

Johnson County Solar Regulations

Benefits of Solar

Johnson County – Background: The Planning Commission’s recommendations would overregulate the renewable energy industry. This is bad for Johnson County’s 21st Century goals, and sends a bad message to the rest of the world that JOCO is closed for 21st century business. There are 3 main points of overregulation that must be addressed.

“Overregulating Utility Scale Solar, as envisioned by the Planning Commission, will have a chilling effect on Johnson County’s reputation as a renewable energy leader.”

Talking Points on Excessive Regulations

- Limiting conditional use permits to less than the industry-standard accepted terms of 25-30 years is arbitrary. It also threatens the viability of utility scale solar projects and could lead to increased consumer costs.
- Buffering cities at 2-miles from solar panels is excessive. A one mile buffer is reasonable and allows for the anticipated growth over the next 25-30 years without limiting landowner rights in the buffered areas.
- Limiting the size and scope to only 1,000 acres is a gross infringement on landowner property rights while also arbitrarily limiting the opportunities available to the county.

Talking Points on why USS is good for JOCO

- “Utility scale solar development fits perfectly into the long-term goals for Johnson County, bringing good jobs and economic opportunities to the community, helps preserve top-tier agricultural soils, and supplies the energy our 21st century businesses demand.”

Estimates for a 320MW USS facility.

- 250 Construction Jobs
- \$40+ million in county personal property tax payments
- Agricultural Co-use opportunities
- 320 MW of clean energy, enough to power more than 200,000 homes.
- Business, environmental, labor, and civic organizations across the metro area are joining the movement.