

NOTICE REGARDING APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN AD HOC COMMITTEE  
REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR FARMS IN ESCANABA TOWNSHIP

Please be advised that at its regular meeting on October 7, 2019, the Escanaba Township Planning Commission resolved to form an ad hoc committee to study solar farm development within the township, pursuant to the Escanaba Township Board's referral back to the Planning Commission for further consideration of such development. The Planning Commission is actively seeking applicants for the ad hoc committee.

Extensive public comment in several prior meetings related to proposed solar farm development in the township has raised issues, both technical/scientific and less objective or empirical. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, in terms of the technical/scientific, principal issues appear to include potential impacts to the surface and/or groundwater aquifer associated with proposed solar farm development, issues relating to the impact of such development on farmland resources, and issues relating to solar energy, including the science, technology, and impact of solar farm development in the Township. While it reserves the right to reject any and all applicants for any lawful reason, the intent is to form a committee whose members would be equally divided between supporters and opponents of the project, with a neutral chair with expertise, background, or qualifications that would make such chair suitable to guide the ad hoc committee to a prompt, cost-effective, thorough consideration/investigation of the issues relating to solar farm development within the Township. Special consideration will be given to applicants with expertise relative to such matters. Interested applicants are required to apply in writing, to summarize any special qualifications or expertise they feel will enable them to provide assistance to the ad hoc committee, and to state whether they are in support of or against the development of solar farms within the Township.

The specific mission of the ad hoc committee will be to study the issues as it sees fit, to seek outside assistance as it sees fit, and to prepare a report of its investigation, including such recommendations as it sees fit to the Planning Commission concerning the proposed adoption of a solar farm ordinance amendment to the Escanaba Township Zoning Ordinance.

The Board resolved to appoint 8 persons to the ad hoc committee, excluding the chair. Applications should be mailed or delivered to the Escanaba Township Planning Commission, Attn: Carol King, Secretary, 6245 Hwy. M-35, Gladstone, Michigan 49837. They may also be e-mailed to Ms. King at [cking6245@charter.net](mailto:cking6245@charter.net).

The Planning Commission intends to make the appointments at its regular November 4, 2019 meeting. In order to allow Planning Commission members to individually review the applications prior to and in anticipation of the November 4, 2019 meeting, applications received after October 31, 2019 will not be considered.