

clearing of 121.9 Acres. Pecan Trees to be affected by Section 1 and 2 were left out of the Tree Survey.

4. Will result in a Use which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use to streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools: Staff does expect some negative impact on the roads, especially Peach Road which is a residential dirt road. Lawson Pond is a gateway from Lowndes County southwest into Brooks County providing a busy, rural, residential route from I-75 and State Hwy 122 west of Hahira TO Hwy 133 east of Morven.
5. Conforms with the policy and intent of the land use plan: Per the 2027 Comprehensive Plan and Future Character Map, the proposed solar farm is not consistent with the objectives to protect farmland and the rural lifestyle of the Agricultural District.
6. Other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval: The Morven Solar Project will not lead to any permanent jobs for Brooks County. The Solar Panels themselves do not make noise, however the Transformer and Inverters transmit noise 24/7.

Sherry Davidson then turned the floor over to Ms. Stephanie Williams, Executive Director of Economic Development for the Brooks County Development Authority.

Ms. Williams introduced herself and her credentials. She stated that Nextera put a target on Brooks County. She said that Brooks County was ranked 20th in the state for their farm gate value. She talked about the Comprehensive Plan and how the intent is to protect AG, protect the Scenic Corridors, Fire Prevention (big fire at Nextera). She talked about how a solar farm ties up farmland, so those precious crops like corn, pecans, etc. are lost. That impacts the AG Companies in our community. We already have a housing shortage, infrastructure issues. The Agreement of 35 years with two 5 year options ties up land that could be utilized for other things. AG Land is important to Brooks County. Concerns with Decommissioning due to newer technologies. Adjacent Property Values decline, fire hazards. The Comprehensive Land states that our AG Land is one of Brooks County STRENGTHS and one of our biggest threats is SOLAR. Ms. Williams also stated that as of Tuesday night (January 17th), the City of Morven has put a moratorium on Solar.