My name is Bruce Wright. Our home is directly adjacent to this proposed facility. I live at 12N268 Jackson Drive, Elgin in West Highland Acres and oppose Petition #4666. Kane County Board set a precedent by voting down Petition #4661 (TNT Howard LLC) on August 12, 2025, which was proposed to be directly next to my home on the southside. The county board member, Vern Tepe, by stating he is not in favor of solar installations "directly adjacent to residential" properties, regardless of other factors. A fundamental objection to the project's location. The project's location was incompatible with the neighborhood's existing character and vision. This holds true for this petition #4666. A "Petition of Objection" was signed by over 60 residents. First, for the Adverse Impact on Residential Character," that the "industrial-scale" installation was inconsistent with our established residential neighborhood. Second, there is a fear of "Decrease in Property Values" due to the visual & perceived industrialization of the area. Third, Environmental and Safety Concerns," including potential for glare, runoff, habitat disruption, fire, flooding, and wind damage and ground electricity to close to gas lines. This proposed commercial solar facility is "Incompatible with the Kane County 2040 Land Use Plan," which emphasizes the preservation of community character and agricultural resources. Align with the community's established character and future land-use goals.

The City of Elgin itself also expressed opposition, citing its own long-term plan for the area as being more compatible with residential and community development.

Sun vest wants to build and run this solar facility next to our homes. We have major concerns with their current facilities that they developed and are currently managing. Kane County gave special use to Edward Butts on Petition #4607. This Solar facility is on Muirhead Road in Plato Township. All the sparse ground cover or vegetative screening is dead. It is a fire hazard. We just had a lot of rain too. Please don't allow them to build and manage a commercial solar facility next to all our homes in West Highland Acres. Please view the pictures attached taken 9-15-25. Also attached is what Edward Butts was expecting for ground covering. This site is 250' away from some of our residents who have kids and there is a senior nursing home across the street (Highland Oaks – 2750 W. Highland Avenue, Elgin) from the solar facility.

## **Environmental and Safety Concerns**

- Glare: Concerns about sunlight reflecting off the panels.
- **Runoff and Flooding:** Fears about changes to stormwater management and potential flooding. West Highland Acres floods because of this site already.
- **Wildlife:** Worries that the proposed site would disrupt local animal habitats. Please view Jennifer Rymes letter to the VBA 9-2-25, showing all the animals from that site.
- **Fire and Wind Damage:** Fire from vegetative screening or lighting. Please note fire at Lily Lake facility noted on my VBA letter. Kane County had 4 tornados and 1 micro burst in 2024'. This site is 250' away from some of our homes also a nursing home across the street.
- Wildlife and Habitat: Please put a stipulation that the fencing will include a 6-inch gap at the bottom to allow for wildlife movement.

You are our advocate to protect our public safety & general welfare! Our home will have 2 solar facilities adjacent to us if you don't stop this petition. Petition #4666 which will be in our back yard and Petition #4661 TNT Howard is trying to appeal the Kane County Boards decision on 8-12-25. This petition #4661 will be 150' next to our home and our front yard.

There are some many other acres in Kane County to build a Commercial Solar Facility that is not next door to residential homes.

Thank You,

Bruce Wright

West Highland Acres Subdivision
doesn't want
this next to our homes.
This facility is managed by Sunvest
in Plato Township. Fire Hazard!









Edward Buits was expecting flowering, pollinator friendly Prairie grasses. per Edward Buits final testimony in Kane county zoning documents in ZEA minutes on 5-9-28. Petition #4607
Picture taken 9-15-25



This is the Testimony of Edward Butts – Petition #4607

Dated: 4-24-23

System Design We rejected an offer from a solar provider 5-6 years ago, in part, because we did not like the design. In that instance, the solar provider was planning to install rows of solar panels running from east to west rather than parallel to the road. The panels were south facing and stationary. The company was not proposing a buffer area of native grasses outside the equipment area, and they planned to build a chain link fence around it. (We particularly objected to the chain link fence because it was out of character with an agricultural setting.) By contrast, Sunvest is proposing to install rows of solar panels running north and south parallel to Muirhead Rd. The panels will rotate to follow the sun from east to west during the day. In addition to planting pollinator friendly, flowering native grasses within the equipment area, Sunvest is proposing to include a 25-foot buffer area of such grasses around the equipment area. They are proposing to enclose the area with an 8-foot fixed knot fence. A fixed knot fence is a traditional farm fence. It is the same fence we would use to fence in livestock. I believe, and I think my sisters agree, that an array of symmetrically designed, sun-following solar panels built in a field of flowering, pollinator friendly prairie grasses would not be an unattractive sight. After looking out of our west window for 80 years to see only corn or corn stubble or soybeans or soybean stubble, we think this solar field may offer a refreshing alternative. Positive environmental impacts For my sisters and I, a factor in our decision was the positive benefit this solar field will provide for native species. When my older