

Solar Farm Myths

Consumers Energy

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1

MYTH: Solar panels are made out of toxic materials.

Solar panel materials are enclosed and don't mix with water or vaporize into the air, and therefore are not released into the environment. Panels are manufactured to endure all weather conditions and are sealed to further ensure public safety. Almost all solar PV panels are made of tempered glass and pass rigorous hail tests. Solar panels are required to pass the Environmental Protection Agency's Toxic Leaching Characteristic Procedure (TCLP) test.

2

MYTH: Solar panels will create glare.

PV modules use non-reflective glass and are designed to absorb rather than reflect the light that hits the panels. Glare is modeled and taken into consideration during site layout.

3

MYTH: Solar farms create a lot of noise.

The equipment used for a solar farm can generate a low level of sound. However, the noise generated by solar farms is generally not audible above ambient noise outside of the facility fence.

4

MYTH: Communities near a solar farm will be exposed to electro magnetic fields.

Solar facilities generate electro-magnetic fields (EMF) similar to household appliances. EMF dissipates with increasing distance and poses no threat to neighboring residents.

5

MYTH: Land is ruined after solar farming.

Land can be reverted back to agricultural uses at the end of the operational life for solar installations.

