

Jeff Watson

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Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 6:41 AM
To: barnes@oneenergyrenewables.com; Jeff Watson; letters@kvnews.com
Subject: OPPOSITION TO IRON HORSE SOLAR FARM REPLACING FARM LAND
Attachments: CU-15-00006.pdf

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CU-15-00006

OPPOSITION TO IRON HORSE SOLAR FARM REPLACING FARM LAND

June 1, 2016

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As a family member of one of the adjacent land owners, I vehemently **oppose** the construction of the Iron Horse Solar Farm on land that is zoned agriculture. I'm not against renewable energy; however, I believe a project such as this is driven by subsidies, not the desire for clean energy. It does not make environmental sense to use viable farm ground when this solar project would be better-suited on a low-impact location.

CONCERNS

❖ ZONING

IHSF use is not consistent with the intent and character of the zoning district in which it will be located.

❖ NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- loss of viable farmland- policies usually state that only low grade land be used.
- habitat loss
- We just don't know enough about the impacts to the soil, plants and wildlife.
- hazardous materials effect on soil

❖ IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

- lower property values equal decreased tax revenues
- loss of a rural setting
- glare and noise

In summary, I believe we need clean energy to combat climate change, but we need to develop it in a responsible manner. Guiding development to low-conflict areas will be better for wildlife, energy developers, the community, and the environment so that our rich rural character is protected for future generations.

Do we really want to replace fields of grass with field of glass?

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

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