

A MESSAGE FROM POSEY SOLAR PROJECT

The Posey Solar Project remains committed to being a good business neighbor and community partner in Posey County. As we have demonstrated in our discussions with local leaders, landowners and community members, **we are eager to have productive conversations and are open to compromise and cooperatively finding middle ground.**

We have made voluntary commitments to the Posey County community based on these discussions and on the existing solar zoning ordinance. Some of these commitments are accounted for in the recommended ordinance revisions. We want to take this opportunity to reaffirm our promises that aren't affected by proposed ordinance changes:

- We will provide training to local fire departments up to twice a year.
- We will contribute \$25,000 to Marris Township fire department upon commercial operation of the solar field, and \$5,000 each year thereafter.
- We will contribute up to \$225,000 toward new communications towers that will ensure reliable radio service for first responders.
- We will develop a 20-acre pollinator habitat within the project.
- We will use panels that do not contain cadmium.
- We will not seek a tax abatement.

These promises are not requirements in any local ordinance, and they are not typically asked of new businesses looking to invest in a community. Based on productive discussions between our team and members of the Posey County community, **these promises illustrate our willingness to be a good community partner.**

We also want to set the record straight on a few pieces of misinformation that are being circulated in the community. First, **this is the only solar project that our companies are developing in Posey County**, and we don't have plans for an expansion. The quote from Inside Indiana Business that was taken out of context by a small, yet vocal group of individuals who are opposed to solar development was in reference to the warm reception our team has gotten to solar projects generally in southern Indiana. You can read the full article and listen to audio excerpts here: <https://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/43050007/inpower-southwest-indiana-set-for-big-solar-investments>

Second, **all of the 65+ landowners who have leased land to Posey Solar Project own property and pay taxes in Posey County.** The majority of these landowners also reside in the region, and they care about Posey County and Marris Township as their community, just as they care about and are connected to their family land. They want to see the community and the land prosper for future generations.

Third, we recognize that Posey County is proud of its farming heritage. Our landowners share in that pride and have taken great care in the decision to participate in this project. The land area to be utilized for the Posey Solar Project accounts for 1.2% of farmland in Posey County. **A solar field is a temporary use that allows the land, rested and restored, to return to agriculture production.** Participating in the project allows our landowners the flexibility to keep land in their family for future generations to farm.

Solar is a drought-resistant cash crop that will continue to benefit the county year in and year out, creating a reliable cash flow in what can be a very volatile market.

An independent Land Use Analysis conducted by Strategic Economic Research, led by Dr. David G. Loomis, professor of economics at Illinois State University and co-founder of the Center for Renewable Energy, concluded "the land use value of solar leasing far exceeds the value for agricultural use."

His study found that for farming to generate more income for the landowner and the local community than solar:

- The price of corn would need to rise to \$18.97 per bushel (2020 average market value: \$4.45) or yields for corn would need to rise to 446 bushels per acre (2020 yields: 199) by the year 2057
- The price of soybeans would need to rise to \$53.66 per bushel (2020 average market value: \$11.40) or yields for soybeans would need to rise to 171.8 bushels per acre (2020 yields: 65.4) by the year 2057

Posey Solar Project represents a \$264 million investment in Posey County. **The project is very low impact – perhaps the lowest impact of economic development projects.** Operating solar fields have minimal impact on the surrounding area: little to no sound outside the fence line; no odor or emissions; solar panels with a height typically 15 feet or less from the ground; and no increase in local traffic.

We continue to remain available to members of the public seeking information and meaningful discussion. We welcome you to follow our Facebook page for regular updates, submit questions online via our website or Facebook Messenger, schedule an appointment with our team via our website, stop into our office to chat or look at maps, or reach out to our Local Representative Stacy Wagner.

We believe this is a positive step for Posey County, **and we look forward to becoming a part of the Posey County community.**

Tiago Sabino Dias

President & CEO, Arevon Energy Management

Steve Johnson

Senior Vice President, Tenaska

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OFFICE HOURS
Tues/Thurs 6pm – 8pm
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