

## **Town of St. Joseph, St. Croix County, Hudson, WI**

### **Resolution 2026-02**

**Whereas** a 5,000-acre, 650-megawatt solar project currently known as The Ten Mile Creek Solar Project is being proposed by Xcel Energy to replace its current power plant (Allen S. King) in Bayport, MN to continue serving primarily energy customers in the State of Minnesota.

**Whereas**, the Town of St Joseph, St. Croix County, Wisconsin has prided itself in being a community with a focus on preserving our rural way of life.

**Whereas**, the Town of St Joseph has adopted their 2016–2026 Comprehensive Plan on December 29, 2016, with the goals of protecting and preserving the “natural resources, farmlands, open/green spaces, and wildlife habitat that define the character of the Town of St Joseph” and “to promote the preservation of our rural character”.

**Whereas**, The Town of St Joseph has prepared a natural resources inventory to understand and identify the significant natural resource areas in the Town. The Town has beautiful natural resources including the St. Croix River, various streams, rivers and lakes, woodlands and rolling topography. The abundance of natural resources makes the Town a unique place to live, and the resources should be maintained to preserve the rural quality of the Town.

**Whereas**, the Town of St Joseph has identified itself as a rural enclave and the term “rural character” is invoked frequently in describing its essence. The top ten qualities that make up the rural character of the Town are groundwater, quiet, natural features, viewsheds, farmland, limited, focused development in the hamlet of Houlton, lighting, signage, architectural standards and parks, recreation and trails.

**Whereas**. The Town of St Joseph recognizes the role natural area and rural vistas play in maintaining a healthy community and in contributing to the quality of life in the Town.

**Whereas**, Xcel has not been forthcoming in its public meetings as to the exact location of the known placement of the power line infrastructure to accommodate the transfer to the King Plant, provisions to protect the surrounding property owners, maintenance of the project, ground vegetation, soil erosion, damage to lakes, rivers, creeks, and wildlife refuges and the decommission of the power lines if they need to prematurely close their fully functioning King Plant.

**Whereas**, the expansive nature, size and scope of the power lines infrastructure associated with the Ten Mile Creek Solar Project will forever change the Town of St Joseph.

**Now therefore** be it resolved that the Town of St Joseph, St. Croix County, Wisconsin opposes the development of the Ten Mile Creek Solar Project and the associated transmission infrastructure that will be installed in the Town of St. Joseph.

Adopted by the Town Board on January 8, 2026.

Town of St Joseph

By:   
Theresa Johnson, Town Chair

Attest:   
Teri Kelly, Clerk/Treasurer



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