**How to Remove a Previously Tracked appsettings.json File from a Github Repository**

* Go to the Github repository
* In the list of files, click on the UI project folder
* Click on appsettings.json
* In the bottom window, click the trash can icon on the far right
* In the commit changes window, click “Commit changes”
* Click on development.appsettings.json
* In the bottom window, click the trash can icon on the far right
* In the commit changes window, click “Commit changes”
* In Visual Studio, open the appsettings.json and copy all code within
* Paste the copied code into a notepad document or other safe place
* Go to View > Git Repository
* Check out the master/main branch and select Pull
  + The appsettings.json file should no longer be visible in the Solution Explorer
* Close Visual Studio
* Open a File Explorer window and navigate to the solution folder for your project
* Open the .gitignore file there using Notepad or VS Code
* At the bottom of the page, add the following lines:
  + # Protecting Sensitive Info
  + /UIProjectFolder/appsettings.json
    - Note: Replace UIProjectFolder above with the actual UI Project folder name
* Save the .gitignore and close the file
* Reopen the solution in Visual Studio
* Right click the UI Project and select Add > New Item
* In the Search box in the top right, type JSON
* Select App Settings File and click Add
* Save and close Visual Studio
* Open a File Explorer window and navigate to the solution folder for your project
* Go into the UI project folder there and delete the “obj” folder
* Reopen the solution in Visual Studio 2022
* Build the solution (Ctrl + Shift + B)
* If successful, you should now see the red minus sign next to the appsettings.json file indicating that it is now ignored by git
* Copy all code from the original appsettings.json (which should be in the notepad document created earlier) and paste it into the appsettings.json file
* Save, build, and run the solution to test
* You should now be able to push branches to the remote repo without pushing the appsettings.json file