

# THE TRUTH ABOUT UTILITY-SCALE SOLAR

## WHERE WILL THE SOLAR PANELS COME FROM?

The project will use solar panels from Jinko, the largest supplier of solar panels in the world. While most Jinko panels are manufactured in southeast Asia, Jinko has a manufacturing plant in Jacksonville, Florida, and an office in San Francisco. Like many industries in the U.S., there is a lack of domestic manufacturing capacity to support demand; therefore, panels from high-quality suppliers like Jinko are commonly used in the United States for projects like this. There are 12 gigawatts of Jinko solar panels installed in the United States, and Jinko helped launch the U.S. solar industry's national recycling network in 2016. More information about Jinko: <https://jinkosolar.us/>.

The Posey Solar team takes concerns about solar manufacturing and forced labor in China very seriously. Arevon has signed the U.S. solar industry's Forced Labor Prevention Pledge. We have been in close communication with our suppliers and have added language to our contracts to make our standards clear: We will not purchase products manufactured with forced labor. In addition, Arevon is co-funding an effort to audit key manufacturers in Southeast Asia to ensure that our supply chain is safe, secure and ethical.

## WILL SOLAR GENERATE POWER WHEN IT RAINS OR SNOWS?

Solar photovoltaic panels use direct and indirect sunlight to generate power. This means that power can be generated on cloudy or rainy days. Air temperature has little to no impact on solar production, so solar energy can be generated during winter months too.

The Posey Solar Project plans to use bifacial solar modules (panels). This innovative technology allows the solar module to capture and convert the sun's energy to electricity on both the front and the back sides of the module. Collecting the sun's energy from both sides of the module allows for greater energy production using less land.

It is important to note that solar panels are very robust and go through an extensive amount of testing for production and manufacturing approval. The glass is tempered, much like the glass used in automobiles. It is designed to withstand weather elements such as hail, rain and wind. Studies show solar panels can withstand quarter-sized hail for 30 minutes without significant damage. Additionally, the site operator will have the ability to tilt panels to avoid direct weather element exposure. If weather radar indicates a storm is coming, the panels can be tilted in the opposite direction of incoming hail or snow to avoid impact or accumulation.

## WHY DOES THE SOLAR INDUSTRY RECEIVE FEDERAL TAX INCENTIVES?

Nearly every energy source benefits from federal tax policies, including well-established sources like natural gas. The Solar Investment Tax Credit (ITC) has contributed to the growth of solar. Since the ITC was implemented in 2006, the U.S. solar industry has grown by more than 10,000%, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs and investing billions of dollars in the U.S. economy in the process.

The Posey Solar Project will be an estimated \$264 million investment in the community. This comes in the form of construction and operations jobs, contracts for goods and services from local businesses, landowner lease payments and tax revenue. All of this drives economic activity in the community. For example, lease payments for a landowner or wages for a construction worker means they can spend more money in the county, including at local restaurants and stores.

Federal tax incentives are a powerful economic development tool that supports numerous industries, including energy and agriculture. From 1995 to 2020, Indiana farmers received \$14.9 billion in subsidies through commodity programs, crop insurance subsidies, disaster programs and conservation programs. Tax policy supports clean energy and farming, which results in a cleaner environment and more productive farms.

## WILL THE SOLAR PROJECT MAKE STORMWATER RUN-OFF AND FLOODING WORSE?

Stormwater runoff is taken into consideration during the engineering design of the project. Our intent is that this project will not exacerbate existing runoff conditions. We will consider the appropriate use of mitigation measures, such as berms or retention basins.

According to Posey Solar's engineering firm Westwood:

- Solar farms are typically 95% vegetation and 5% hard or impervious surfaces. Since the area between and beneath panels is vegetated, most often with perennial meadow grass, the panels are generally not considered an impervious surface.
- The Posey Solar Project will follow recommended best practices, including limiting the amount of impervious surfaces to reduce runoff, minimizing the amount of grading to promote sheet flow and planting perennial meadow grass on the majority of the site to provide runoff reduction and treatment.
- Stormwater quantity is expected to be less than the existing runoff from row-crop land use. The proposed vegetation slows the run-off and allows the water to filter into the soil.

Consistent with other types of power generation assets, constructing a utility-scale solar project or even portions of a project within a mapped floodplain is not typical. It introduces regulatory, technical, risk-of-loss and insurability concerns that make it undesirable and, in some cases, not viable at all. We have commissioned hydrology studies that tell us where flooding has the potential to affect operation of the solar field and we plan around that.

## WHAT IS THE RISK OF FIRE?

Posey Solar Project is required under the Solar Zoning Ordinance to file a safety plan.

The risk of fire is extremely low. Sensors in the solar array can pick up on a fire occurring in a specific section of the array. The sensors notify maintenance and operation crew members and the affected equipment can then be powered off. The facility and equipment will be monitored 24/7 to ensure proper safety of the equipment and surrounding area.

Posey Solar Project has had initial discussions with local fire chiefs. Our team will continue to work with local fire departments to ensure they have a thorough understanding of the project's low fire risk and have the training and equipment necessary, should a fire at the site occur.

### OFFICE LOCATION

434A Southwind Plaza  
Mt Vernon, IN 47620



### OFFICE HOURS

Tues/Thurs 6pm – 8pm  
Saturday 8am – Noon