions due to the precedent set by the solar farm.

-Safety: Under the current proposal, Aurora Solar would erect a little less than one million solar panels. They report these panels can withstand wind speeds up to 123 mph per the packet submitted to the Board. As I understand this, it would mean these panels would likely not be able to withstand windspeeds from a hurricane of category 3 strength or higher. My concern would be that these panels could become a significant source of added debris to the area to contend with in addition to personal property clean up after one of these natural disasters.

I understand that I am not privileged to all the details with a project of this nature, but do hope you would be mindful of these topics when considering this proposed zoning exception. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,  
Josh Whatley