

2022-09

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON
SOLAR FARM SYSTEM APPLICATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Board adopted a Utility Solar Energy System Ordinance on May 9, 2016, which was amended on February 13, 2018 (the “Ordinance”); and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Board is aware of the desire to place additional solar farms throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, substantial changes have occurred in the technology and practices for the construction and development of solar farm systems since the County passed the Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in preventing and abating any resulting nuisance from decommissioned commercial solar farm systems through more robust decommissioning requirements; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in protecting the County’s infrastructure, natural resources, and property rights through adequate setback provisions; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Zoning Board of Appeals will require substantial time to hold public hearings, gather information, and coordinate with multiple agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating, or creating ordinances, policies, and procedure; and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Board wishes to place a moratorium on applications for new non-residential solar energy systems in Putnam County; and

WHEREAS, no application for construction of a solar energy system is pending with the zoning board of appeals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Putnam County Board following review, consideration, and discussion, that the Board has determined that a temporary moratorium on accepting zoning petitions and further development of solar farm systems should be utilized to allow them to further study and resolve the concerns expressed by citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the Putnam County Board’s desire to instruct the Putnam County Zoning Board of Appeals to review the conditions in the Ordinance, hold public hearings, and make any changes to that ordinance by the December 12, 2022, Putnam County Board Meeting.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after the Putnam County Zoning Board of Appeals has reviewed the conditions in the current ordinance and having made any

changes to that section that the moratorium be ended by January 15, 2023, unless ended earlier by a county board resolution or extended prior to January 15, 2023, by a county board resolution.

Passed and adopted by the County Board of Putnam County, Illinois, this 13th day of June 2022, by a vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 ~~abstain.~~
Absent

Roll Call:	<u>Aye:</u>	<u>Nay:</u>	<u>Abstain:</u> <u>Absent</u>
Holly	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Holocker	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lenkaitis	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Malavolti	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Rue	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>✓</u>




Charles Lenkaitis, Chairman
Putnam County Board

ATTEST:


Tina Dolder, Clerk
Putnam County Board