


From: [Wufoo](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Submitted Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 9:24:58 AM

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Name *	Phillip Johnson
Address	<input type="checkbox"/> 132 N Broadway Ave Albert Lea, MN 56007 United States
Phone Number	(507) 373-3930
Email	phillipjohnson@growalbertlea.com
Provide the docket's number.	IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113
Leave a comment on the docket. *	Please see attached for the letter from Phillip Johnson of Albert Lea Economic Development Agency.
Attach a File	 puc_letter_from_aleda.pdf 132.96 KB · PDF

Date: 3/23/22

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project for the following reasons:

1. We know that burning oil, gas and coal has polluted our air, water, and land for decades. Now it's changing our climate even faster than scientists feared it would. We can have healthier communities right now and a livable future for generations to come. But to get there, we need to transform the way we produce and consume energy. That must start with a commitment to renewable energy.
2. Renewable energy has incredible potential. We could power the nation 10 times over with available wind resources, and existing solar potential provides more than 100 times our current energy needs.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hoiseth
1014 Frank Hall Dr.
Albert Lea, MN 56007

Public Comment Form

This form will be considered as public data. Complete this form and hand it in if you do not want to speak at a public meeting, but would still like to provide comments for this docket to the MN PUC and the Office of Administrative Hearings.

First and Last Name <i>Doug Thompson</i>	
City, State, Zip Code <i>83994 190th St. Hayward MN. 56043</i>	
MN PUC Docket Number: <i>IP-7053/CN-21-112 + IP-7053/GS-21-113</i>	Docket Title: <i>Hayward Solar LLC</i>
Enter your comments below:	
<i>Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission;</i>	
<i>As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project for the following reasons.</i>	
<i>The Solar project would bring 204 jobs during construction that would help the local economy.</i>	
<i>The Solar Project would bring in a large tax revenue to the local communitys.</i>	
<i>Solar is a renewable clean green energy. It doesn't use water, wind or fossil fuels and doesn't pollute the environment.</i>	
<i>Solar project would be planted to native pollinator grasses that would have a positive impact on the Ecosystem.</i>	
<i>Land that's in Solar Farm would have a chance to rest and rejuvenate and would return back to owner after solar farm is done.</i>	
<i>Solar is the cheapest source of energy so why not use the power of the Sun.</i>	
Your Signature: <i>Doug Thompson</i> by <i>Doug Thompson</i>	Date: <i>3-20-2022</i>

121 7th Place East • Suite 350 • St Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147 • mn.gov/puc Phone 651-296-0406

Toll Free 1-800-657-3782 • Fax 651-297-7073 consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Public Comment Form

This form will be considered as public data. Complete this form and hand it in if you do not want to speak at a public meeting, but would still like to provide comments for this docket to the MN PUC and the Office of Administrative Hearings.

First and Last Name <i>Peggy Thompson</i>	
City, State, Zip Code <i>83994 190th St Hayward Mn 56043</i>	
MN PUC Docket Number: <i>IP-7053/CN-21-112</i>	Docket Title: <i>Hayward Solar LLC</i> <i>+ IP-7053/GS-21-113</i>
Enter your comments below: <i>Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission</i>	
<i>As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to you in support of the Hayward Solar Project.</i>	
<i>The project would bring jobs to Freeborn county, which in return would bring economic growth and tax revenue to our community and state.</i>	
<i>Solar power is a renewable clean source of energy. It would have a positive impact on the environment. There would be native pollinator plantings and improved drainage. This would allow the ground to rest during the projects life improving the quality of the soil.</i>	
<i>The solar project would allow the land owners to retain ownership while diversifying their income. The landowners would have the right to choose</i>	
Your Signature: <i>Peggy Thompson</i>	Date: <i>3-20-2022</i>

121 7th Place East • Suite 350 • St Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147 • mn.gov/puc Phone 651-296-0406

Toll Free 1-800-657-3782 • Fax 651-297-7073 consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Date: 3/23/22

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project for the following reasons:

I am employed in the renewable energy industry. I strongly feel this is the future of replacing carbon producing electricity. Freeborn county will receive great benefits of this project while not incurring great asks from public services. On top of all the known benefits to the economy and the environment, I think this is a superior project due to the developer partnership. The developer on this project has an excellent reputation of honesty and up-front communication.

Farmland is always a precious commodity. As we move into the future of battery-operated vehicles the asks of corn for ethanol will drop. I feel solar farming is an excellent way to diversify farming opportunities and keep grain commodities at a premium.

Please strongly consider this project as a multiple win for Freeborn County, the state of MN, the landowners, and the environment for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Chris Fjermestad
Freeborn County Resident

March 23, 2022

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota, Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project. Below are just a few of the positive impacts that the project will have on our local community and Freeborn County as a whole.

- It will create jobs, both during the construction of the project as well as after the construction is complete.
- It also allows multi-generational farm families to be able to provide for the future and to diversify their income.
- During the duration of the project, it allows the soil beneath the panels to “rest” and improve the quality for when it is time to convert back to row crop farming.
- It provides additional monetary support to the local community/county which can be used where money is lacking.
- It is a clean, cost-effective way to great energy.

I could continue to list many more positive reasons why I support the project, but I believe these hit many of the main points.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abby Flatness". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Abby Flatness
101 Broadway St. South
Hartland, MN 56042
Freeborn County

March 23, 2022

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota, Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project for the following reasons:

- The Hayward Solar Project will bring provided our local community with \$123 million dollars, which can be used where it is needed.
- It will provide our county with jobs during and after construction.
- It will generate energy at a low cost.
- It is a green/clean way to produce energy.

Please allow this project to continue and begin construction.

Sincerely,



Gage Flatness
101 Broadway St. South
Hartland, MN 56042

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul MN 55101

Re: Hayward Solar, LLC – Docket Nos. IP7053/GS-21-113; IP7053/CN-21-112

To the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

I am writing in support of Hayward Solar and its application to obtain a Site Permit and Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. As a state official elected to represent the project area, I recognize the economic benefits that this project will bring to the region, particularly to Freeborn County and Hayward Township. These benefits, which are detailed below, come in the form of tax revenue, construction and operations jobs, landowner lease payments and other economic activity.

Construction Phase Benefits

- Direct impact: Investment of \$128.8 million, with direct spending in Freeborn County estimated to be \$15.6 million; 204 employees on-site and \$7.9 million in wages
- Total impact: \$30.9 million in economic activity, including \$13.6 million in labor income and supporting 204 on-site direct jobs and an additional 115 jobs across all industries
- Tax revenue: \$461,870 in state and local taxes

Operations Phase Benefits

- Direct impact: Annual expenditures of \$2.2 million, including payments to the landowners, and 4 on-site jobs
- Total impact: Annual economic impact of \$3.3 million, supporting 14 jobs (4 on-site and 10 in other industries)
- Tax revenue: \$99,040 annually in state and local tax revenues

At the same time, solar fields like this are low impact, with minimal to no impact on the surrounding area and little to no demand on local services, such as schools or police.

I urge the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.

Sincerely,


Representative Peggy Bennett

District 27A

March 2020

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul MN 55101

Monday

Re: Hayward Solar, LLC – Docket Nos. IP7053/GS-21-113; IP7053/CN-21-112

To the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

I am writing in support of Hayward Solar and its application to obtain a Site Permit and Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. As a state official elected to represent the project area, I recognize the economic benefits that this project will bring to the region, particularly to Freeborn County and Hayward Township. These benefits, which are detailed below, come in the form of tax revenue, construction and operations jobs, landowner lease payments and other economic activity.

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I urge the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.

Sincerely,





Shell Rock River Watershed District
214 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Phone: 507-377-5785
www.ShellRock.org

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East - Suite 350
St Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

Re: Hayward Solar Project IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Chairperson Katie Sieben,

The Shell Rock River Watershed District, located wholly in Freeborn County, was formed in 2003 out of necessity for improvement to impaired waters. We are in the process of our completing our One Watershed, One Plan, water management plan to restore and repair upstream areas and waterways that flow into the Shell Rock River. Habitat and native vegetation are critical factors in the success of a Watershed District's Water Management Plan.

We are writing to you today in support of the vegetation and habitat management plans that are included in the Hayward Solar Project's Public Utilities Commission application. Tenaska and Arevon brought us into their plan early on by presenting their strategies to improve groundcover with native vegetation within their project boundary in Hayward Township. This area is part of the tributary system that feeds into the Shell Rock River. With native grasses and plantings in place year-round, this will reduce some of the issues we are seeing near the project location with erosion, stream sedimentation and increased phosphorous. A project of this nature and over its lifespan can be restorative to soil nutrient levels while providing stabilization to topsoil that can be lost when agricultural lands are tilled.

We plan to continue our discussions and dialog with the Tenaska and Arevon development team to mitigate any potential run-off or drainage risks that may be present during their 12-14 month construction phase. The Shell Rock River Watershed Board supports the permitting of the Hayward Solar Project based on the principles and plans included in the application.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Delger
Chairman- Shell Rock River Watershed District

Below is an outline you can follow to write your letter of support for Hayward Solar LLC

Your name David Thompson
Your address 213 W. 2nd St. P.O. Box 445
Your city, state, zip Hayward, MN. 56043

Date Here 3 - 24 - 2022

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project and its application to obtain a Site Permit and Certificate of Need. This project will be beneficial to this community for the following reasons:

- 1) Economic benefits of the project during construction and operation, which include:

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At the same time, a solar field is a low impact development, with minimal to no impact on the surrounding area and little to no demand on local services, such as schools and police.

- 2) Positive impacts to the land through native pollinator plantings and improved drainage, and from "resting" it during the project's life. After the project is decommissioned, the land will be fully restored and returned the landowner for farming or other use.
- 3) Allows landowners to retain ownership of their land while diversifying their income. This is an important consideration in a community with a rich agricultural heritage and preserves the use of the land for future generations to farm.

I respectfully request that you approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.
Sincerely,

Signature Here

David Thompson

Type Your First and Last Name Here

David Thompson

Below is an outline you can follow to write your letter of support for Hayward Solar LLC

Your name *Marlene Thompson*
Your address *213 W. 2nd St. P.O. Box 445*
Your city, state, zip *Hayward, Minnesota 56043*
Date Here *3-24-2022*

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

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I respectfully request that you approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.
Sincerely,

Signature Here *marlene Thompson*

Type Your First and Last Name Here *Marlene Thompson*

Gerald D Edwards Family Trust
Becky Edwards, Trustee
PO Box 93
Hollandale MN 56045

March 23, 2022

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket # IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project and its application to obtain a Site Permit and Certificate of Need. This project will be beneficial to this community for the following reasons:

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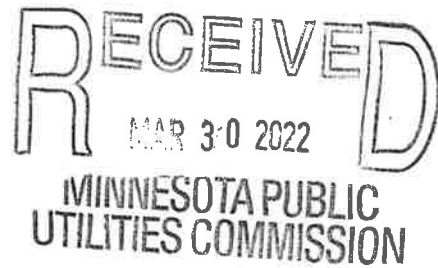
I respectfully request that you approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.

Sincerely,



March 25, 2022

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101



Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

As a resident of Freeborn County, I am writing to convey my support of the Hayward Solar Project for the following reasons:

I purchased a home and moved into Freeborn County in November of 2020 on the southern border of the Bent Tree Wind Farm. Little did I know that the job I would find after losing mine to pandemic business closures would draw me even closer to renewable energy when I started working for Good Steward Consulting. As I began to meet people in the community and forge friendships, I saw just how much longevity and connection exists here. There are stories that go back for generations of the families and farmers in this area who have adapted and supported each other in ways only rural Americans truly understand. The fight to balance sustainable development while maintaining the rural landscape is a delicate one.

The Hayward Solar Project is a wonderful solution to so many conflicting needs. Local landowners have the opportunity to voluntarily lease out their land to the project, diversify their income, and generate a drought-resistant crop and dependable revenue source. The project also contributes \$461,870 to state and local taxes during development and construction alone! On top of that, it will result in an ongoing annual tax revenue of \$99,040. Where else can you find millions of dollars in direct investment, local job creation (like mine!), and energy production that benefits local landowners and leaves the agricultural land underneath it better than it was before?

This land will be able to rest with pollinator-friendly cover crops and improved soil drainage over the life of the project. The way that the Hayward Solar Project will preserve and restore the land use for future generations while contributing so significantly to the economic integrity of our tax base is truly rare, and not an opportunity to be missed. It is a project that gives far more than it asks, which in my experience aligns perfectly with the people who call Freeborn County home.

I respectfully request that you approve the Site Permit and Certificate of Need for Hayward Solar.

Your New Neighbor,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tiffany Paino".

Tiffany Paino

Donald W. & Mary Ann Petran
1841 Eagle View Circle W220
Albert Lea, MN 56007-2833
March 12, 2022
(507) 373 9605 ; (507) 320 5234
donpetran482@gmail.com

Public Advisor
MN Public Utilities Commission
123 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, MN PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 & IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear MN Public Utilities Commission:

As residents of Freeborn County we wish show our support of the Hayward Solar Project and it's application for a site permit and certificate of need.

We feel it will be very beneficial for the Township, County and the citizens thereof.

We hope you will approve the Site permit and the Certificate of need for this project.

Donald W. Petran & Mary Ann Petran

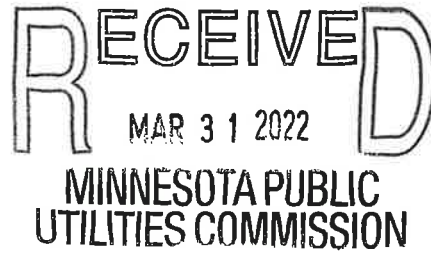
Donald W. Petran
Mary Ann Petran

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2022
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Pat Crosley
13903 Flamingo Dr.
Pok Rapids, MN 56470

Date: 3-26-22

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101



Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

*I would like to support the
Hayward Solar field project. I am
a resident of Minnesota and
renewal energy is definitely a plus for
our state.*

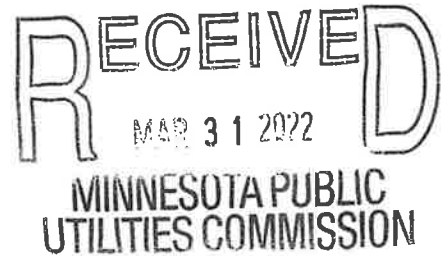
Sincerely,

*Darlene P. Crosley
Darlene P. Crosley*

Emily Ovrebo
655 6th St SW
Wells, MN 56097

Date:

Public Advisor
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101



Subject: Hayward Solar LLC, Minnesota PUC Docket #IP-7053/CN-21-112 and IP7053/GS-21-113

Dear Minnesota Public Utilities Commission:

My name is Emily Ovrebo and I am writing to convey my support for the Hayward Solar Project, located in Freeborn County, Minnesota.

I grew up on a corn and soybean farm in Freeborn County and moved across the county line into Faribault County where my husband was born and raised. He makes a living as a corn, soybean and beef farmer, along with owning an agronomy business with his brother-in-law. As a family, we understand the importance of diversifying farmland and income, especially since renewables are becoming more prominent in the Midwest and throughout the nation. Why not take the opportunity to not only better the environment, but provide for the future generations that we hope, one day, will run the farm after we can no longer do so ourselves?

Agriculture is and always will be a dominant part of my life. As a farming family, we see the benefits projects like these WILL bring to our county, township(s) and landowners. Projects like these bring in extra tax revenue annually, with no price tag to the county, township or landowners. It simply gives these local entities an extra boost financially each year.

Working in renewables since 2018, I have seen so many positives projects like these bring to families and communities. Solar farms are excellent neighbors that are quiet and have no emissions. Studies have shown no significant health nor property value impacts while living next to a solar farm. This project will bring local jobs and significant investment to the area. The Hayward Solar Project has gone the extra mile to ensure the county, township and surrounding communities have been well informed and provide an open line of communication.

I hope you consider granting the permit and certificate of need for the Hayward Solar Project. This will provide a positive impact to Freeborn County, Hayward Township and the landowners who are participating in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Ovrebo".

Emily Ovrebo
Project Supporter
State of Minnesota Resident