

September 3, 2021

Attn: Bill Storm  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7th Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Letter Addressing City of Becker Business Park Expansion Planning (eDocket ID Nos. 20-891, 21-189, 21-190, 21-191)

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Ross Imholte. I am a participating landowner in the Sherco Solar Project and resident of Clear Lake Township. Both myself and my family business, Imholte Brothers, LLC, voluntarily signed land leases to participate in the Sherco Solar Project and look forward to the construction of the Project.

I reviewed the correspondence on docket 20-891 between Xcel Energy and the City of Becker filed on May 19, 2021. In review of the correspondence, I was surprised to learn that the City of Becker had designated my property as a part of a 'Business Park Overlay' area. Unbeknownst to me, the City of Becker requested to Xcel Energy that Xcel Energy not use my land for their solar project and that my lands be set aside for future unspecified and speculative economic development opportunities. I have also learned that the City of Becker separately had asked Xcel Energy to set some of my land aside for an approximate 65-foot utility corridor along 115<sup>th</sup> Avenue. I was not approached by the city regarding this potential purchase of my land for this corridor until after Xcel Energy had notified me of the request. A purchase of even a small corridor would impact the revenue I collect from the solar project.

I have willingly entered into an agreement to allow Xcel Energy to develop my land for solar energy. The solar development will provide me with a stable source of long-term income for at least the next 35 years. I have no interest in setting lands aside for speculative economic development that may never happen in place of the sure bet that is the solar project. I fully support the use of my land for solar energy production, and I am not interested in setting any of my solar leased lands aside for other potential future land uses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ross Imholte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ross Imholte  
Imholte Bros, LLC