

SANILAC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION PREEMPTING LOCAL CONTROL FOR
SOLAR AND WIND DEVELOPMENTS**

WHEREAS, the governor of the State of Michigan has proposed the Michigan Public Service Commission be the sole regulating authority for solar and wind projects; and

WHEREAS, by granting the Michigan Public Service Commission this authority, local control will be preempted; and

WHEREAS, should local control be preempted, a county, township, city or village would be unable to determine the location, size, setback distance, decibel level or any other criteria for a solar or wind facility; and

WHEREAS, should local control be preempted, a county, township, city, or village would be unable to determine requirements for construction, operation, use, or maintenance of a solar or wind facility; and

WHEREAS, Sanilac County is experienced in renewable energy development as well as the effect on local communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2023-2028 Sanilac County Master Plan identified renewable energy as a high priority for land use policy development; and

WHEREAS, Sanilac County has studied the effects of renewable energy development on local communities as well as the local economy; and

WHEREAS, local governments have historically played a critical role in zoning and land use, ensuring that renewable energy projects are compatible and respectful of their local residents; and

WHEREAS, Sanilac County identified the need for and developed a 2023 renewable energy guidebook to assist local units of government with renewable energy policy; and

WHEREAS, local units of government provide opportunity for public input and discourse with a high level of accessibility to local residents; and

WHEREAS, local control over zoning allows local residents to consider unique geographical, environmental, and social factors when determining siting and regulation of wind and solar projects that the Michigan Public Service Commission may not consider; and

WHEREAS, efforts to preempt local control and declare the Michigan State Public Service Commission the regulating authority for wind and solar projects may have unintended consequences including potential negative impacts on local communities, property values and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, all other types of energy facilities, while regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission, must adhere to local zoning; and

WHEREAS, this proposal grants far more regulating authority to the Michigan Public Service Commission than for any other energy source; and

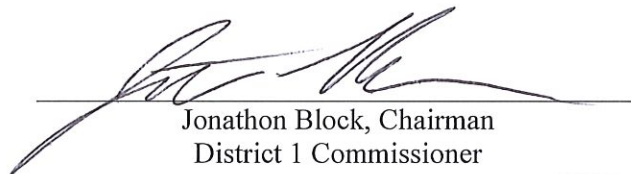
WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) opposes any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

WHEREAS, Sanilac County joins MAC in opposing any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that **SANILAC COUNTY** opposes the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning.

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the Board directs their staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the County's elected representatives in the Michigan Legislature and the United States Congress, to the Governor of Michigan and all 83 counties, along with the Michigan House and Senate Energy Committee Chairpersons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the proceedings of the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners this 19th day of September, 2023.



Jonathon Block, Chairman
District 1 Commissioner



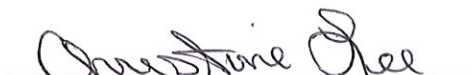
Roger Ballard
District 2 Commissioner



Gary Heberling
District 3 Commissioner



Bill Sarkella
District 4 Commissioner



Christine Lee
District 5 Commissioner



Evans Ehardt
District 6 Commissioner



John Moody
District 7 Commissioner