
Fw: Update on solar power at closed landfill initiative - reporting to Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority at this evening's meeting - 2025 Work Plan Agenda item

From Jason Stopa <JStopa@lakeelmo.gov>
Date Tue 11/19/2024 4:55 PM
To Ashley Monterusso <AMonterusso@lakeelmo.gov>

Jason Stopa
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From: Tony Manzara <tony.manzara@sminc-lake-elmo.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:20 AM
To: Mary Kay Olson <marykay@cooperativeenergyfutures.com>; Tony Manzara <tony.manzara@sminc-lake-elmo.org>; Clark <CMcWilliams@scsengineers.com>; Mark Pelletier <mark.pelletier@landfillsolar.com>; Dan <DMcCullough@scsengineers.com>; Timothy Bradley <ft.bradley@landfillsolar.com>; Jason Stopa <JStopa@lakeelmo.gov>; Charles Cadenhead <ccadenhead@lakeelmo.gov>
Subject: Update on solar power at closed landfill initiative - reporting to Lake Elmo Economic Development Authority at this evening's meeting - 2025 Work Plan Agenda item

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

The 2024 EDA Work Plan Goals include

4. Explore the feasibility of developing a solar farm on a former city landfill site using 3M Settlement Priority 2 grant funds

Update on this effort on solar power development at the closed Washington County Landfill, from 2024 EDA plan: Preparation and submission of the Letter of Intent for the upcoming RFP from the State of Minnesota. According to the currently-showing update (<https://3msettlement.state.mn.us/sites/3msettlement/files/2024-05/2024-06-01-3m-p2-project-update.pdf>). The publication of the RFP was postponed from the initial June 2024 schedule, and is now scheduled for publication in "late 2024". In a discussion with MPCA commissioner Kurt Kodelka at the open meeting on PFAS in Lake Elmo wells, he explained that the MPCA has had many retirements and resignations, and short-staffing is causing delays in planned work. I have been working to get information that will support a credible project.

November 15th discussion of design possibilities for solar power installation on Washington County Landfill (WCL), based on the available background (history, landfill closure construction plans, State reports, etc)

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McWilliams, Clark <CMcWilliams@scsengineers.com>

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Timothy Bradley <ft.bradley@landfillsolar.com>

We talked about possible designs that would be suitable for that site. Landfill Solar has a design that seems suitable for the topography and the likely requirement to avoid driving posts into the landfill cover, Timothy will provide a conceptual plan. SCS Engineers has a nationwide operation, Clark will put me in contact with the appropriate person to deal with the issues our area.

In Email correspondence with Jennifer Hassemer, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Debt Management and Internal Controls, 651-201-8079 (office)

I asked for confirmation of the amount of General Obligation Bonds that still had to be retired before the WCL can be put to beneficial use, she responded that her office could respond in several weeks, and gave me an overview of the standard requirements.

The most logical use of a few more megawatts of solar power in our area would be to feed it into the grid. Mary Kay Olson of Cooperative Energy Futures pulled up the map that shows where Xcel energy has conductor capacity to accept solar power. It seems likely that Xcel would have to add an additional connection to service the proposed system. The next step is to find the right individual at Xcel who could provide a round number estimate of the cost of such a connection. Then we would need to find out how the cost of this connection could be covered.

I would ask that this project be continued into the 2025 EDA Work Plan.

have a peaceful day....

tony

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Tony Manzara, President 651-769-7001 cell

Friends of Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park, which operates the

Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center 651-408-2838

located in Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park

entry point 10,000 Stillwater Lane N, Lake Elmo, MN

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"On the Plains of Hesitation bleach the bones of countless millions who,

at the dawn of Victory, sat down to wait, and waiting, died"

- George W. Cecil