

From: rcbret@aol.com
To: [Storm, Bill \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Comments regarding the proposed Sherco Solar Project
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Mr. Storm,

I did not attend your August 31, public forum so am making my comments based upon your power point presentation which I found on the PUC website.

Slide 3

To state that this is a 460 MW solar generating system is misleading. You can NOT compare solar generating capacity to coal/nuclear/hydro/natural gas, because when you say solar 460 MW, that's talking about only when full sun is being captured, maybe a couple hours a day, where the other sources can generate their rated capacity energy 24-7.

Note: Sherco has a three unit combined capacity of 2,238 MW. How can anyone say that replacing 2,238 with 460 is a good thing?

3,479 acres of land. . . so you plan on removing over 3,500 acres of farm land for this? This is not a wise use of productive land.

Back to capacity, solar panels output drops about 0.8 percent a year, so your 460 MW will only be able to put out maybe 428 MW after 10 years of operation, and only this much energy for a couple hours of the day where again either a coal/nuclear/hydro/natural gas plant will be capable of putting out the same amount of power in its 30th year of operation as in its first year.

Slide 8

I don't care about renewable, what about reliable? What about "quantity". I want to know that I'm going to have affordable electric available when the temperature reach 100 degrees in the late afternoon when the sun is setting, and when the temperature drops to 30 below in the middle of the night. Solar will not do this.

Slide 10

100,000 homes powered? Not powered 24/7 like would be the case with coal/nuclear/hydro/natural gas. This is misleading as it is incorrect.

300,000 tons of CO2, "avoided". . . what does that mean, "avoided"? Plus, CO2 is good! It feeds plant life which makes O2, which animals and humans need to breathe.

60,000 gasoline cars? Show me the math, I don't believe you

\$115 million in wages from 900 union construction jobs. One, there are temporary jobs. Two, I don't care what the color of the workers skin is or their sex, your claim is both racist and sexist.

Slide 20

"Repowered", what does that mean? It's still going to result in the removal and disposal of tons of components. How and where.

"Soil quality generally has improved". What kind of statement is that and how can it be proven or quantified? After 20-30 years of non-farm use, the dirt is going to get better? I doubt that after leakage of oils into the soil, and broken solar panel materials that this farm land will ever be the same and able to produce as it once did.

Slide 23

"Does not advocate for or against the project". I don't believe that. Xcel is a government control monopoly and the PUC is part of the government.

Slide 27

Get rid of the court reporter and video/audio record all future events.

Final thoughts

It's my understanding that the gas turbine that was initially going to be installed at Sherco is now going to be installed in S. Dakota somewhere, and one operable we will be purchasing power from them. How is that a "win", for your renewable energy push as we will still be purchasing power generated by fossil fuels? Isn't this whole push for renewables a result of your incorrect believe that we are experiencing man-made global warming, caused by the burning of fossil fuels? "Global Warming", is global yes? Using fossil fuels to make energy just the other side of the Minnesota boarder is still adding CO2 to the "globe", isn't it?

This solar farm farce is not only a waste of money but is going to reduce the standard of living for every man, women and child in the region. And not just for those serviced by Xcel, because when the sun isn't shining, Xcel is going to have to purchase power from somewhere else, causing prices all over the country to rise.

I suggest you watch the Prager University video provided in the link below to learn more about what is wrong with solar.

<https://www.prageru.com/video/whats-wrong-with-wind-and-solar>

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