Physician Fires "Shot Across The Bow" of Solar Developers and Data Centers In "The State Up North" (Michigan)

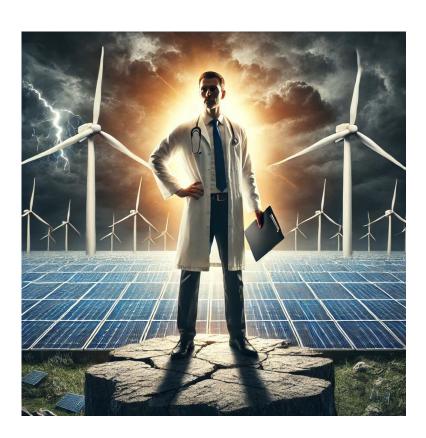
Hats off to the Dr. Remingron Nevin, Medical Director, St. Clair County Health Department for utilizing the tool, more accurately Michigan law, to protect the health, safety, and welfare his county.

(Now, before my Buckeye friends jump on me for this post — as it pertains to The State Up North and this Saturday is The Big Game... I felt this was a worthy reason to set this rivalry aside (at least for the moment).) - JW Thompson

This post was made (11.25.24) on the STOP SOLAR FARMS Facebook Group, by Mike Hilferink.

Time to fight back!

The St Clair County, Michigan, Medical Director has recognized the potential health risks involved with industrial solar plants and intends to use all powers available to regulate and stop these corporate cancers from harming the residents.



Share share. We need to get this strategy out across the state and country. If health departments can shut down almost all businesses during the pandemic, they should have no problem shutting down a few industrial solar plants, for the nuisance and health risk they truly are.

I have summarized the recently released St. Clair County Medical Director report on the potential health risk of solar plants.



We are determined to take back control from the state by declaring industrial solar plants a public health risk.

Full report is in the comments.

Public Health Risk of Industrial Facilities:

• Dr. Nevin expresses concern that industrial solar plants and data centers pose a health risk, especially to vulnerable populations:

"It is my professional medical opinion that the construction and operation of such facilities could pose a public health risk to the residents of St. Clair County, especially vulnerable populations."

Comparison to COVID-19 Restrictions:

• He draws parallels to coronavirus restrictions, where local health authorities imposed regulations to protect public health:

"Local health departments have historically played an important role in safeguarding public health through regulations that directly address health risks, as demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic when restrictions on businesses and social activities were imposed to protect the health of the community."

Health Department's Authority:

• Dr. Nevin argues that the Health Department should have authority to regulate industrial facilities to protect public health:

"The St. Clair County Health Department should have the authority to regulate these facilities to ensure that they are constructed and operated in a way that does not pose a risk to public health."

Precedent for Local Health Regulation:

• While recognizing state law restrictions, he emphasizes that local health departments can still act independently to safeguard health:

"While Public Act 233 of 2023 preempts local land use controls over the siting of energy facilities, local health departments retain independent authority under the Public Health Code to protect public health in the face of risks posed by such facilities."

Recommendation for Proactive Health Orders:

• Dr. Nevin recommends adopting health orders and regulations similar to COVID-19 measures to manage the potential risks of industrial facilities:

"It is my recommendation that the St. Clair County Health Department adopt regulations and draft health orders to ensure that industrial solar and data center facilities meet public health standards with respect to environmental health hazards,

contamination, and health problems that may arise from their construction and operation."

Public Engagement in Decision-Making:

• He stresses the importance of public input and formal processes in adopting health regulations:

"The adoption of these regulations should be subject to public input and formal processes, to ensure that the community has an opportunity to engage in the decision-making process."

Independent Authority of Health Department:

• Dr. Nevin underscores the importance of maintaining the Health Department - It's independent authority, similar to the role health agencies played during the pandemic:

"As a physician with expertise in public health and preventive medicine, I believe the Health Department must retain its independent authority to act in the best interests of public health, independent of local governing entities that may be subject to political pressures."