

What you do not hear being said regarding Utility-Scale Solar Development's Negative Economic Impacts



A Michigan State University professor who analyzed the potential economic impacts of a solar facility in Indiana (limited to measuring only the value of subverted agricultural production following the installation and operation of the Lone Oak Solar project). The Lone Oak Solar project is a solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility in Northwestern Madison County, IN. This is a 120-megawatt (MW) PV deployment on approximately 850 acres of least lands. Up to 13 disjointed installation sites in proximity will be used spanning a total of 1,890-acre Steven Miller.

Mr. Miller is an associate professor at Michigan State University – Dept. of Agriculture, Food, and Resource Economics whose area of expertise is Policy Impact Monitoring.

The estimated impact reflects the direct annual loss of agricultural output and associated economic measures are:

- **1,890 acres taken out of agricultural crop production and placed in PV-electricity production**
- **\$1,038,051 in gross farm revenues (cash sales of farms)**
- **\$363,321 in farm net revenues (Farm revenues to proprietor, farm capital and farm land)**
- **\$75,600 in farm labor earnings (excluding proprietor earnings)**

Direct loss of agriculture sales of \$1,038,051 will create a decrease in total transactions in Madison County, totaling \$2.34 million per year. This would result in a reduction of regional income of just over \$1.13 million per year. Total labor income will be expected to decline by \$240,833 per year, impacting just over five local workers.

*Poster's opine: A quick and dirty **extrapolation of the estimated negative economic impacts for a utility-scale solar facility with a 500MW capacity...\$9,769,738 annually** ($(\$1,038,051/120)*500$). Not entirely apples to apples, but intended to reflect that a large negative impact should be anticipated by communities, businesses, planners, and elected officials.*