

Dear Commission Judson,

I have reviewed the Department of Energy Resources recently released proposed rules to promote solar development in the state, the SMART program. I write concerning Section 20.05(5)(e) which would penalize landowners who have previously put their land into Ch. 61A. This provision is harmful. It would take away an important option for farmers and rural landowners like me and my neighbors, and it would penalize those who put their land into the Ch. 61A program. This rule would require such landowners to also pay a penalty for removing land from Ch. 61A. It would also interfere with property rights and would override local zoning rules that allow for solar development on Ch. 61A land. This proposed penalty on rural landowners will lead to unfair consequences which I think must be unintended. I hope you will consider changing it.

Sincerely,

Tim Curley

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