

Town of New Castle

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Date: February 12, 2025

To: Garfield County Planning and Zoning Commission

Dear Planning and Zoning Commissioners,

It has recently come to my attention that Garfield County is considering a major land use application which proposes to convert 48.5 acres of rural land into a large-scale solar array system.

While I understand that due to our proximity to the project site, Garfield County was not obligated to seek formal comment from the Town of New Castle, it is essential for the Garfield County Planning and Zoning Commission and the Garfield County Board of County Commissioners to recognize that a project of this type may establish a precedent that could have long-lasting regional impacts on our region.

Therefore, I believe it would be beneficial to include input from neighboring towns as part of the review process for projects of this type and scale. Providing local officials with the opportunity to weigh in on these types of projects could help assess the regional implications and the cumulative effects of this type of project more comprehensively.

The Town of New Castle looks forward to formally reviewing the proposed project. We welcome the opportunity to confer with neighboring towns and will submit a formal opinion letter soon.

Respectfully,

David Reynolds

David Reynolds Town Administrator Town of New Castle