

FILE

To: Representative Adam C. Bird

Re: Farm Science Review

I support approaching solar energy generation in a way that keeps farmers on the land. Agrivoltaics, or farming with solar production, is entirely possible. One significant advantage of the approach is the shade the panels cast on the crop and soil. Shading from panels helps the soil stay cool and check evaporation. The north-south orientation of the panels in the field allows crops planted between the rows to receive full sun the bulk of the day while providing shade to the soil when the sun is lower in the sky. Furthermore, panels reduce wind, further checking soil moisture loss. The benefits from agrivoltaics are clear and growing. Oak Run Solar Project should be approved so we can experience all the benefits right here in front of us.

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09-20-2023

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