

From: [Mike Franklin](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Comments from Central Minnesota Builders Association
Date: Friday, September 12, 2025 1:00:15 PM
Attachments: [CMBA letter re nextera 2025.pdf](#)

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Mr. Hicks:

Attached please find comments from the Central Minnesota Builders Association, to be included in the public comments for Benton Solar (**Docket Numbers 23-423; 24-283; 23-425**).

Thank you!

--Mike

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**CENTRAL MINNESOTA
BUILDERS
ASSOCIATION**

September 12, 2025

Mr. Logan Hicks
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Benton Solar Project – Docket Numbers 23-423; 24-283; 23-425

Dear Mr. Hicks,

On behalf of the Central Minnesota Builders Association, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of NextEra Energy Resources as it has advanced the Benton Solar Project. While CMBA does not take a formal position on the project itself, we do want to recognize the company's proactive and thoughtful engagement with our members.

NextEra made a point to meet directly with CMBA, seeking input from builders and contractors in our community. That outreach reflects a respect for local expertise and a commitment to transparency. Our members appreciated the opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions, and share perspectives on how initiatives like this intersect with Central Minnesota's construction and development economy.

As an organization dedicated to building the economic strength of our region, CMBA values this kind of engagement. We look forward to continued collaboration with NextEra Energy Resources as we work together to grow Central Minnesota's economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Wanda Schroeder
Executive Director
Central Minnesota Builders Association

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