

AUG 1 5 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

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PUBLIC SERVICE

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Exie Solar Project. While renewable energy has its place, this project poses significant risks and drawbacks for our community that cannot be ignored.

### 1. Loss of Prime Agricultural Land

The proposed site occupies productive farmland that supports local food production and agricultural livelihoods. Once converted to an industrial solar facility, this land will no longer sustain crops or livestock.

### 2. Negative Impact on Wildlife Habitat

The area is home to quail, deer, pollinators, and other wildlife. Large-scale solar fields disrupt natural habitats, fragment migration paths, and contribute to the decline of species critical to our ecosystem.

# 3. Threat to Water Quality and Availability

Industrial solar sites alter drainage patterns, increase runoff, and can contaminate nearby water sources. The developer has not provided adequate studies on the effect on our drinking water supply or local wells.

## 4. Loss of Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Hunting, birdwatching, and dog training—important local traditions and economic drivers—will be severely limited or eliminated in the project area, harming tourism and community culture.

# 5. Decline in Property Values

Numerous studies show that proximity to large industrial solar installations lowers surrounding property values, impacting residents' investments and tax revenues for the county.

### 6. Minimal and Temporary Job Creation

While developers promise jobs, most are short-term construction positions. Permanent employment opportunities after installation are extremely limited, offering little long-term benefit to our community.

#### 7. Environmental Hazards from Solar Waste

Decommissioned solar panels can contain toxic materials and are difficult to recycle. The International Renewable Energy Agency estimates millions of tons of solar waste will

accumulate by 2050, raising concerns about landfill overflow and environmental contamination.

# 8. Lack of Transparency and Community Engagement

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Public meetings have been poorly advertised, leaving residents without adequate information or time to respond. This lack of openness undermines public trust and community decision-making.

For these reasons, I urge decision-makers to reject the Exie Solar Project and protect our farmland, wildlife, and rural heritage.

Respectfully.

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AUG 1 5 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Exie Solar Project. While renewable energy can play a role in our future, this development presents significant concerns for our community, economy, and environment.

### 1. Loss of Prime Agricultural Land

The project would permanently remove valuable farmland from production. This land is a critical resource for local food supply, livestock grazing, and our agricultural economy.

Once covered in panels, it cannot be restored to its current productivity for decades, if ever.

### 2. Negative Impacts on Wildlife and Habitat

The project footprint will disrupt the natural habitat of local wildlife, including quail, deer, and pollinators. Large-scale solar fields increase heat, reduce foraging space, and fragment habitat, directly harming species that are already under pressure.

# 3. Threats to Water Quality and Runoff Control

Removing vegetation and compacting soil for panel installation will increase uncontrolled stormwater runoff. This can contribute to erosion, flooding, and contamination of drinking water sources—issues the developer has failed to adequately address.

### 4. Decline in Property Values and Rural Character

Industrial solar fields are incompatible with the rural, scenic character of our community. Studies and local experience show nearby property values decline, and the loss of open landscapes harms tourism, hunting, and outdoor recreation.

### 5. Lack of Local Economic Benefit

The developer has admitted the project will not reduce local electricity bills. The few temporary construction jobs created will not offset the permanent negative effects. Profits will leave the county, while the costs—financial and environmental—will remain here.

For these reasons, I urge you to reject the Exie Solar Project and protect our farmland, wildlife, water, and community for future generations.

Sincerely,

Thinley Cors 3764 Wards Rd MT. Sherman, Kit 42769