PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

City Council Chambers 651 Prairie Pointe Drive, Yorkville, IL Wednesday, March 12, 2025 7:00pm

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Richard Vinyard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, roll was called and a quorum was established.

Roll Call

Danny Williams-yes, Ryan Forristall-yes, Rusty Hyett-yes, Michael Crouch-yes, Chad Green-yes, Marge Linnane-yes, Richard Vinyard-yes

City Staff

Krysti Barksdale-Noble, Community Development Director Sara Mendez, Planner l David Hansen, Senior Planner Megan Lamb, City Attorney Lynn Dubajic Kellogg, City Consultant Katelyn Gregory, Economic Development Coordinator

Other Guests

Chris Vitosh, Vitosh Reporting Service
Dr. Joan McArthur, Maplehurst Racing
Kelly Helland, Attorney
Matthew Kwiatkowski, Nexamp
Jen Rakas
Robert Loftus
Lauren Hillis, Atwell

Austin Kaczmarek, WSPY
Darren Crawford
Michael Keith, Atwell
Hanna Udiscus, Nexamp
Drew Daniels via Zoom
Caitlyn Preast, Atwell

Previous Meeting Minutes February 12, 2025

Motion by Mr. Crouch and second by Mr. Hyett to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call: Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes, Green-yes, Linnane-yes, Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes Carried 7-0

Citizen's Comments None

Public Hearings

Chairman Vinyard explained the procedure to be followed, the taking of testimony and he swore in those who would speak. He also made a statement about decorum and order for the meeting.

Chairman Vinyard entertained a motion to open the Hearings. At approximately 7:04pm a motion was made and seconded by Mr. Williams and Ms. Linnane, respectively, to open the Public Hearings. Roll call: Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes, Green-yes, Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes, Linnane. Carried 7-0.

The Public Hearings were read by Chairman Vinyard:

1. CONTINUED (from February 12, 2025) PZC 2024-22 Beecher Road Solar, LLC, contract lessee, and Gary and Betty Bennett, property owners, petitioners, have filed applications with the United City of Yorkville, Kendall County, Illinois, requesting

special use authorization and a bulk regulation variance approval. The real property is generally located immediately north of Corneils Road, approximately 1,500 feet west of Beecher Road, and approximately 4,000 feet west of IL Route 47 (N. Bridge Street) consisting of approximately 70 acres. The petitioners are requesting special use permit approval pursuant to Section 10-8-5 of the Unified Development Ordinance for a solar farm. Lastly, the petitioners are requesting a bulk regulation variance to Section 10-4-13-8.c of the Unified Development Ordinance, seeking a reduction from the required one thousand (1,000) foot setback from the nearest solar array to roadway network to 482 feet from Corneils Road.

2. **PZC 2025-01 DMYF-Loftus – Drew Daniels**, on behalf of Daniels Malinski Yorkville Family, LLLP, petitioner/owner, has filed an application with the United City of Yorkville, Kendall County, Illinois, requesting rezoning classification. The real property consists of two (2) parcels totaling approximately 53.7 acres and is generally located north of Faxon Road, east of Beecher Road, and south of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad. The petitioner is requesting rezoning approval from A-1 Agricultural District to M-2 General Manufacturing District for a future data center.

(See Court Reporter's transcript of Public Hearings) (Petitioner's Responses to be included in the Official Record)

At approximately 7:41pm a motion was made by Ms. Linnane and seconded by Mr. Williams. to close the Public Hearings. Roll call: Linnane-yes, Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes, Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes, Green-yes Carried 7-0.

Unfinished Business None

New Business

Ms. Mendez said the plans were amended from the original one and they changed the setback to 917.3 feet from 482 feet and reduced the acreage to 20.3 acres. Solar arrays were also reduced from 11,616 to 11,201. This is an expansion of the solar project that was done last year. The combined approved and proposed solar farms occupy 54.9% of the total of 94 acres. A glare study was done and potential glare was not found to be an issue. Ms. Mendez also discussed the security guarantee and blanket easement. Staff recommended that review letters from EEI become conditions of the Special Use. She also reviewed changes in the fence which will be part

1. PZC 2024-22 Beecher Road Solar, LLC (see full description in #1 above)

of the conditions of the Special Use. She also reviewed changes in the fence which will be pa of the conditions for the Special Use. With the revised plan, staff now supports this project and the petition will move forward to the April 8th City Council.

The standards of the Special Use were reviewed by Ms. Mendez and the Commissioners agreed with each standard.

Action Item

Special Use

Moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Ms. Linnane to approve PZC 2024-22 Beecher Road Solar LLC special use request. Mr. Williams read the motion as follows. Motion: In consideration of testimony presented during a Public Hearing on March 12, 2025 and discussion of the findings of fact, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval to the City Council a request for Special Use authorization to construct a freestanding solar energy system, or solar farm, as depicted in plans prepared by Atwell and submitted by Nexamp dated last revised 2-14-25 for approximately 20.3 acres located immediately north of Corneils Road, approximately 1,500 feet west of Beecher Road, and approximately 2,600 feet west of IL Route 47 (N. Bridge Street), subject to staff recommendations in a memo dated February 21, 2025.

Roll call: Green-yes, Linnane-yes, Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes, Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes. Carried 7-0.

Ms. Mendez read the standards for the <u>Variance</u> and the Commissioners agreed with each standard.

Action Item

Variance

A motion was made and seconded by Mr. Williams and Mr. Hyett, respectively, to approve PZC 2024-22 Beecher Road Solar, LLC variance request. Mr. Williams read the motion as follows. Motion: In consideration of testimony presented during a Public Hearing on March 12, 2025 and discussion of the findings of fact, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval to the City Council for a request for bulk regulation variance to Section 10-4-13.B.8.b of the Unified Development Ordinance, reducing the south property lines setback from 1,000 feet to 917.3 feet. Roll call: Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes, Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes, Green-yes, Linnane-yes. Carried 7-0.

2. PZC 2025-01 DMYF-Loftus – Drew Daniels (see full description above #2)

Ms. Noble said Mr. Daniels represents the petitioner who is seeking to rezone 2 parcels totaling 53.7 acres and includes portions of others parcels that comprise this area. This request excludes Mr. Loftus' 8-acre property and the petitioner would like to rezone the remaining property from A-1 to M-2.

Providing some history for this petition, Director Noble said Mr. Loftus' property to the north is being leased for a solar farm. It was approved, annexed and zoned A-1. The annexation plat inadvertently included Mr. Loftus' parcel south of the railroad tracks. Staff is now working with Mr. Loftus to carve out his parcel and the legalities are being considered. The 8-acre parcel will remain as Ag at this time. Ms. Noble described the current land uses surrounding properties.

Staff looked at how the zoning would affect the surrounding land uses and recommended certain conditions. One is a buffer and setback transition zone, 2) site plan review, 3) no buildings in 400 foot buffer to nearest home, 4) maximum height of buildings. The city decided on a 70-foot maximum building height including mechanicals at a City Council meeting on the previous night. Staff asked for Mr. Daniels' input. Mr. Daniels replied he will not be the final developer and a possible variance could be requested by a future developer.

The Commission briefly discussed the 400 foot buffer. No homes will be allowed in that zone said Ms. Noble and it insures that a data center building will not be built right next to an existing residential lot, since the M-2 zoning only requires a 25-foot setback from a property line. Ms. Noble said in the future, there would likely be a land plan in place to establish regulations. Mr. Green asked about a comment referring to 1,500 feet. If a building is within 1,500 feet of an existing home, it cannot be taller than 70 feet.

Mr. Loftus asked if there will be a buffer on his property. Ms. Noble said he will have a berm and 100 foot landscape buffer.

The standards for this rezoning request were read by Ms. Noble and the Commissioners agreed to each.

Action Item

Rezone

So moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Hyett to approve PZC 2025-01 DMYF-Loftus – Drew Daniels rezoning request. Mr. Williams read the motion as follows. Motion: In

consideration of testimony presented during a Public Hearing on March 12, 2025 and discussion of the findings of fact, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval to the City Council a request for rezoning from A-1 Agricultural District to M-2 General Manufacturing District for a proposed future data center, for two (2) parcels totaling approximately 53.7 acres, including parcel #02-18-400-006 and portions of parcels #02-19-200-001 and #02-17-300-002, excluding an approximately 8-acre existing homestead owned by the Robert M. and Ildefonsa Loftus Living Trust, generally located north of Faxon Road, east of Beecher Road, and south of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad further subject to including Mr. Loftus' parcel and a 100-foot landscape buffer with an 8-foot tall berm.

Roll call: Forristall-yes, Hyett-yes, Crouch-yes, Green-yes, Linnane-yes, Vinyard-yes, Williams-yes. Carried 7-0.

Additional Business

1. Year in Review 2024

Senior Planner David Hansen said the report was created by Community Development staff and it is also on-line for public viewing. It reflects housing growth, number of permits issued, Planning & Zoning projects and construction revenue. Five Final Plats were also issued for Grande Reserve. Text amendments were also done. The report also highlighted new and existing businesses. Also, he also noted 10 years of IGA collaboration with Kendall County, new employees joined the Community Development department and the city anticipates many new projects in 2025, including data centers.

City Council Action Updates

a. PZC 2024-32 Kyle Corniels, relief from Unified Development Ordinance. (See full description on meeting agenda. Approved by City Council.

Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm on a motion by Mr. Williams and second by Mr. Hyett. Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted by Marlys Young, Minute Taker

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10	PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
11	PUBLIC HEARINGS
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17	651 Prairie Pointe Drive
18	Yorkville, Illinois
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21	Wednesday, March 12, 2025
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23	REPORTED BY: Christine M. Vitosh	
24	Illinois C.S.R. License No. 084-002883	

(WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had in public hearing, commencing at 7:02 p.m. as follows:)

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: There are two public hearings tonight for the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. The purpose of these hearings is to invite testimony from members of the public regarding the proposed requests that are being considered before this Commission tonight.

Public testimony from persons

present who wish to speak may be for or against

the request or to ask questions of the

petitioner regarding the request being heard.

Once all the public hearings on tonight's agenda are closed, the Commission will deliberate and will vote on their recommendations to City Council for each of the matters that are the subject of tonight's hearing.

Those persons wishing to testify are asked to speak clearly, one at a time, and state your name, who you represent. You are also asked to sign in at the podium.

If you plan to speak during tonight's public hearing as a petitioner or as a member of the public, please stand, raise your right hand, and repeat after me.

(Witnesses sworn.)

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you. You guys may be seated.

So before we begin, I would like to review a few rules to ensure an orderly and productive meeting tonight. While speaking, please make comments focused on the matter and avoid any personal attacks, unrelated topics or repeating points that are already made tonight.

As chairman, I may limit repetitive remarks or redirect. The speakers are to stay on topic. Any member of the public who repeatedly disrupts or interrupts any of tonight's public hearings may be asked to leave the chambers.

We ask that audience members remain silent during tonight's hearing unless they are speaking at the podium.

The court reporter must record tonight's testimony and the cooperation from the audience will make her job easier and the

transcript of those hearings be more accurate, okay?

Commission members may ask clarifying questions at any time. The public may direct relevant questions to the petitioner either through me or via direct cross-examination.

Likewise, the petitioner may respond to the public comments and ask clarifying questions of public speakers.

Once all public comments have been heard, I will formally close the public comment period, after which the Commission will deliberate and vote.

Thank you guys for your cooperation and participation in this.

So the order for receiving testimony will be as follows: The petitioner will have their presentation, followed by those who wish to speak in favor of the request, and then those who wish to speak in opposition of the request.

So may I have a motion to open public hearing on Petition number, continued, PZC 2024-22, Beecher Road Solar, LLC, requesting a

continued from the February 12th meeting, and

it's PZC 2024-22, Beecher Road Solar, LLC,

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contract lessee, and Gary and Betty Bennett,
property owners, petitioners, have filed
application with the United City of Yorkville,
Kendall County, Illinois, requesting a special
use authorization and bulk regulation variance
approval.

The real property is generally located immediately north of Corneils Road, approximately 1500 feet west of Beecher Road and approximately 4,000 feet east of Illinois Route 47, or North Bridge Street, consisting of approximately 70 acres.

The petitioners are requesting a special use permit approval pursuant to Section 10-8-5 of the Unified Development Ordinance for a solar farm.

requesting a bulk regulation variance to section 10-4-13-8.c of the Unified Development Ordinance seeking a reduction from the required 1,000-foot setback from the nearest solar array to roadway network to 482 feet from Corneils Road.

Is the petitioner present and prepared to make their presentation on the

proposed request?

MS. HELLAND: Yes, we are.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you.

KELLY HELLAND,

having been first duly sworn, testified before the Commission from the dais as follows:

MS. HELLAND: Kelly Helland on behalf of the petitioners, the Bennett family and Nexamp Solar Company.

Here tonight we have Hanna Udischas from Nexamp Solar and then Matt Kwiatkowski -- I am sorry if I butcher Matt's name -- from Nexamp, along with Michael Keith from Atwell Engineering.

This is a 70-acre parcel that, although it's named the Beecher Road Solar, it's off of Corneils Road. The Bennett family would have liked to have been here tonight, but due to some health concerns, they are quarantined and unable to be here.

They did submit a letter to both

Plan Commission and staff that we would request
be entered into the record tonight.

Nexamp Solar has done -- or applied for and have obtained approval for two prior

solar farms in Yorkville. They are a veteran-owned company and very active in supporting the community of Yorkville.

We are seeking a positive recommendation of the special use application along with a variance of the thousand foot setback to 917 feet.

We've heard the concerns from staff, prior Plan Commission meetings, and then also the Mayor and City Council.

Although Corneils Road is not at this time, nor at the time of filing, a major collector, it is our understanding that in the very near future it will be identified as a major collector within the United City of Yorkville.

For that reason, we have amended the plan to provide a setback at the minimum at seven -- or, I'm sorry, 917 feet from the roadway.

As you can see from the packet, and if you drive down Corneils Road, the Bennett farmstead is directly in front of the proposed solar farm, so from a public safety perspective, an aesthetic perspective and a visual

perspective, we think that providing the increased setback to 917 feet meets the spirit of the 1,000 foot setback.

If there was a vehicular accident, they run into the Bennett farmstead well before any kind of solar array or landscaping, so from a public safety perspective, we don't think that's an issue.

We believe that the application complies with the special use parameters contained in the City's ordinance, and again will be seeking a positive recommendation to the City Council from the Plan Commission.

We are here tonight to answer any questions that the Plan Commission may have, and I will turn it over to Hanna for the presentation and Michael if you have any technical questions on the engineering.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you.

HANNA UDISCHAS,

having been first duly sworn, testified before the Commission from the dais as follows:

MS. UDISCHAS: Hanna Udischas

representing Nexamp. And thank you, Planning and 1 2 Zoning Commission and the United City of 3 Yorkville, for having Nexamp back again. We are really grateful to continue partnering with you 5 on these projects. You can go to the next slide. 6 MS. NOBLE: You should be able to 7 control it. 8 MS. UDISCHAS: Oh. 9 MS. HELLAND: I'm sorry. There --10 CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Not again. 11 MS. UDISCHAS: Sorry, guys. MS. NOBLE: Yeah, it's probably not 12 picking up the signal. That's okay. 13 MS. UDISCHAS: This one? 14 15 MS. NOBLE: No, that's all right. 16 advance it. 17 MS. UDISCHAS: Okay. Thank you. So I 18 want to give a bit of a background on Nexamp. I 19 know a lot of folks in the room today are 20 familiar, but just to reorient who Nexamp is and then I'll zoom into our experience in Illinois 21 22 and then I'll talk a little bit more about -- get into Beecher Road Solar. 23 24 So Nexamp was founded in 2007 by two

Army veterans, and upon returning from the U.S. doing their tour, they were compelled to start a company with a vision of providing renewable energy solutions to create an energy independent United States.

We are really proud to be still fulfilling that mission today, and we are the largest vertically integrated developer, owner and operator of community solar farms in the United States.

We were voted number one community solar company in 2023, again in 2024, by Solar Power World magazine, which is our leading industry magazine.

At this time we have 475-plus employees nationwide, and congruent with our commitment to energy independence, we are still making that commitment, Nexamp completed the largest domestic module purchase in community solar history with a company called Heliene, they are located in Minnesota, and we purchased 1.5 gigawatts of modules.

So in the next slide, zooming into our experience in Illinois, Nexamp started to

build out our Midwest team in 2018. We have grown very significantly. We created Chicago as our second headquarters; our primary -- our first headquarters was located in Boston, and so we have been investing a lot in the state of Illinois.

We have hired over 80 employees. We currently have over 40 operating community solar farms in Illinois and about 20, either in construction or in our development pipeline, and currently we are servicing 8,500 residents and small businesses with our community solar subscriptions.

So in the next slide I wanted to present a visual of some -- an operational community solar farm that Nexamp owns, operates and developed.

This one is located in Burlington,

Kane County. It's 16 acres, so this is probably

about -- you know, it's much less -- it's less

than half the size of what Beecher Road is going

to be. It's 2.8 megawatts and it services nearly

400 subscribers.

I will let you kind of look at

visually, you know, this is very consistent with what we are planning in terms of landscaping, maybe a little bit more extensive with Beecher, but you can see that we have the pollinators inside the panels, outside the panels, and then the evergreen buffer on the outside.

The next slide is another community solar farm; this one is called Fargo Road Solar. It's located in Tampico, Whiteside County. It's 18 -- sorry 19 acres, 2.7 megawatts, also services around 400 subscribers, and you can see this project as well, very clean, well maintained, and that's what we really pride ourselves on, is having a really good beginning-to-end product.

So in the next slide we are zooming in to Yorkville. This is the location of Beecher Road Solar. The solar farm is proposed on existing farmland parcels located approximately north of Corneils Road, approximately 1500 feet east of Beecher Road and approximately 4,000 feet west of Illinois Route 47. It's on parcels 02-08-300-008, this is the parcel to the west -- one more thing on the last one.

This is the parcel on the west, this is where the community solar farm will be located. On the parcel to the east, that's where our -- we will be utilizing that existing access road and -- for utility, so that's 02-08-300-012. Now the next slide.

Okay. So getting into the project details, the project is located on 10791 Corneils Road. It's currently zoned A-1-SU, which is Agriculture Special Use district.

We just did the parcels on the last slide, so the parcel to the west ending in 08, that's for the array, and the parcel to the east ending in 02, that's for the access road and utility.

The owners are Gary and Betty

Bennett. The parcel size is approximately

69.67 -- 64 acres. The project size is

approximately 20.4 acres within the fence line.

The project capacity is 4.99 megawatts AC and the project life is between 30 to 40 years.

So you probably remember us being here prior, so this is the second project that Nexamp is proposing on the land of long-time

residents Gary and Betty Bennett, and so the impetus for Beecher Road Solar really came from the relationship that we had built with the Bennetts and that the Bennetts were interested in doing a second project as a means for their retirement, and there was capacity for the project, so this is how we moved forward.

Also given the fact that the property is in an IDNR floodway and there is not a whole lot of opportunity for different types of development, the Bennetts are really interested in pursuing this as an option for them.

Corneils Road Solar, LLC was approved May, 2024 for a special use by the United City of Yorkville, also for annexation and rezoning to the Agriculture Special Use district for the two parcels that I just mentioned and also the parcel to the north, which most of the Corneils site is located on.

Our civil engineer will get more into the design later on in the presentation, but it is worth noting and stating that Corneils Road Solar, LLC, and Beecher Road Solar, LLC, are two separate projects.

They are two stand-alone, they will both have their own fence line, they are not going to be connected, and the projects -- but the projects will be sharing that existing gravel road and they will have their own utility lines.

So this situates Beecher Road Solar in the community in the surrounding land uses, so to the north we have Corneils Road Solar, LLC, and then also, it's not called out in here, but Yorkville Renewables is just to the northeast corner; to the north is a decommissioned landfill parcel; and then to the south is properties owned by the Bennetts and the Bennett family's residence.

There is a couple other land owners just to the east as well, and then we have a lot of industrial projects and parcels, so we have our ComEd substation and many -- the ComEd transmission lines that are flowing through, have the Bright Farms, LLC industrial development, the permitted 223-acre data center to the south on Eldamain, and then I think just after us the rezoning for a data center, so lots of industrial uses in this area, you know, very compatible with

solar, also landfill and our existing land owner who is interested.

Again, the property is located in IDNR floodway; not a lot is available in an IDNR floodway, but solar is an option.

The majority of the view shed is going to be blocked by the Bennetts' residence and their existing landscaping, their existing barn.

And then, lastly, at its current stance, Corneils Road is not a major thoroughfare, it's kind of a single-lane collector. There is the opportunity for that to become more, but given the amount that we have kind of done on the design, we think this is a really good use for this property, on a property that might not have another development opportunity.

Next slide. So getting into the community benefits, Corneils -- or, sorry,

Beecher Road Solar unlocks tax revenue in a floodway, it also unlocks tax revenue next to a decommissioned landfill parcel, which is typically not the most desirable for new

developments, it unlocks tax revenue without adding a demand for public services.

Again, in the last slide we kind of showed the different industrial projects that are happening and that Yorkville is really excited about. This is another opportunity for grid stabilization.

Community solar is a temporary use of farmland, and the project will add utility savings for around 650 residential subscribers.

So you can see below the projected taxes. So the top line calls out the current taxes for the 20.8 acres that the community solar farm would be located on. In aggregate it's around \$6,227; 60 percent of that goes to the school district and six percent to Kendall Fire, so that's around \$3,742 to the school district and around \$417 to Kendall Fire.

So by adding community solar, you are increasing the tax revenue in this -- on this 20.8-acre piece by over four -- over four times that, you know, bringing in \$29,470 in aggregate, but then, of course, very importantly, \$17,711 for your schools.

So this is a list of some of the due diligence that we've done so far. We are pretty far along on this project. So we have the site selection and the executed lease with the landlord, the Bennetts.

We've done surveying, we've done the pre-application discussions with Yorkville, we have done utility studies with ComEd, we have done SHPO consultations, endangered species, wetland delineations, consulted with FAA, we have done the NRI, we have done -- executed an AIMA agreement with the Department of Agriculture, and then we are still in progress on the IDNR floodway and our drain tile surveying, but those will be wrapped up shortly.

So I am going to hand it off to Michael Keith, our civil engineer of record.

MICHAEL KEITH,

having been first duly sworn, testified before the Commission from the dais as follows:

MR. KEITH: Good evening. I am Mike

Keith with Atwell, LLC. As Hanna mentioned, I am

the civil engineer of record, so I am just going

to go over some of the site items.

First up on the screen is the site layout. As Hanna mentioned, we are required to meet 50 feet off the property lines and 1,000 feet off Corneils Road.

We meet all the setbacks except for the 1,000 feet off Corneils, and we are at 917 feet off there.

We did do a redesign where we were at four hundred and I think 83, so we kind of moved some of the panels that were closer up to the road back up to the northeast corner across the Rob Roy drainage system creek.

You will notice that we put the equipment pads in the center of the site.

That's -- we try to keep those in the center of the site so they are the farthest away from all the property lines so that the equipment is internal to the site, and then we put -- and then the power lines go underground and come out to the utility poles.

To get to this site on the northeast corner, we are utilizing the same access point as we are doing for the Corneils Solar that is north of there, so we are only going to have one road

crossing.

With Corneils Solar we already started working with the Rob Roy Drainage District to get their approvals for the crossing. There is actually an existing crossing in the field that we are using, we are just going to improve it a little bit, extend the sewer so we can get the trucks across there, the existing culvert, so we are extending the culvert on both directions so we can get the trucks back and forth.

We are working with them to go underground with the wires. We are kind of in negotiations with them on how deep it needs to be. It's going to be within a steel conduit or a heavy duct -- heavy ductaliner -- not ductaliner. PVC pipe, probably most likely a Schedule 80 so that it gives some resistance if they ever have to dredge it. But that's still ongoing, we're working with them. We plan to doing everything that they are asking on that one.

And then, as I mentioned, we are dedicated to keep all the wires underground until we get to the road where we have to come vertical

to make our point of interconnect.

We will have a second row of overhead poles at the access road, we are going to have the Corneils Solar and then the Beecher Solar right running parallel to them.

Unfortunately that's -- that's one of the requirements we have to have with ComEd; we can't have one set of poles and equipment on there, we have to have two separate -- separate set of poles.

As Hanna mentioned, there is a floodplain on the site. We are working with IDNR. We have already completed the study. We are making a submittal to IDNR shortly.

We actually already have approval on Corneils Solar, both report that the piles do not increase the storm -- the storm elevations, they just -- they add some in, but it's not to the point that it's beyond what's allowed in the floodplain, so we are fully confident IDNR is going to sign off on that, and we will need that before we go to final engineering when we -- because EEI will require that as part of our submittal process.

And then next slide, please. So here is kind of a blow-up of our landscaping plan. First off, we're going to be using the pollinator mix.

The pollinators help stabilize the site and they also create a deep-rooted system that helps us with stormwater management, so you notice we are not -- we are not adding any -- we do not have any detention ponds here, and that's because the pollinators help decrease the run-off from the site, they create a deep root system so it kind of pulls the water in and we keep the water on-site, so we actually decrease our water without the use of detention ponds and concentrating the water at those ponds.

And then you will notice we have some trees along the southern edge. If you can see it, there is a different row of trees that are kind of heading back southeast on the site. You will see there is only really one row, and we have larger evergreen trees on there.

We've gone the extra mile on the southern edge where we almost doubled the amount of evergreen trees along one row, and then we

provide a double row to kind of offset it a little bit, so now we are -- we've heard -- we've heard the complaints about being close to Corneils and the concerns of the traffic and everyone seeing it, so we wanted to make sure we buffered it precisely with evergreen trees so that it provides a good soft buffer.

And then if you go to the next sheet, we have done some photo simulations on here. So that's a blow-up of the landscaping. That's a little better view so you can kind of see the double row of the increased trees in there.

If you go to the next slide, please. So this is a view shed from Corneils Road looking back to the site. This picture was taken recently, so you can see the farm field in the front.

If you go to the next view -- the next slide, you will see we have overlaid the evergreen trees in the buffer, so you can almost see the solar panels really aren't even seen.

We typically plan this at maturity of the trees. We typically plan the trees take

about eight to ten years to hit full maturity, so there is going to be a time when it's first planted you are going to kind of see through there, but as it matures, it's going to kind of hide them. We have -- next slide, please.

So this is a view looking through the Bennetts' farm back to where the panels will be, and the next view shed -- or next slide, I'm sorry.

So then now you can see the evergreen trees in the background as they are providing the buffer, so you can kind of see we are being really careful to make sure that we buffer those trees as people are driving down the street. And then last slide, please?

So this is what a pollinator seed mix looks like. I always like looking at this. You can see it's kind of native flowers and creates a good -- a good area for pollinators to come in, bees and such, and you can see that the height of these are managed by the species that are planted.

They don't go up above the panels, they kind of stay below the panels, and then they

kind of just -- they grow to that height.

Based on the management plans I have seen in the other projects, after five years, this is low maintenance. We are not out there mowing every week, we don't have to mow very often after the first five years when it's established.

There is some mowing going on and making sure that weeds are kept at bay, but after we hit this point, it pretty much self-maintains itself.

As Hanna mentioned, we are here for questions. If you have anything, just let us know.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you. Is there anyone present who wishes to speak in favor or opposition of this request tonight? Have you signed in already?

MS. McARTHUR: Yes.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: All right. Please.

JOAN MCARTHUR,

having been first duly sworn, testified before the Commission from the dais as follows:

MS. McARTHUR: My name is Joan McArthur,

and we have the farm south of Rob Roy Creek. I would have to go back to one of your slides that shows the land, I don't have it, because my concern is our property is south of this. I have a racetrack that parallels -- and we have been there since 1985.

I have Thoroughbred racehorses on there, and my concern is two-fold. One is if I am going along the track at a race pace, which will be at 35 miles an hour, and I get a glare off one of those panels, hits the horse in the eye, the horse could go down and die and I break my neck and I die.

My concern is what kind of barrier am I going to have along the property on the north side of Rob Roy Creek where the solar farm is going to be where I am not going to get a glare? So I don't want -- I don't want to see it. The second thing is -- that would have to go all the way along the property line.

The second thing is I have a house that sits to the west of our property and it's a three-story house. I am going to be looking right into that solar field, or not even the

solar field, it's going to be the machine or whatever.

What kind of barrier am I going to get up now? Not in four years. Now. So I don't have to look at it, because this will just -- looking at it would devalue my property horribly, so the company is going to have to put up some type of fence, some type of barrier.

If they want to put their trees -which would be great, but until they hit
maturity, I don't want to see them.

But my biggest concern is along our property line, which there is a lot of, is that I don't need a glare because I am in the horse business.

Number one, you would put me out of business; number two, you are going to injure the animal, which could be a million dollar animal; and, third of all, I could die.

And right now I don't have that problem because there is crops, nobody is there.

I might see them once in a blue moon when they are planting or when they are harvesting. I can deal with that, but with trucks going back and

forth and back and forth, I have a two-year old out there, they die. Who do -- The owner would want to know who do we sue.

Plus I think it's just being a good neighbor, put up a berm, put up a fence, put something up so we don't have to look at it, and then plant your trees, and if they grow in 40 years, God speed.

So that's my real concern.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you. Would you guys like to respond to that? Yes, she is fixing it. As soon as she is done. Thank you.

MS. UDISCHAS: Thank you for your question and your concern. A couple things. So your concern is about glare, glare coming to your property, and just concern of overall well-being because of the array being there, so that's what I am going to address.

So per Yorkville, we are required to put slats in the fencing, so the array will be shielded that way. We also have designed the --we designed the project so that it's an anti-glare system. You know, we don't want glare on anyone's property, we don't want it on your

property, we don't want it on the neighboring properties surrounding, we don't want it on our landowner's property, so it's specifically designed with that in mind.

I hope I addressed your question.

MS. McARTHUR: No. No. Because --

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: She asked about a barrier.

MS. UDISCHAS: A barrier.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Yeah, more on the landscaping I believe was her question.

MS. UDISCHAS: Sure. So for that we proposed the -- we are proposing the evergreen tree barrier. Let me look at my notes.

So around the total of the array we have 154 evergreen trees planted. This is two -two lines of plantings, as well as -- as well as
384 shrubs, so we have that to shield the -- to
shield the view shed, as well as the slats in the
fencing to block the view of the panels, and then
we designed the panels to be anti-glare.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Okay. Thank you.

MS. McARTHUR: I appreciate what you are trying to do with the slats. My concern is just

even the -- you can see the big triangular property, that's me. You can see the track.

When you have slats, I don't know how tall they are, but I need -- and if there is trucks going back and forth and back and forth, somehow to buffer that.

You know, I would appreciate like ten foot. Horses are tall. And to get that up. Because if we have trucks going back and forth or whatever, that's -- that's -- I know you have to have that, I realize that, I am a realist, but if there is some way to shield the noise, to abate the noise, that's fine. You know, the solar field is fine.

But I have something to protect me, protect my establishment and my animals. And then you can see how far that goes all the way around to the property, and some days I go left on the track, some days I go right, so you can't just get it to one thing, and I would hate to lose -- break my neck.

Because we will be out there with young horses constantly, have been since '85, and we'll continue to do so.

1 Do you understand where I am 2 talking, coming from? All right. Thank you. 3 MS. NOBLE: I guess I can add they are required to have all of the panels within a 5 fenced area, and the fence is eight feet tall, 6 correct? And it will be lifted a little bit because of the floodplain or floodway; is that 8 correct? 9 MR. KEITH: No, the slats will be. 10 MS. NOBLE: The slats will be lifted, 11 So it will be an eight-foot tall fence okay. 12 with slats plus the trees, so --13 CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Okay. Is there anyone else who would like to speak in opposition 14 15 or in favor of this request? 16 (No response.) 17 CHAIRMAN VINYARD: All right. I am 18 assuming you guys would like to have your 19 responses of the standards put in the record? 20 MS. HELLAND: Yes. 21 CHAIRMAN VINYARD: All right. Very 22 All right. Moving on, the next is PZC 2025-01, DMYF-Loftus, Drew Daniels, on behalf of 23 24 Daniels Malinski Yorkville Family, LLLP,

petitioner/owner, has filed an application with the United City of Yorkville, Kendall County, Illinois, requesting rezoning classification.

The real property consists of two parcels totaling approximately 53.7 acres and is generally located at the north of Faxon Road, east of Beecher Road, and south of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

The petitioner is requesting rezoning approval from A-1 Agricultural District to M-2, General Manufacturing District, for a future data center.

Is the petitioner present and prepared to make a presentation of their request?
We can't hear you, Mr. Daniels. Sorry.

MS. NOBLE: Can you try now, Drew?

MR. DANIELS: Yeah. Is that working?

MS. NOBLE: That's -- that's it.

COMMISSIONER CROUCH: Yes.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Go ahead, sir.

DREW DANIELS,

having been first duly sworn, testified before the Commission from the dais as follows:

MR. DANIELS: Gotcha. Okay. My name is

1	Drew Daniels. I represent the DMYF, which is the
2	Daniels Malinski Yorkville Family, LLLP. I
3	reside at 405 East Sheridan Road, Lake Bluff,
4	Illinois, and we are here for the rezoning of
5	this property for the $M-2$.
6	We have I just finished the
7	268 acres along Route 34, and this is for the
8	same exact use, and I am open for any questions.
9	CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Does anyone have any
10	questions for the petitioner?
11	(No response.)
12	CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Is anyone here
13	opposed to this?
14	MR. LOFTUS: I am a neighbor.
15	CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Would you like to
16	come over and speak?
17	MS. LAMB: We will want him to swear as
18	well.
19	CHAIRMAN VINYARD: I think did he
20	not? Okay. Sir, I am going to have to have you
21	swear in real quick.
22	(Witness sworn.)
23	ROBERT LOFTUS,
24	having been first duly sworn, testified before

the Commission from the dais as follows:

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Very good, sir.

MR. LOFTUS: We sold the property to Drew, and I didn't touch base with Drew, just the last -- I've been real busy.

There is a couple -- I am not in opposition, but the -- I have been visiting with the city about this. Our home was brought in by mistake as far as the annexation goes. The other property was okay, but our house was not supposed to be in there, and Krysti and Mrs. Orr I think may be talking, discussing that issue.

I just -- we just -- we live there, we built the home, been there since '03 and I graduated Yorkville High School and we planned on staying. We've got eight acres left there, maybe want a pony someday for our grandchildren.

I just -- it was -- Whose mistake it was I don't know, but -- the annexation of our home, but we didn't mind the rest of the property, and we are not in opposition of this, of what Drew wants to do. Drew is a fine -- fine guy, we really like him a lot.

Other than that, there is a couple

of issues. I did not talk with Drew, but I should have got with him, but I didn't.

We are not in opposition, like I say, but with a large manufacturing zoning like that, there is going to be a lot of dirt to be moved, and we would -- we would just request that -- we would like a berm with arborvitaes around our property, and that's the only thing we would ask.

Drew didn't know I was going to ask for it, but I -- I meant to get with him, but my family is out of the country right now and I have been busy with other things.

Otherwise, we are not in opposition, we think he's got a good project going, and there is just a couple items that -- just those items that we discussed. Maybe Krysti and I can get it ironed out, I'm sure.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Thank you.

MR. LOFTUS: If there is any -- otherwise it should be a good project.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Very good.

Appreciate it. Is there anyone else who would like to speak in favor or opposition to this?

(No	respo	onse.

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CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Okay. Seeing as there are none, would the petitioner like to have your responses to the standards entered into the public record?

MR. DANIELS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: All right. That will be the conclusion of tonight's public hearing.

Since all testimony regarding this petition has been taken, may I have a motion to close the taking of testimony?

COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS: So moved.

COMMISSIONER LINNANE: So moved.

COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS: Second.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Roll call vote.

MS. YOUNG: Yes. Linnane.

COMMISSIONER LINNANE: Yes.

MS. YOUNG: Vinyard.

CHAIRMAN VINYARD: Yes.

MS. YOUNG: Williams.

COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS: Yes.

MS. YOUNG: Forristall.

COMMISSIONER FORRISTALL: Yes.

MS. YOUNG: Hyett.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

(COUNTY OF LASALLE)

I, CHRISTINE M. VITOSH, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing public hearing transcript, Pages 1 through 43, was reported stenographically by me by means of machine shorthand, was simultaneously reduced to typewriting via computer-aided transcription under my personal direction, and constitutes a true record of the testimony given and the proceedings had;

That the said public hearing was taken before me at the time and place specified;

That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel, nor a relative or employee of such attorney or counsel for any of the parties hereto, nor interested directly or indirectly in the outcome of this action.

I further certify that my certificate attached hereto applies to the original transcript and copies thereof signed and certified under my hand only. I assume no

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