

From: Scott Perry
To: Clerk
Subject: Solar Project Support
Date: Monday, February 19, 2024 6:03:24 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing today to express my support for submitting the application for the Federal grant dedicating Federal funds to developing renewable energy on our municipal campus. Returning Federal funds to our community through grants is a critical aspect of our local government. It would be alarming to learn the county with the highest state equalized value for property was not in a position to reduce their energy bill by \$40,000 per year because they didn't have the funds in the coffers to front the cost.

The phrase, "It is expensive to be poor," has been declared more and more frequently in our modern lexicon, and I believe it applies to this consideration. Surely there are financial tools available to a governing body such as yours to deliver the \$1,000,000 in energy savings for our community. Submitting for the grant, under no obligation to accept the money, moves the process along without overcommitting. I have heard grumblings that we should not move forward with grants for which the commission is not ready to receive money because it may impact the availability of future grants awarded. If the commission declines to move forward with this, what faith should I have that the county will be in a position to receive aid, in the form it is available, next time?

As a millennial who has built my home and career in Leelanau County, now planning a new family. I firmly believe a solar installation would be an investment in the prosperity and security of our community for decades to come.

All the best,

Scott Perry

Technical Director

(c) 231.649.2718

(e) Scott@2BaysProductions.com