

Dinosolar

Frequently Asked Questions

Risks

Are there any risks or dangers living near a solar farm?

No. Solar panels are one of the least intrusive and cleanest forms of power generation available. Access to solar farm equipment will be restricted to maintenance personnel and the Fire District should they need to get into the site.

What are solar panels made of?

Solar panels are made of glass, aluminum, silicon (refined sand), and semi-conducting material. The glass is designed to withstand hail and is tempered, like the windshields of cars, and therefore resists breakage. Solar panels contain very small amounts of some chemicals, but they are encased within the panel. There are no liquids in the panels. Most solar panels can be disposed of in regular landfills just like household garbage, however, we look for recycling alternatives for the panels to reduce our impact on community landfills.

Do solar projects create electromagnetic fields or EMF?

All electric lines and equipment, including the lines to homes and businesses and home appliances, create EMF. Research to date has not found any link between EMF and health problems.

How long does it take to build a solar farm?

Construction of most solar farms takes from 6 to 12 months, which is much faster than traditional power sources.

What if the owner of a solar project goes bankrupt?

If an owner went bankrupt, it is very likely that a new owner would take over. Solar projects are expensive to build, but reliable and very cheap to operate. So, there are strong incentives to continue a solar project's operations

Land Use

What impacts do solar projects have on the land?

Very little. In flat areas, little earthmoving is needed for solar farms because the steel piles for the panels are installed directly through the topsoil. Existing vegetation will be kept except where mowing is needed. Cows and sheep along with big game and medium- sized predators (e.g., coyote, cougar, bobcat) will be excluded from the site by project fencing. Small mammals and birds will be able to continue to use the site to some degree.

Do solar projects have foundations?

The steel piles for panels generally have no foundations and most other equipment is installed on gravel pads, prefabricated concrete, or metal skids. Fence posts usually have small foundations.