

From: [Don Divers](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Bob Divers](#); [Loren C. Divers](#); [Glen Divers](#); [Ron & Carol Stoker](#); [E. Divers](#)
Subject: Carriger Solar Project -- Comment in Opposition to the Solar Project
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:45:34 PM

External Email

I am Don Divers. My family owns a 210 acre ranch at 123 Olson Rd, Goldendale WA. I also am a partner in another 260 acres of ranch and farm land adjacent to the family property. We grow crops, wildlife, and lease for grazing cattle. We also spend time enjoying the beautiful area.

We are third generation farmers and ranchers in the valley. My grandfather, Robert M Divers homesteaded the property in the late 1800's, farmed the land and raised livestock and farmed the entire valley as a contract harvester. My dad, Robert V Divers grew up on the ranch and eventually farmed across Eastern Wa.

The Goldendale Valley has remained relatively untainted and bucolic since then, with an amazing array of farming, grazing and wildlife habitat. The lack of industrial development influence is what makes this valley special.

The proposed solar field in the heart of the valley and along Highway 142 is the worst idea that has come along in a long time. Not only will it be an eyesore for all who drive by, it will destroy hundreds of acres of crop land, grazing and wildlife habit. The area will be scarified of all vegetation and covered with bright and reflective panels as far as the eye can see. The loss of productive farmland and wildlife habitat is too high a price for a solar project that is better located in remote, desolate, unproductive ground that is unfit for anything else.

The developer obviously has chosen this site for close proximity to the new Bonneville transmission lines to save cost, but that is no reason to allow them to destroy our beautiful valley. I don't see that a full blown EIS has been required or submitted, but I insist one be required to investigate the full extent of the harm this project will do to our beautiful valley.

Remember, developers are just in it for the money. They do not care what the collateral damage is -- they don't live here and don't intend to. They promise a Green proect with increased jobs and increased tax revenue to seduce us into approving their project, but once the project is built, you can't get buyers remorse and remove it. You won't like the outcome. During construction, out of town workers will flood the town just like the wind folks. They don't live here -- they book up the hotels and rentals. Once built and the workers leave, Solar fields do not produce many jobs -- maybe a handfull is all since there is minimal maintenance except for constantly spraying the weeds with Roundup where the hay or wheat used to be -- That is not Green - trading agriculture and habit for solar comes at a high price!. You will find

that they will get bigger end of the stick and we will be left with an eyesore. Don't fall for it - tell them no.

We oppose this project!

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