

RECORD OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No.

A RESOLUTION STATING THE OPPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO ANY PROPOSED NEW SOLAR ENERGY FARM DEVELOPMENT WITHIN KNOX COUNTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, pending before the Ohio Power Siting Board is one proposed solar energy farm development project intended to be located in Knox County near the boundaries of the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Mount Vernon has responsibility for supporting the preservation of the rural integrity, agricultural priorities, and unique tourism opportunities within the boundaries of Knox County; and

WHEREAS, Council has concerns over these projects being developed in such close proximity to the City due to the changes in the visual landscape, reduction in agricultural land, and the overall effect on tourism potential for the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above concerns, Council has determined that the development of this solar energy project and others within the close proximity of the boundaries of the City of Mount Vernon are not within the best interests of its citizens and the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: That Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby expresses its opposition to the pending requests before the Ohio Power Siting Board to approve the development and operation of Solar Energy Farm Projects in Knox County and requests such developments be denied.

SECTION II: That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, necessary for the preservation of the rural integrity, agricultural priorities, and unique tourism opportunities of the community of the City of Mount Vernon, such emergency arising out of the immediate need to submit this Resolution to the Ohio Power Siting Board prior to any hearing taking place for the approval of the Solar Energy Projects, so that this resolution