

June 9, 2025

Superintendent Robert Schiffbauer  
Minooka Community High School District #111  
201 S. Wabena Ave.  
Minooka, IL 60447

Superintendent Schiffbauer,

The Village of Shorewood and the Minooka High School District have a long history of partnership. The Village values this partnership and that is the reason I am writing to you today. The Village of Shorewood has been informed that three separate solar projects have filed for permitting in Will County. The three solar projects lie just outside of the municipal boundaries of the Village within our statutorily recognized one and one-half mile planning area. The three project zoning case numbers, addresses, PIN numbers and approximate acreage are as follows (map attached):

Will County Official Notification/Zoning Case ZC-25-028 (58.067 acres)

Address: 26347 W Baltz Rd, Joliet, IL 60404

PIN: 05-06-18-100-005-0000

Will County Official Notification/Zoning Case ZC-25-041 (71 acres)

Address: Vacant County Line Road, 1,000 feet east of the intersection of Baltz Road and County Line Road, Joliet, IL, 60431

PIN: 05-06-07-300-005-0020

Will County Official Notification/Zoning Case ZC-25-043 (68.559 acres)

Address: Vacant County Line Road, SEC of the intersection of W Black Road and S County Line Road Joliet, IL, 60431

PIN: 05-06-07-100-006-0000, 05-06-07-300-005-0010

The permitting of these solar projects would not be beneficial to the Village or the Minooka High School District. The tax implications to both of our districts is detrimental to our future financial stability. Forty acres of land is approximately one hundred residences. At the onset of tax collection, a forty-acre solar farm is the equivalent of approximately four homes and a depreciating asset for the twenty-five to thirty years the solar farm is on the tax rolls. This will severely limit the revenue for both of our organizations can expect from any solar project and impact all of our taxpayers.

The projects are detrimental to development for two other distinct reasons. First, the solar development is not required to contribute to any right-of-way roadway improvements within or adjacent to their project area. Furthermore, the solar projects are not required to extend utilities through their property. This means that either the Village or the developers of the properties down the line will have to bear the costs of utility and road improvements along the edge of the solar farm which will likely be cost-prohibitive and a severe impediment to growth.

Also noteworthy is that the Village joined the Grand Prairie Water Commission to bring a safe and sustainable water source from Lake Michigan to our community. The establishment of solar farms in our residential or commercial areas is an impediment to growth and we need residential and commercial consumers of water to pay for the minimum take of water to which we have pledged otherwise the water costs for our water consumers will be higher than necessary.

The Village of Shorewood is not opposed to green energy projects. The Village of Shorewood Board of Trustees recently approved a thirty-two-acre solar farm project in Kendall County. This land is designated as industrial in our comprehensive plan. The Board thoughtfully considered this plan and felt it was appropriate in that location. The three proposed solar projects listed above are all located in areas designated as residential or commercial in our comprehensive plan and detrimental to both the Village of Shorewood and Minooka Community High School District 111.

The Village of Shorewood will be vigorously opposing these three solar projects and any future solar projects in areas inconsistent with our long-term planning. The Village will be present at the zoning hearing on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. We are working diligently to provide written comments before our appearance. The Village of Shorewood respectfully requests a written letter of opposition to the three zoning cases:

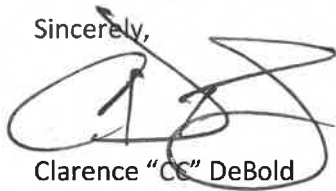
Zoning Case ZC-25-028

Zoning Case ZC-25-041

Zoning Case ZC-25-043

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Village Administrator Aaron Klima if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CC DeBold", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Clarence "CC" DeBold  
Mayor  
Village of Shorewood

