

Proposed Resolution #3
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: George Lindquist, Past President
MUCC region: 1
Proposed: March 12, 2022 Conservation Policy Board meeting
Title: Siting of Solar Farms on State Land

1. **WHEREAS:** Increasingly, large scale solar energy production sites are in our future here in Michigan; and,
2. **WHEREAS:** There is growing pressure to buy, or lease our State lands for solar farms; and,
3. **WHEREAS:** Solar farms are often biological deserts covered with non native grass of little value to wildlife,
4. even essential pollinating insects; and,
5. **WHEREAS:** Where these solar farms will be located, is a concern for all that use and recreate on our State
6. lands because these farms will eliminate wildlife habitat, displace wildlife, and reduce or eliminate recreational
7. use of those lands; and,
8. **WHEREAS:** It may not be a good carbon trade off to cut down a forest to build solar farms; and,
9. **WHEREAS:** Public Act 47 of 2009 was signed by the Governor, stating that there shall be no net loss of state
10. hunting lands; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** It is imperative that the DNR adhere to this important legislation when determining future use of
12. state owned lands; and,
13. **WHEREAS:** Based on the Legislation that is supposed to protect state hunting lands, guidelines should be
14. developed that protect our quality forests, and recreational lands; NOW,
15. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That MUCC recommend to the DNR and Legislature, if need be, that the
16. DNR not sell, lease, or give up rights to public lands unless clear guidelines are developed with a public input
17. process for doing so, and those guidelines should include wording that solar farms only be allowed in areas
18. ill-suited for other uses; and,
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the MUCC work with the DNR and legislature to ensure that any solar

20. farms subsequently built on public land be planted in native pollinator mixes and paved areas minimized.