


**From:** [Wufoo](#)  
**To:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submitted Public Comment Form  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 22, 2025 10:29:51 PM

---

**This message may be from an external email source.**

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Name *	James Klavetter
Provide the docket's number.	25-126
Leave a comment on the docket. *	Please see attached letter Thank you, Jim Klavetter
Attach a File	<div><a href="#">img_7061.jpeg.jpg</a> 2.76 MB • JPG</div>

---

July 22, 2025

Re: Lemon Hill Solar Project

Docket# 25-126

Public Utility Commission Members,

My name is Jim Klavetter, I am a resident, farmer and township board supervisor in Viola Township, Olmsted County. As a township supervisor I have received many e-mails, texts, phone calls and visits regarding the Lemon Hill Solar project. Many are asking how do our zoning laws and permitting process play into this type of project. I in turn have to inform them since the project is over 50 megawatts, neither the county nor the township has any authority over its approval. The Minnesota state Legislature a year ago put the decision process solely into your hands, the (Public Utilities Commission.)

I have talked to our local legislators, Senator Steve Drazkowski and Representative Steve Jacobs, both confirm this to be true. Local government has no authority for setback guidelines or input on sensitive areas to avoid.

Olmsted County and specifically Viola and Haverhill townships set on Karst soils. These soils are very fragile and very prone to allowing quick infiltration of containments into our ground water. A number of the sites have soil to bedrock levels of less than 10 feet.

It is my understanding that the supports to hold the panels will be placed 20 feet apart and driven in 15 to 20 feet in depth, fracturing the already fragile rock formations. Doing this on 1800 acres surely cannot be good for our ground water.

It is for this reason I respectfully request you require an Environmental Impact Statement to be done for the protection of all our residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

James Klavetter