

From: wanda.stanandwanda.com
To: [Storm, Bill \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Sherco Solar Project- Becker, MN
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Hello Bill,

Going from natural gas to solar panels is a concern for several reasons.

- With the proposed 3,500 acres being used for solar panels vs producing food, alternative locations should be considered? How about the Xcel mountains of ash, can solar panels be installed on that waste land? Or Vonco Waste Management has mountains of garbage with grass planted; can solar panels be installed on that waste land? What about other Xcel land? Xcel needs to search alternative land to use opportunities VS farm land. What happens to the food supply? We know Xcel will be looking for additional land.
- Solar is unpredictable & intermittent especially in our area. December – January are mostly cloudy & snowy when we need the energy the most. We do not want rolling black outs like California and Texas when it is 30 below!
- Also, another concern is the leaching of toxic lead & cadmium from the panels into the water table and land. Most panels are made in China and God only knows what chemicals are in them. Also, the galvanized steel platforms oxidize & releases zinc into the soil which can be toxic to plants & crops once the panels are removed. All panels should be required to be made in USA.
- EMF (manmade electromagnetic fields), can be dangerous to your health due to EMF's emitted. Our health is currently under stress because of Wifi, Smart Tv's & others, the additional 4.7 miles of HVTL will add more to this area.
- Becker already has enough toxic business's (Vonco, Xcel & Northern Metals) taking up many acres of land, Xcel should use their back yard since they will not making more ash mountains.

Just a thought; does MN have required recycle protocol for the panels? If not it should be required, because we will have millions of toxic panels in several years.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Wanda Herkenhoff
12215 Oakview Ave, Becker, MN 55308
Cell: 612-219-8910 (H) 763-262-0738 (No voice mail)
Email: Wanda@StanandWanda.com

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