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To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Summit lake solar
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I am a farmer, cattle feeder and small business owner (bar/ restaurant) in summit lake township. My wife is a local insurance agent, EMT and on the local fire department. We have three teenage children. I am not in favor of this solar project for many reasons:

Devaluing neighbors ground and personal property. I have had to go thru hearings and conditional use permits to construct and maintain livestock facilities. The county has always had neighbors in mind while trying to preserve the ag land use laws we have here. I do not see the same here for this project.

Having to pay 3 to 4 times the county average for land leases just to get land owner to consider the solar agreements. Doesn't make it competitive for a neighbor to operate in the local area.

The battery storage facility raises a ton of questions for me. Are they safe? What happens when they malfunction/ explode and or start on fire? With my wife , neighbors and friends all volunteering to man the fire department what dangers are we putting them in??

Taking almost 2000 acres out of production in our small communities is going to make it even harder to keep our small businesses open. Also many of the jobs that work hand in hand with crop production. The seed sales persons, agronomists, truck drivers, equipment dealers, mechanics, lending agents and any or every job in our small communities that support us in our pursuit to feed an ever growing population!!

Thanks for the opportunity to voice my concerns.
Russell Penning