

TOWN OF BALDWIN

ST. CROIX COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Whereas, a large-scale solar project currently known as the “Ten Mile Creek Project” is being proposed by Xcel Energy and subsidiaries to replace its current power plant (Allen S. King Plant) in Oak Park Heights, Washington County, MN.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin has prided itself in being an agricultural community with a right-to-farm mentality allowing for family farms to thrive without interference from neighboring parcels or competing interests impeding primarily farmland use.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin updated and approved their 2023 Comprehensive Plan on June 8th, 2023 with vision statement “The Town of Baldwin will continue to be a distinctively rural community working together to sustain a high quality of life for its residents by maintaining rural character and continuing our agricultural heritage through”. To aid in this vision the township will practice “Sound environmental stewardship”, “Protecting and preserving our natural resources and agricultural lands”, “Considering innovative techniques to permanently protect large tracts of agricultural land and open space in the town”, “Promoting farming as a way of life”.

Whereas, the vast majority of the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin contains “Prime Farmland” and some of Wisconsin’s best. According to the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) system, “nearly all the Town of Baldwin is prime agricultural land with prime farmland soils”.

Whereas, most of the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin’s land is part of the St. Croix County Agriculture & Farm Preservation Comprehensive Plan adopted January 3, 2012 recognizing “that agricultural land is not undeveloped land waiting for other uses, but is a valuable and productive resource that supports a healthy agricultural industry.”

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin sits in the watersheds of Eau Galle (trout stream), Rush River (a Class II trout stream), Lower Willow River, and Pine Lake (Baldwin).

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin has prided itself in being an area for family dairy farms to exist without the danger of stray voltage negatively affecting dairy production and other livestock.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin is not immune from storms including major damage. And whereby, future storms could create shards from damaged solar panels during storms and inclement weather that can get into hay fields without detection causing fatal injury to livestock and harming soils for future root crops. There is no such thing as a non-toxic solar panel.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin sits on shallow carbonate bedrock (limestone) allowing for past, current and future karst formations creating sinkholes, caves and underground drainage systems allowing rapid movement of underground water which is a super-highway of contaminants into groundwater.

Whereas, the consistent pounding of stakes into the expansive project area over years will have a large effect in creating additional karst in the carbonate bedrock, causing additional and ongoing threats to the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin's clean groundwater for the life of the project.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin has seen a karst formation cause the draining of Pine Lake (Baldwin) in 1988 with a major operation to fill a sink hole and years to reestablish a sustainable fish population.

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin has observed and continues to observe the real financial and cleanup effect of PFAS ("forever chemicals") contamination based on neighboring township's role as operator (Erin Prairie) and contributor of a dump in 1980 that contaminated the groundwater for 14 homesteads that are still contaminated 45 years later (and still costing the township money).

Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin is serviced by United Fire & Rescue, which doesn't have the training, equipment or funding to handle the toxic, high heat and large-scale conditions created by a solar project fire.

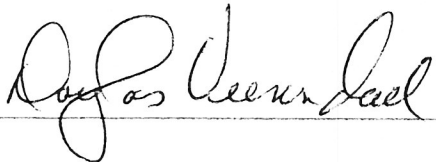
Whereas, the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin is near two airports (Baldwin (Private) Airport and New Richmond (Public) Regional Airport), and individually registered airstrips, which may cause glare, radar interference and wildlife impact on airplanes during takeoff and landing.

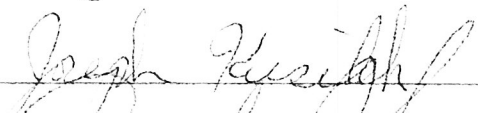
Whereas, Xcel has not been forthcoming in its public meetings as to the exact location of the known placement of the solar panels, provisions to protect the surrounding property owners, maintenance of the project, ground vegetation, soil erosion, damage to lakes, rivers, creeks, wildlife refuges, acres of battery backup and the decommission of the solar project along with their need to prematurely close their fully functioning Allen S. King (Power/Generating) Plant.

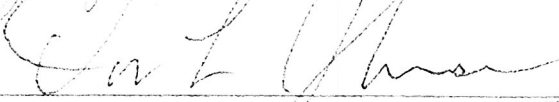
Whereas, the expansive nature, size and scope of Xcel's Ten Mile Creek Project will forever change the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin from its agricultural roots and self-determined agricultural destiny.


Now therefore be it resolved that the residents of the Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin have spoken through public assembly, public notice and in the 2023 Comprehensive Plan survey “Maintain farmland not encourage large scale solar” and “Xcel/ Sc Coop, Solar - preserve agriculture instead of taking or using it”. As trustees of the People, we understand it is our fiduciary duty to protect the rights and lands for future generations at the request of the People’s current/future concerns on economic impact, environmental, health and fiscal concerns. The Town of Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, is opposed to the development of the Ten Mile Creek Project or any other large scale solar project based on the irreversible detrimental effects stated above.

Adopted by the Town of Baldwin Board this 4 day of December, 2025

, Douglas Veenedall, Chairman

, Joseph Kusilek, Supervisor

, Don L. Johnson, Supervisor

Attest: , James Harer, Clerk

Posted: December 5, 2025