

From: [Carol Cowling](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Badger Mountain Solar Project
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External Email

As a resident of Douglas County, I am opposed to the siting of the Badger Mountain Solar Project.

1.No economic benefit will result to Douglas County, except for a selected few. The residents get most of their power from Douglas County Public Utility District, using renewable hydropower from several dams along the Columbia River. The solar power generated from this project will be used elsewhere, most likely out of state.

2. Loss of wildlife habitat and shrub steppe is a major concern. Granted, some of the land is now agricultural land, But shrinking amounts of natural habitat, big or small, barren or fertile, are what remains of this planet's accessible biological world. Covering up the land with black and blue panels is not protecting the land. Federal and state funding is backing much of the solar projects with no regard to the earth's landscape. Fences built to keep wildlife out will only put them on the road when crossing, with no place to escape. Fires in Douglas County have obliterated sage grouse habitat and Badger Mountain is one of the few remaining habitat spots in the Pacific Northwest.

3. The landowners benefiting from the solar leases are happy. The adjacent landowners will only see their property values decrease. One of the benefits of Badger Mountain is its proximity to East Wenatchee while being rural. Non lease landowners will have a difficult time selling land whose neighbor is a solar farm. There are other places this could be sited. The Hanford acreage should be an option. The lessees do not live near the property proposed. Aurora Solar, LLC is not a Washington Company. The landowners opposed to the project is a small group of farmers and residents who have lived on Badger Mountain for generations. Solar technology will change. Be less invasive. Hasty projects chasing grant dollars are short sighted when considering the natural landscape it is forever changing.

Sincerely,
Carol D Cowling