



May 31, 2023

Dear Frankfort Plant Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Frankfort Plant Board's proposed Community Solar Program. This program offers an important opportunity for customers to obtain solar energy. Envision is concerned that the current pricing, however, is too high to be attractive to Frankfort Plant Board customers.

The current retail rates proposed are so high that customers will have no incentive to participate even though they might want to support solar energy. The Community Solar Program will be successful if participants can share in the cost savings offered by low-cost solar power and see a reduction in their utility bills. This is the original goal of the FPB in the RFP used to solicit bids for building the community solar array (page 3):

#### 1.2. Purpose of RFP

FPB's interest in pursuing solar PV projects reflects the following prioritized goals:

1. Offer Frankfort Plant Board customers an alternative to rooftop solar installation.
2. Reduce costs and barriers to entry for solar ownership.
3. Offer renewable energy options for low and moderate income customers.
4. Make progress towards the community and Board's renewable energy goals.
5. Support local solar businesses, jobs, and workforce development.

We fully support these goals and hope that the current proposal for the community program can be modified to reduce costs and barriers to solar ownership by offering renewable energy options for low and moderate income customers. It is essential that the program minimizes the cost of participation and provide utility bill savings to participants.

As currently written, the FPB's proposed subscription rates do not represent an investment for customers, just an additional cost. In effect, customers are being asked to pay a premium just for participating in the



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Community Solar project. This is not only at odds with the expressed purpose of the project, it will likely limit participation and the ultimate success of the project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Schimmoeller

President



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