



How Will A Project Impact Farmland And Local Agriculture?

Solar development and traditional agriculture can co-exist side-by-side. Responsible solar development provides benefits to both agriculture and ecosystems by improving soil health, retaining water, nurturing native species, and supporting native pollinators which improves local food production. In addition, solar farms help farmers and landowners diversify their income by providing a reliable, drought-resistant revenue stream. This steady income means that farmers are less vulnerable to fluctuations in market prices on their products, uncertain trade regimes, and volatile annual weather, thus helping farmers stay in business. Additionally, at the end of its useful life, a project will be decommissioned, and the land will be available again for agriculture.

Is There A Fire Risk Associated With Utility-Scale Solar Power Generation Facilities?

The risk of fire at large-scale solar facilities is very low. The equipment used for such projects will be electronically monitored 24/7 and physically monitored throughout the standard work week. It is the number one priority to ensure the safe operation of a project facility and the safety of nearby residents and landowners. As the project is being developed, Branch Line Solar will work with local fire departments regarding all necessary procedures for the safe handling of fires within the facility. As a result of this prudent planning, fires within a project are highly unlikely to occur.

Are Property Values Impacted By A Solar Facility?

Industry studies show that large-scale solar power facilities economically benefit the community and do not decrease residential property resale values. The increase in county revenues generated by a facility typically leads to more funding for local services like schools, roads and emergency services.

Where Will The Power Generated From The Project Go?

The power from Branch Line Solar will be delivered into the local electric grid, helping to diversify the state's energy portfolio. Power generated by the Project will be used both locally and transmitted to where it is needed based on demand.

Are Solar Panels Safe?

Yes! Solar technology has been used far and wide since the 1950s and modern solar technology is safe for use on residential homes, schools, and undeveloped land. There is a very low risk of fire or emergency situations at large-scale solar facilities, and solar panel components do not pose any risk to the surrounding environment, soil or water. Safety is a number one priority for Branch Line Solar, and there will be close coordination with local emergency responders as the Project advances.

What Will This Do To Local Wildlife?

Impacts to local wildlife are minimal. Environmental experts assess a project footprint by conducting site-specific studies to understand and mitigate potential impacts on wildlife. Additionally, the native plant species included in an approved seed mix will provide new habitat and feeding ground for a multitude of pollinators, birds and other small animals. Small local wildlife will be able to come and go through wildlife friendly fencing, including rabbits and other small mammals as well as turtles and other small reptiles. Fencing will be set back from public roadways, and larger animals, such as deer, will be able to safely traverse around the project area. A project will comply with state and federal wildlife regulations, including requirements of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

What Happens To Solar Panels At The End Of Their Life?

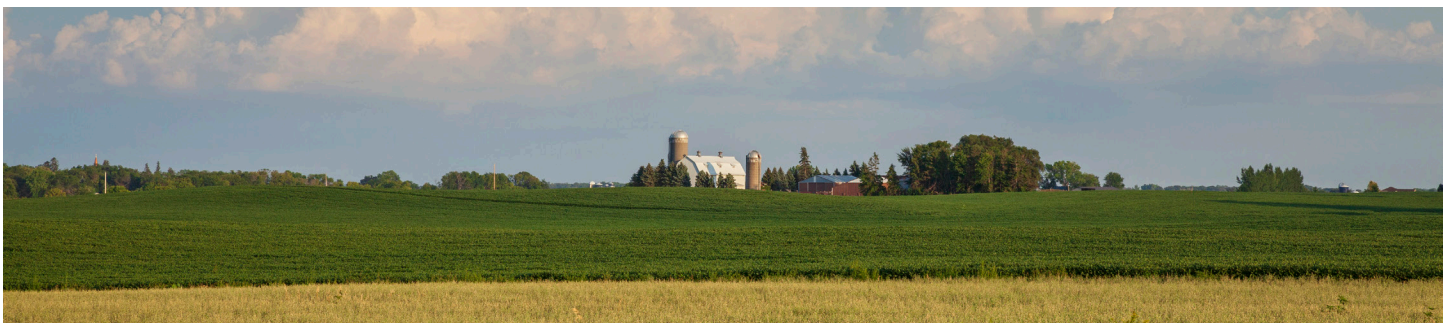
As part of the permitting process, Branch Line Solar will provide a detailed decommissioning plan and a financial commitment to implement the same. At the end of the Project's useful life (35-40 years on average), panels can be removed and re-used or recycled. Up to 90% of the materials used in panels, much of which is glass and aluminum, are recyclable.

How Does The Project Plan To Address Visibility?

Branch Line Solar plans to utilize existing trees and vegetation along adjacent public roadways as a natural buffer between the Project and public viewshed. The Project team will also develop a vegetative screening plan that includes new landscape plantings, wildlife fencing, and natural vegetation to minimize project visibility from roads and nearby residences.

Will Stray Voltage Be A Concern For Livestock Operations Near A Project?

No. Large-scale solar projects must follow strict electrical safety codes governing the design, construction, and operation of any project. With modern-day underground collection and transmission lines used in the construction of solar projects, stray voltage will not impact neighboring farms. On-site project staff will oversee the day-to-day operations of a solar farm to assure the site continues to follow all applicable codes and regulations.



FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON BRANCH LINE SOLAR:



BranchLineSolarProject

Email: info@branchlinesolar.com

