

The Dorchester County Board of Appeals met in regular session on Thursday, December 13, 2012 in Room 110 of the County Office Building at 7:00 PM. Present were Ed Howard, Vice-Chairman, Dwight Cromwell, Wendell Foxwell, Catherine McCulley, Chairperson, Elizabeth Hill, Walt Gunby, Attorney, Steve Dodd, Director of Planning, with Merris Hurley recording.

An introduction was made by Chairperson McCulley, explaining the procedures of this meeting to the audience. She then asked Mr. Dodd to read the first case.

Case #2433 - Dennis and Mary Mabry, Owner  
Mabry Solar Farm 353411, LLC, Applicant

To request, as a special exception, a solar energy systems utility scale project. Property located at 5665 Hawkeye Road and contains 131.5 acres. AC, Agricultural Conservation Zoning District.

Mr. Chambati, Mr. Legg, and any other person who would be testifying in this case, were sworn in.

Mr. Dodd read the case and all pertinent information into the record.

Ralph Chambati, Infinergy Wind and Solar, 13346 Burricks Road, Fairfax, Virginia, explained to the Board that he would rely on his written responses to the criteria. He also informed the Board that the installation of the panels would take up approximately four (4) acres of the 131 acre farm. There would be no tree removal. The panels are warranted for 25 years but can last up to 30 years. These panels will generate 1.2 megawatts, and will go to the Mabry home and then onto the grid. Local labor will be used for the installation and after there is minimal maintenance. There is minimal noise when panels start up, but that wouldn't even be heard at the Mabry's house. There is a stand of trees that block the view from Hawkeye Road.

Mr. Dodd read agency comments into the record. The Department of Public Works had no objection. The Health Department had no objection. The Planning Commission had no problem with the request.

George Legg, 5801 Green Point Road, East New Market, Maryland, is an adjoining property and is in favor of this request. No one was opposed.

Ms. McCulley announced the end of testimony and the Board began their deliberations.

At this time, each Board member explained his decisions regarding the criteria.

After all testimony, Ms. McCulley called for a motion regarding this case. Ms. Hill made a motion "to approve this request." Seconded by Mr. Foxwell and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Howard to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Cromwell and unanimously carried.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Foxwell to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Cromwell and unanimously carried. Time of adjournment: 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Dodd  
Executive Secretary