ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION 23-21

OPPOSING ANY LEGISLATION PREEMPTING LOCAL CONTROL FOR SOLAR AND WIND DEVELOPMENTS

Whereas Executive Directive 2020-10 aims to achieve 100 percent carbon neutrality in Michigan by 2050; and

Whereas industry leaders have pledged to reduce carbon emissions to help achieve this goal; and

Whereas efforts to expand renewable energy projects will continue to increase in this state; and

Whereas the governor has proposed the Michigan Public Service Commission be the sole regulating authority for solar and wind projects to expedite these efforts; 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 if a county already has a solar or wind policy, practice, regulation, rule or ordinance on record it would be null and void; 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 opposes any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

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

Adopted this 21ˢᵗ day of September, 2023

Reviewed and Approved as to Form by:

ST. CLAIR COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Gary A. Fletcher
County Corporation Counsel
1411 Third Street, Suite F
Port Huron, MI 48060