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Mendocino  
July 8, 2020

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Planning & Building Services

**RE: MHRB 2020-0001**

Dear Review Board Members,

It is extremely unfortunate that the applicants are requesting such an extensive array of solar panels in the Mendocino Historic District. Clearly, the intent of the Mendocino Town Plan and the Town Zoning Code is to protect the historical character of the town from incompatible development. The MHRB Design Guidelines state: "Mechanical equipment on the ground shall be housed in a structure which is in harmony with the surroundings. Mechanical equipment attached to a roof is not appropriate and strongly discouraged."

I support renewable energy, but the town of Mendocino is a special community that represents a pinprick on the map of California. It can be measured in acres! Why buy into a preserved area and then propose to add changes that are so intrusive and unsightly? The neighbors suffer, the historical integrity of the town is diminished.

There is little doubt that this project would be denied or greatly modified if it were not for the restrictions of the California Solar Act. Sadly, the Solar Act does not protect the State's valued historic communities. It relies on the sensitivities of its citizens. I implore the Domity's to reconsider their request.

**Other comments:**

\* **Solar panels:** "Condition" screening from the viewshed of the adjacent historic cemetery and from the line-of-sight of the surrounding neighbors.

"Condition" black-framed (not silver colored) panels - **black anodized aluminum**

\* **Cement pathway:** Follow Code Section 20.760.040(N) that requires sidewalk replacement "in exact replication of the undamaged original sidewalk." Color, texture, surface finish should match the existing concrete.

\* **2500 gallon water-storage tank:** Bury or screen

\* **Generator:** Cover/screen

\* **Propane Tank:** Cover/screen

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen Cameron