

Dinosolar

Frequently Asked Questions

Land Use

How is storm run-off controlled?

Solar farms are required to implement erosion and sediment controls during construction, and prior to operation, they must obtain a storm water management permit that implements an approved storm water Pollution Prevention Plan to protect the environment and neighbors.

Can fields used for a solar project be returned to ranch land?

Absolutely. A study by N.C. State University found that solar has only short-term impacts on productivity and is a “viable way to preserve land for potential future use.”

Impacts to Neighbors

Do solar projects make any noise?

Solar panels are extremely appealing because of their noise-free design. Although they are sometimes reported to “hum” during the day when the energy is converted, this noise is nearly impossible to hear from fifty feet away. The humming noise disappears completely at night when there is no production, so there is never a disturbance in the evening or while neighbors are sleeping. The transformers can also be additionally insulated to keep the noise level down even more.

Do solar projects have any permanent lighting?

No. Motion-activated and downward facing lights are located only at gates and at some equipment. Additionally, portable lights may be used in localized areas as needed for maintenance and repairs.

Do solar panels reflect sunlight?

Solar panels are designed to absorb, not reflect, sunlight. In fact, they reflect much less light than glass or water. 98% of the sunlight is absorbed and converted to electricity.

Do solar projects create any traffic?

No. After construction is complete, a few workers in pick-up trucks will inspect and maintain the equipment, maintain vegetation, and occasionally clean the panels with water.

Do solar projects create any odor or dust?

Dust generated during construction will be controlled with water trucks. Following construction, exposed soils will be stabilized and revegetated to minimize dust generation.

How do solar projects affect home value?

Studies have found that solar projects do not affect home value (SEIA 2019).