

Zine, Natalie

From: Pamela Benson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 6:01 PM
To: Zine, Natalie
Subject: EX: Petition # 4666

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Dear Natalie Zine,
Please do not pass Petition #4666.
Too many solar array are displacing large tracts of productive farm land. Once we lose farmland to these kinds of projects and other construction, it is gone forever. We need this land to stay productive for future generations.

Solar installations on the scale needed to supply power grids are massive, transforming productive farm fields into industrialized landscapes of metal and glass surrounded by security fences. These sprawling arrays can alter everything from sun exposure to surface temperatures, which can have vast and unexpected impacts on plants and animals and even alter the area's microbiome.

The dark surfaces of solar panels absorb most of the light and heat that reaches them. However, only about 15% of incoming energy is converted to electricity. The rest is returned to the environment as heat. Because the panels are so much darker than the surrounding vegetation, large swathes of solar fields will absorb and emit heat at higher rates, which can have unknown consequences on the surrounding environment.

According to Jeffrey Lovich, a research ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, some solar panels "can incinerate insects and burn the feathers of birds that fly through.

And this is all without touching on the potential environmental impact of solar panel production. Although labeled as "clean energy," solar panels harbor a cocktail of toxic chemicals, including cadmium compounds, silicon tetrachloride, hexafluoroethane and lead.

Please do not put up more solar panels on useful farmland.
Many other areas and countries have put them up along highways, or on top of buildings.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

Sincerely,
Pamela Benson
Concerned Kane County resident.