

# The New Jersey Herald

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## Hopatcong eyes solar possibilities

Editor:

Have you noticed the impressive initiative Hopatcong's municipal leadership is taking on renewable energy? They are currently considering a 23-acre solar farm on the former town dump. Solar possibilities are the way of the future and present a stark contrast from the polluting, coal-fired energy PSE&G is attempting to push into New Jersey by constructing the 500-kv Susquehanna- Roseland power line. Hopatcong is showing surrounding townships that such a power line is not needed in a state with ample clean energy resources. A focus on localized energy production will be the basis of energy security in the future, not relying on an energy grid to carry supply from far-off lands.

The power line project is supposed to promote "reliability," but how then is vulnerable, inefficient long-distance production and transfer the answer? Hopatcong is clearly moving in the right direction by exploring the opportunities available in solar.

Hopefully, the renewable buzz proves to be electric and other townships will begin addressing energy supply in a way that promotes public health and safety and environmental stewardship, rather than allowing PSE&G to destroy the delicate ecological balance of the Highlands, our scenic vistas, and our property values for an unnecessary project.

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