

From: [Darrel Ponto](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Cc: [Weaver, Sam \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Public comment for Summit Lake Solar dockets 25-88 & 25-89
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 9:35:23 PM
Attachments: [Summit Lake Solar Concerns and Opposition Additional Comment.pdf](#)
[Flooding in Summit Lake section 22 NE qtr 2011 2018 2024 - all pictures.pdf](#)
[Summit Lake section 22 North half or NW qtr pattern tile project spring 2025 a.pdf](#)

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Dear Sirs,

Please see my attached Public Comment and related pictures. Please add these comments and pictures to the Public Comments for Summit Lake Solar dockets 25-88 & 25-89.

Best regards,
Darrel Ponto
Reading, MN 56165
Phone 507.360.8315

Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding from snow melt, looking NE
March 17, 2011

Water stayed in this area for 7 to 14 days waiting for the tiles to thaw enough so water could go away



NOTE water draining over
190th St into proposed
Solar panel site.

This is common during flooding as well

Proposed Summit Lake Solar project area
Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Everything this side of 190th Street is in proposed project area
March 17, 2001

2011 025 Properties

General Digital Signatures Security Details Previous Versions



2011 025

Type of file: JPG File (.JPG)

Opens with: Photos

Change...

Location: E:\2011-07-21 2011

Size: 2.37 MB (2,487,950 bytes)

Size on disk: 2.37 MB (2,490,368 bytes)

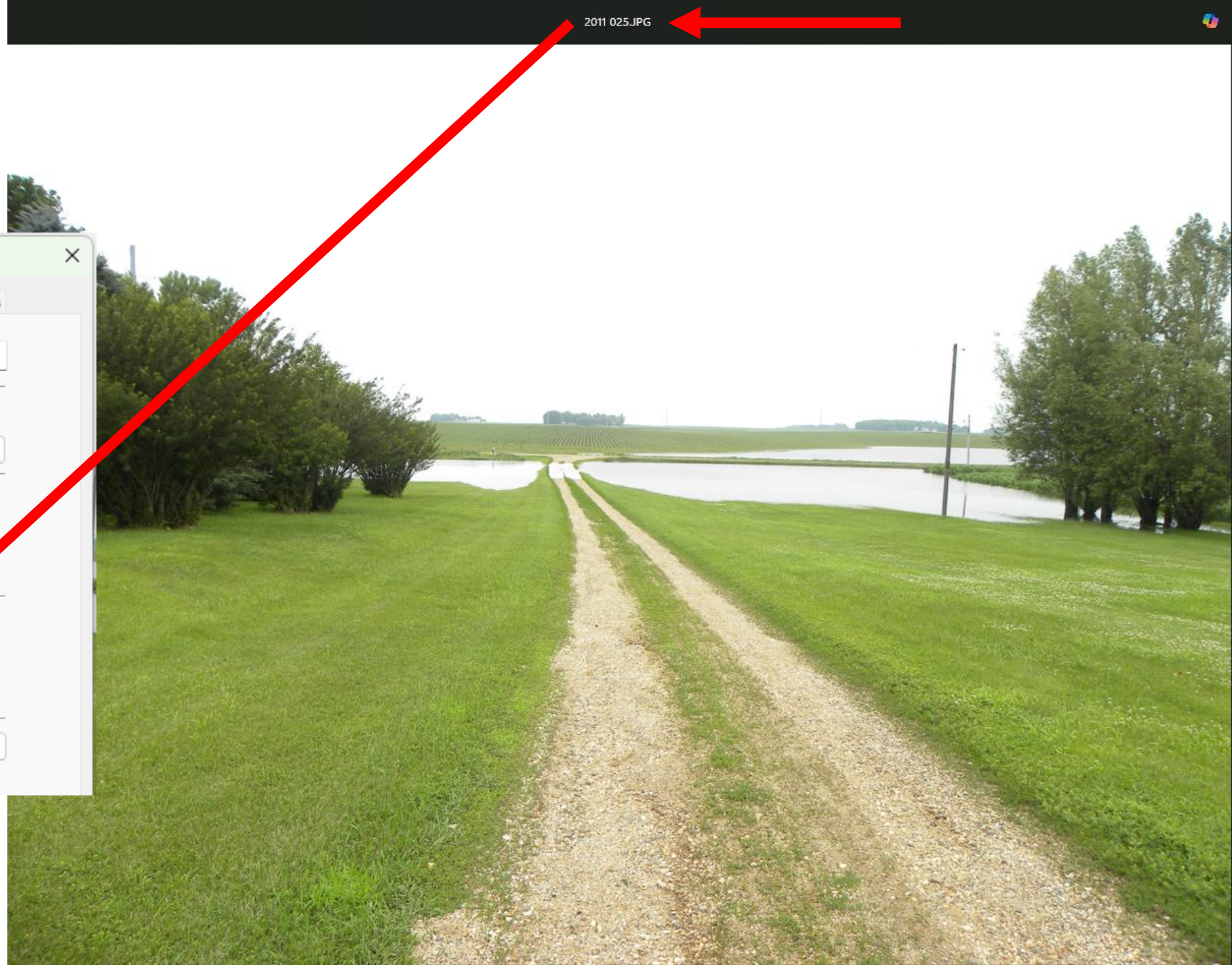
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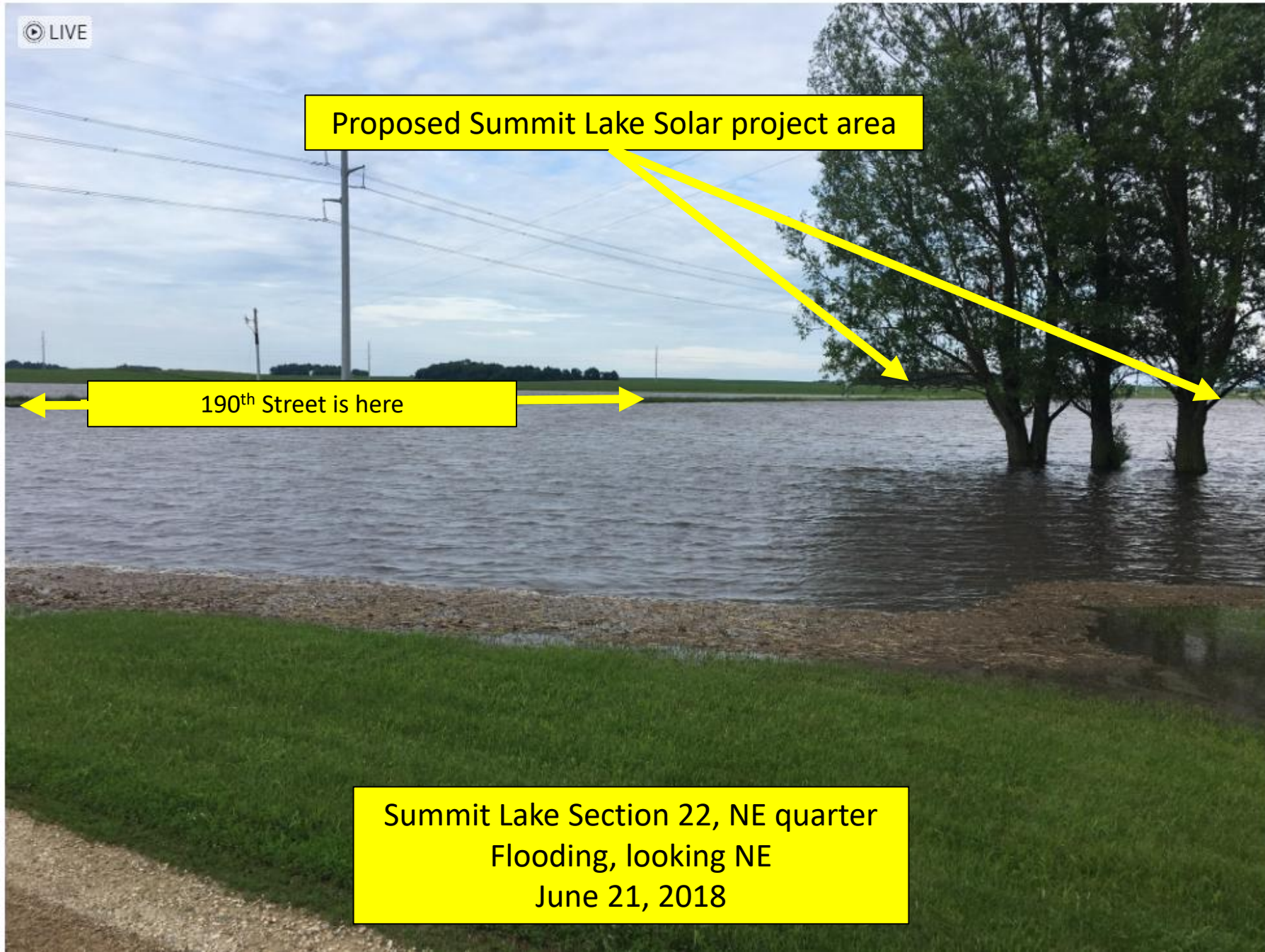
Modified: Thursday, July 14, 2011, 6:47:24 PM

Accessed: Today, April 7, 2026, 1 minute ago

Attributes: ☐ Read-only ☐ Hidden

Advanced...





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Proposed Summit Lake Solar project area

190th Street is here

Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding, looking NE
June 21, 2018



Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding, looking NE
June 21, 2018

Rain event June 21, 2024
Just over 4 inches of rain over
24 hour period



Top of driveway 25369 190th Street

📹 LIVE



📹 LIVE

Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

190th Street

Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding looking east from my driveway
June 21, 2024



June 21, 2024 at 5:33 AM

Reading - 4,218 of 6,542

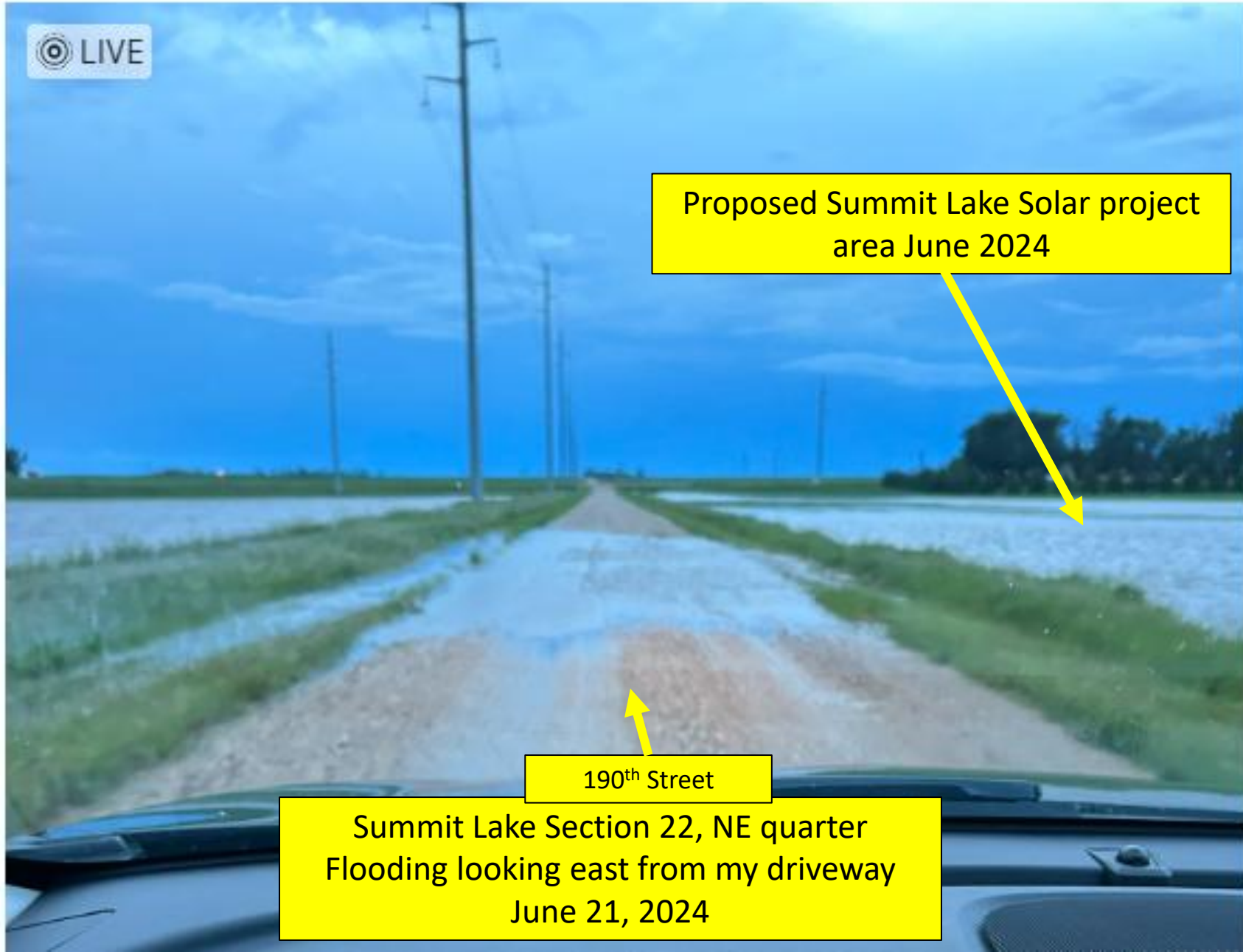


LIVE

Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

190th Street

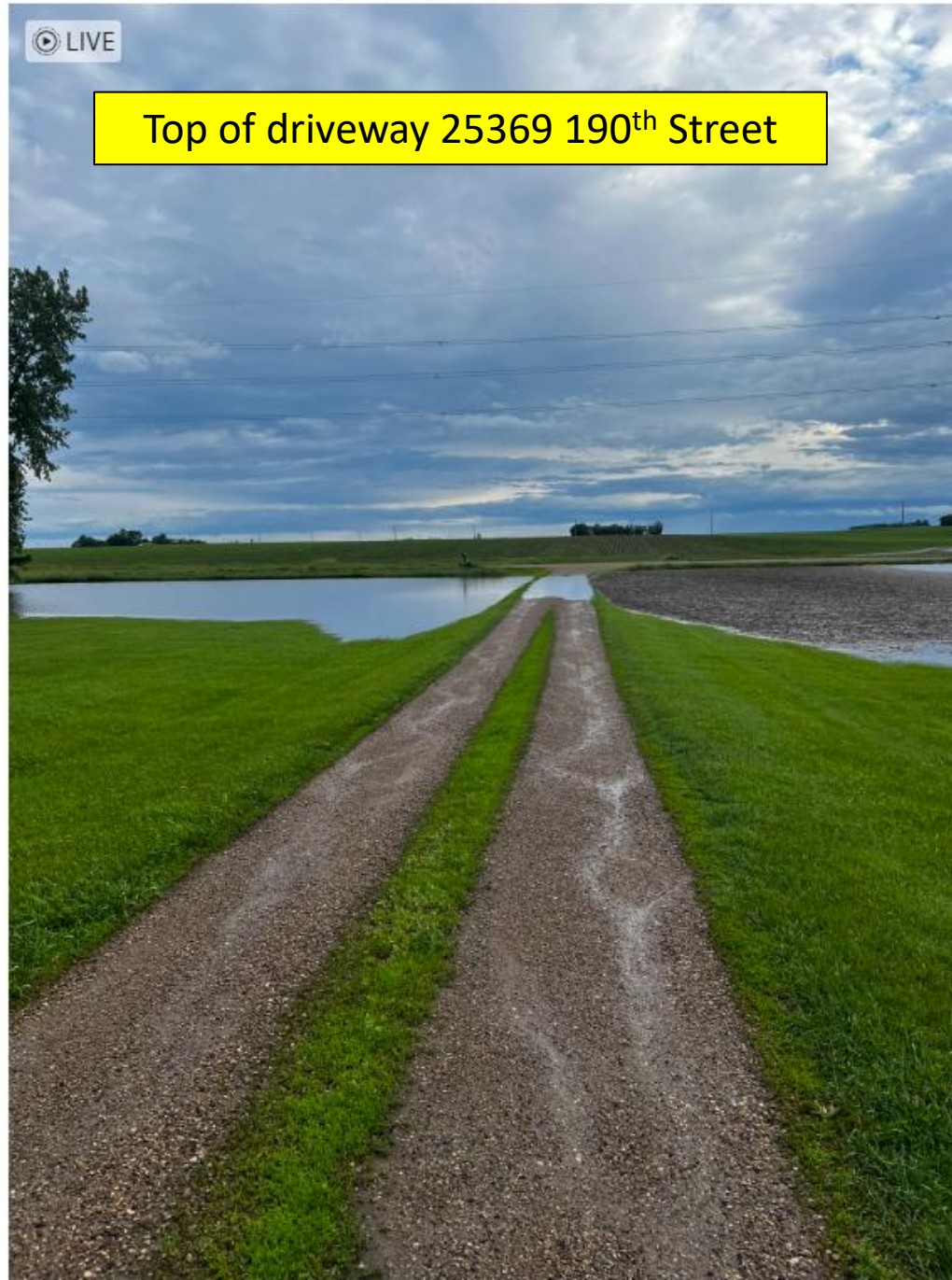
Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding looking east from my driveway
June 21, 2024





LIVE

Top of driveway 25369 190th Street





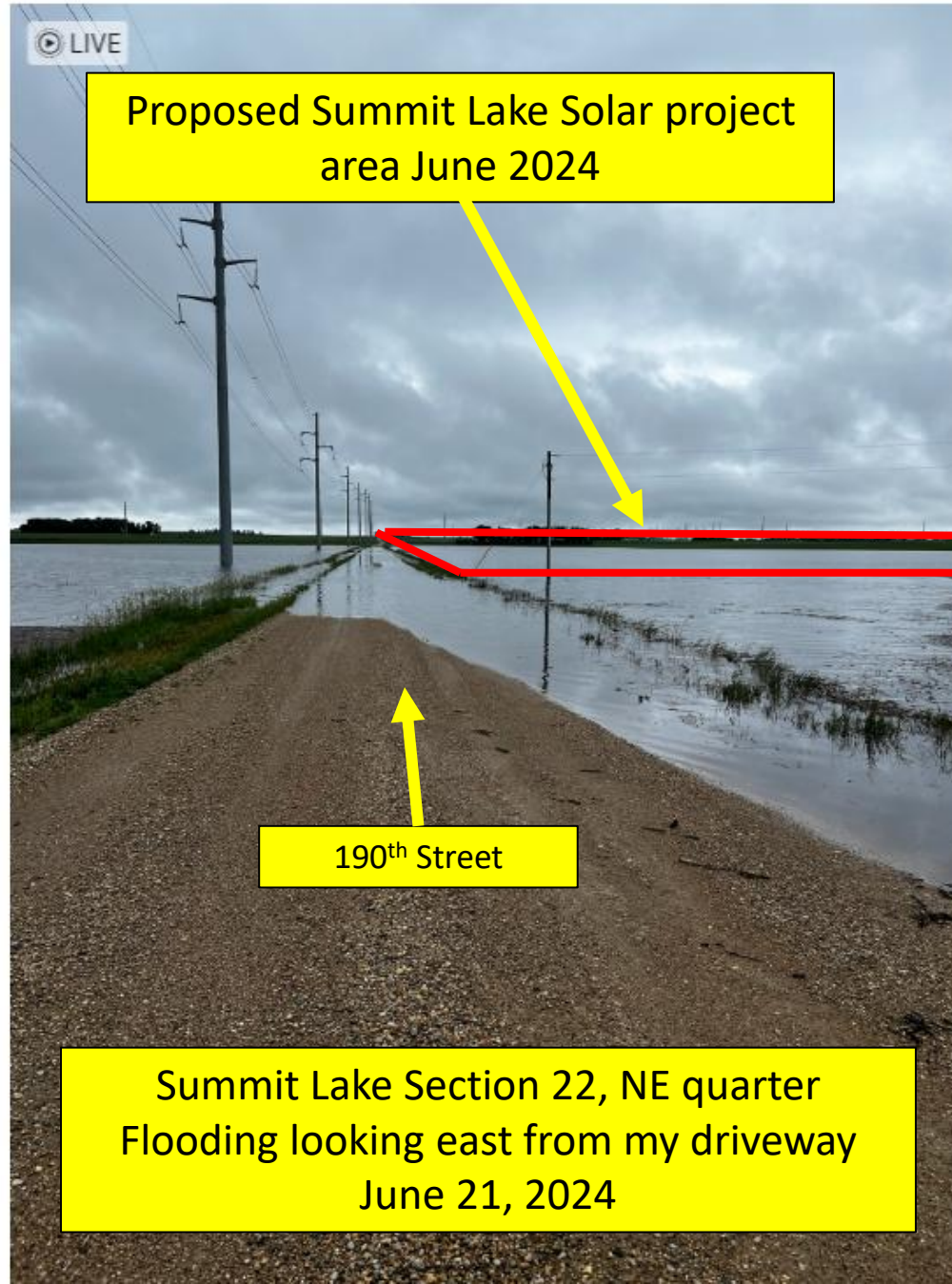
 LIVE





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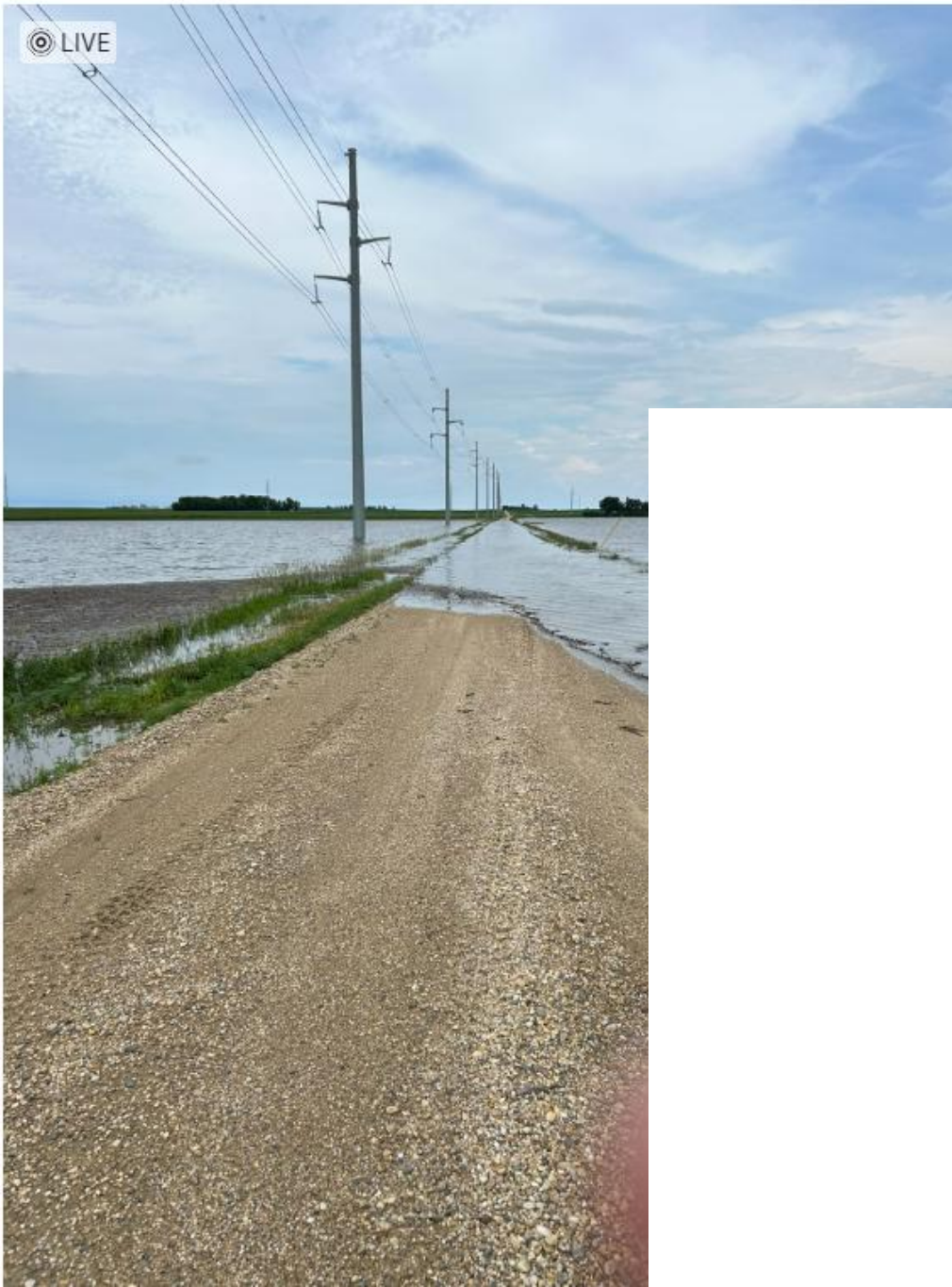




Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

190th Street

Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding looking east from my driveway
June 21, 2024







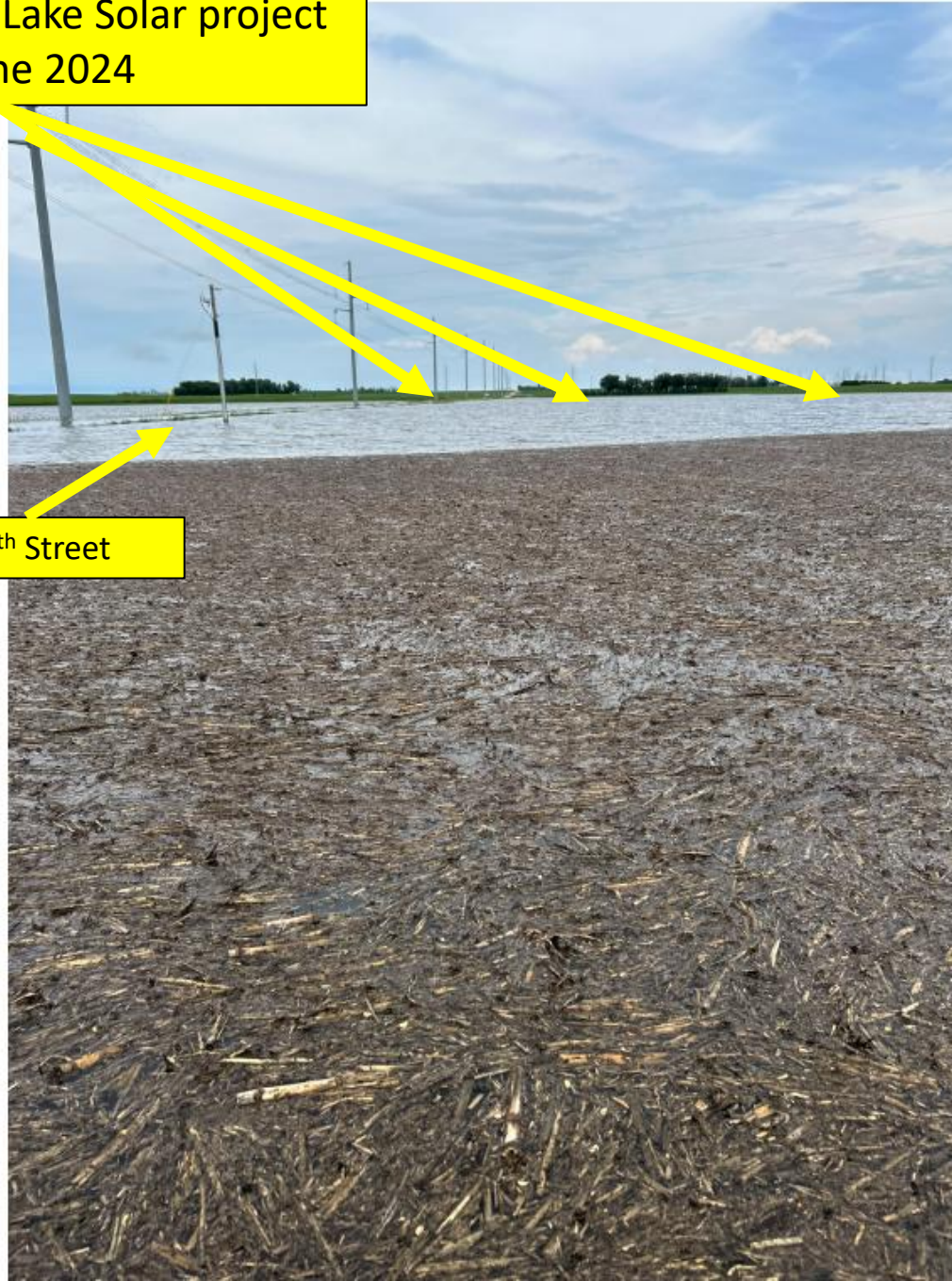
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Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

190th Street







LIVE

190th Street looking
East from Knauf Ave

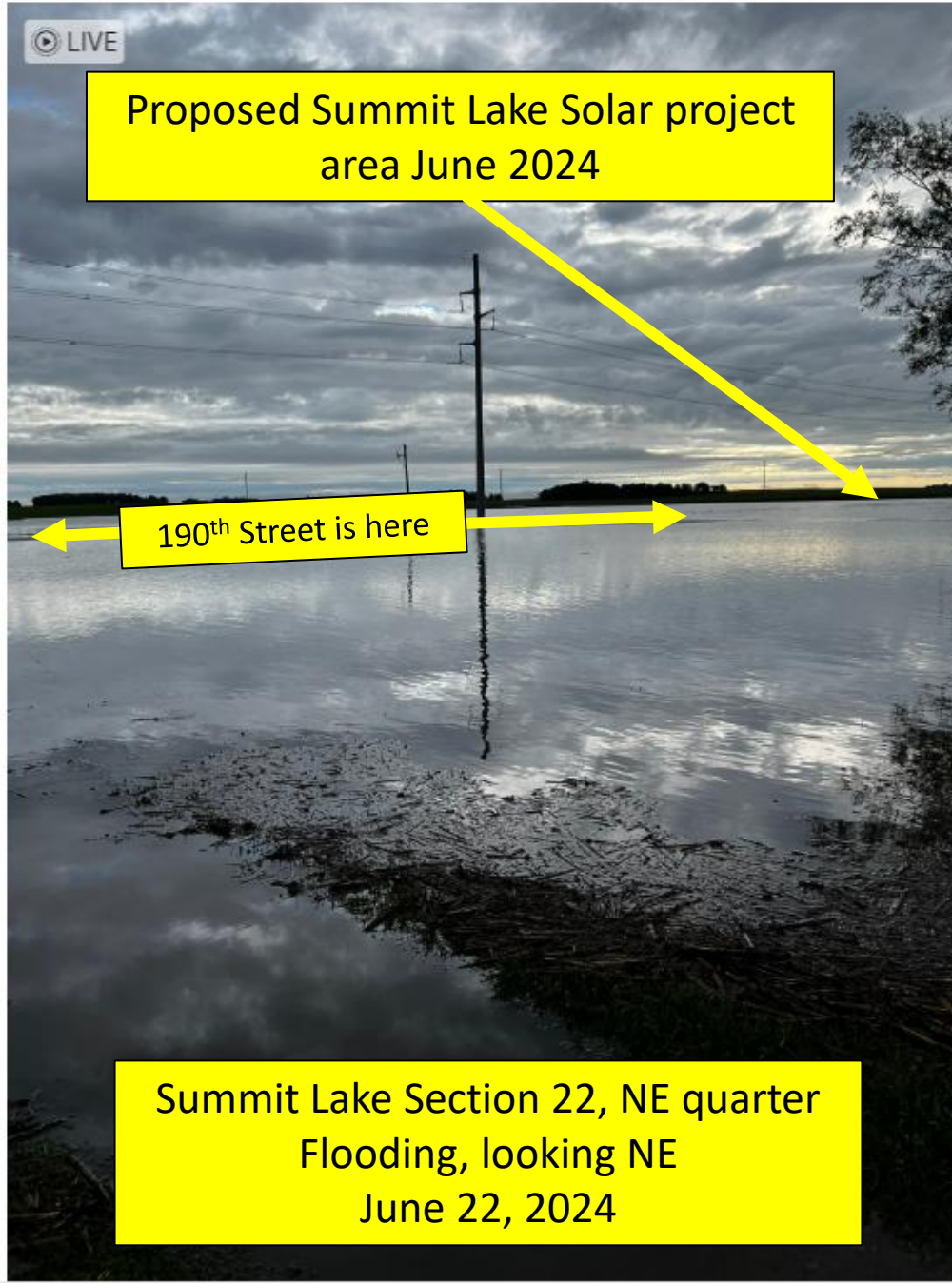




Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

190th Street is here

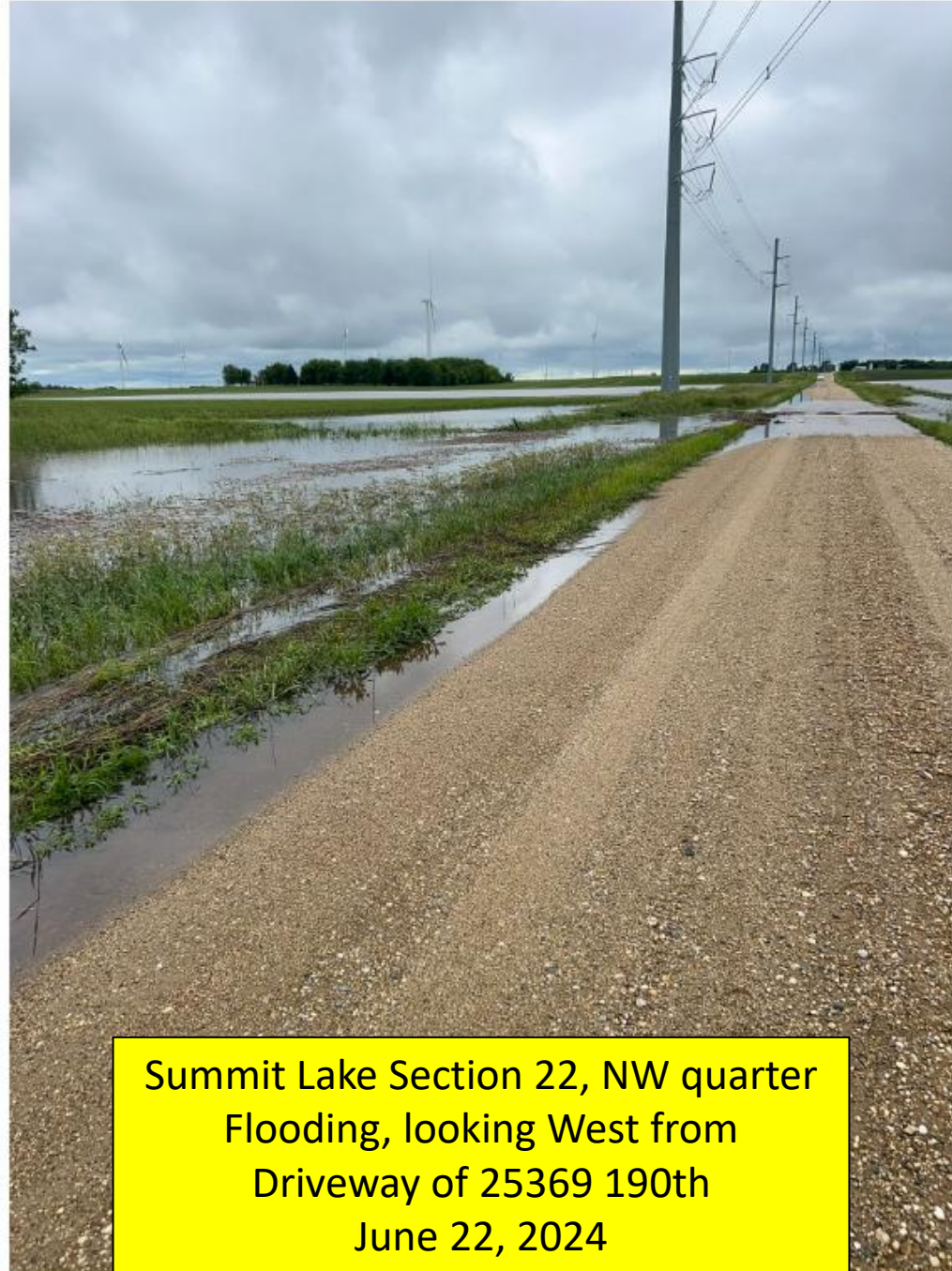
Summit Lake Section 22, NE quarter
Flooding, looking NE
June 22, 2024



Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024

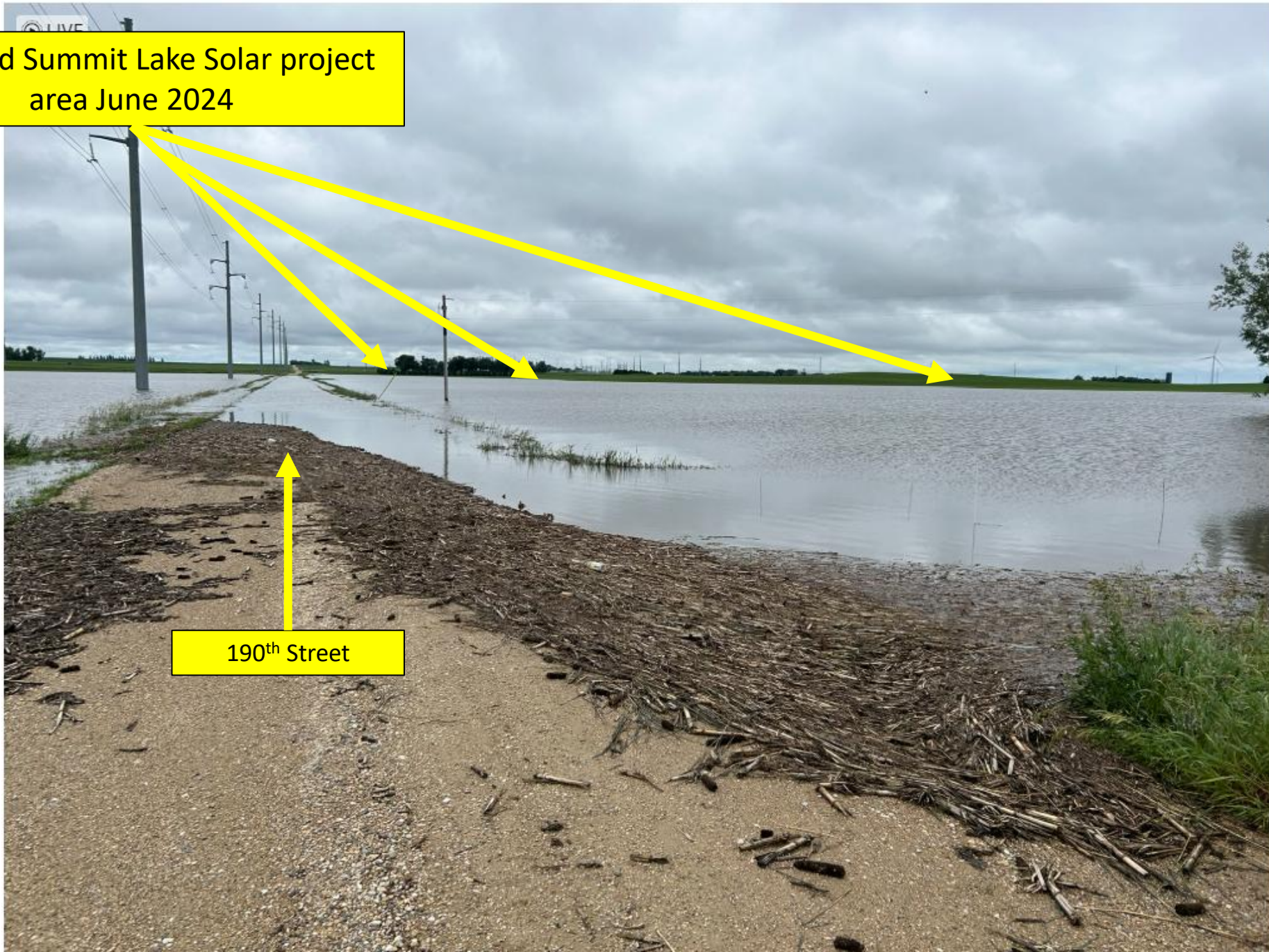






Summit Lake Section 22, NW quarter
Flooding, looking West from
Driveway of 25369 190th
June 22, 2024

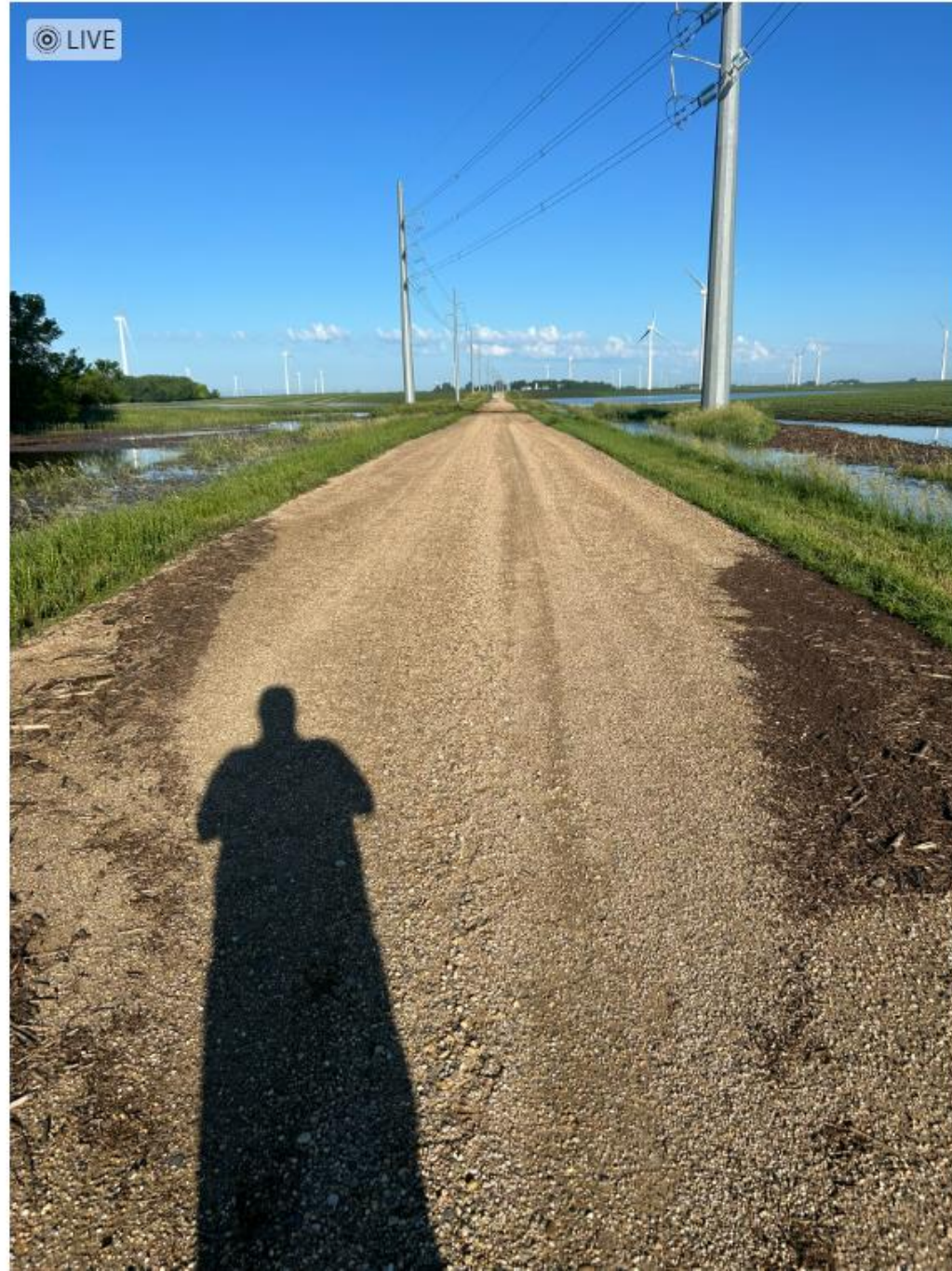
Proposed Summit Lake Solar project
area June 2024



190th Street



 LIVE







LIVE



June 26, 2024 at 5:37 PM

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Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025

Summit Lake section 22 North ½ or NW ¼
View from field drive in NE corner on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025





Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from field drive in NE corner on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from field drive in NE corner on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from the field drive just west of the acreage on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from the field drive just west of the acreage on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from just past the field drive just west of the acreage on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from the hill just west of the acreage on 190th street
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from just south of the intersection of 190th St and Knauf Ave
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$

View from field driveway on the property line just south of the intersection of 190th St and Knauf Ave
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from field driveway on the property line just south of the intersection of 190th St and Knauf Ave
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025



Summit Lake section 22 North $\frac{1}{2}$ or NW $\frac{1}{4}$
View from field driveway on the property line just south of the intersection of 190th St and Knauf Ave
Pattern tile project pictures. Completed late March/early April 2025

Summit Lake Solar Concerns and Opposition Letter #2

Darrel Ponto – Reading MN

Dear The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission; Hon. Administrative Law Judge,

My name is Darrel Ponto, and I reside in Reading, MN. I am writing to express additional concerns and opposition to Summit Lake Solar, LLC, Solar Facility Docket No. IP-7153/GS-25-89 & 25-88. I previously submitted comments on March 15, 2025 on document ID 20253-216448-01.

My family and I live on 25369 190th Street in Reading, MN, in Summit Lake Township, Section 22, Northwest Quarter. We have been residents here since December 2008. Our home is located approximately 575 feet west of a portion of the proposed solar project in the Northeast quarter of Summit Lake Township, Section 22.

I would like to share my written comments and pictures in addition to the comments I provided during the April 7, 2026 online public comment. In my previous letter, I provided photographic evidence of flooding incidents from April 2011, June 2018, June 2021, and June 2024. I also mentioned the risk of the panel assemblies being submerged in water, which could damage the panels and potentially leak contaminants into floodwaters that would affect local creeks, rivers, streams, lakes, and groundwater. I neglected to mention that our water supply comes from an older well that is 75 feet deep, located just 575 feet from the proposed project area that experiences flooding. This well is our sole source of water, as the local rural water project was completed before we moved here. The updates to the project did move the panels further east in Northeast quarter of Summit Lake Township, Section 22, but the current map still shows panels well within the flooding area of that field. Slides 16 and 17 of my attached photos show that the water is well into the planned project area. The rain for this specific event started on June 21, 2024 and the waters did not fully recede until after June 30, 2026. I was only able to find photos dating to June 26th, but as you can see in that photo of my driveway the water was still over my driveway and well into the planned project area. I strongly recommend that solar panels are not placed in this area. These rain events are common as you can see by my attached pictures. This bottom captures water off of the surround hills and ponds in this area. It takes a considerable amount of time for the water to recede as the downstream tiles must have the pressure relieved before this ponding or lakes will drain out. That is typically a minimum of 7-10 days in my experience since we have lived here. This past year the 80 acres that surround my

acreage in the NW1/4 of Summit Lake section 22 had the whole field pattern tiled so I can only assume that this will add additional water and water pressure to the tile system in this area. I am curious if Summit Lake solar is aware of this and has taken these recent changes into account to their calculation for this project? I have attached pictures of this pattern tile project as well.

As I mentioned in my comments during the online meeting, Summit Lake Solar has never contacted me about this project and I only live 575 feet west of the proposed project. This is very frustrating, especially since we now know they have been working to procure land since 2016.

Additionally, we have already experienced the impact of wind turbine construction in our rural area, followed by the complete rebuilding or repowering of these turbines due to parts obsolescence. This process has detracted from the beauty of our rural landscape.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to reconsider allowing the construction of this solar project in our small rural community.

Respectfully,

Darrel Ponto

Reading, MN