



Neighbors quarrel over installing photovoltaic panels in rural area

Are solar panels squeezing small farmers?

His Neighbors Hated It. A push toward renewable energy is facing resistance in rural areas where conspicuous panels are affecting vistas and squeezing small farmers. Timothy Masters, the town building inspector in Lewiston, N.Y., has been condemned by some neighbors for allowing an energy company to place a field of solar panels on his land.

Why is a big solar farm a problem in rural areas?

He Set Up a Big Solar Farm. His Neighbors Hated It. A push toward renewable energy is facing resistance in rural areas where conspicuous panels are affecting vistas and squeezing small farmers.

Are solar projects causing tensions in rural areas?

Construction of the first large solar projects, including Solar Star, completed in 2015, drew little opposition. They were sited mostly in remote areas such as the California desert. Now, tensions are rising as the sector plans bigger projects and reaches into more populated rural areas unfamiliar with solar.

Are big open spaces right for utility-scale solar farms?

If big open spaces aren't right for utility-scale solar farms, the thinking goes, then the panels will have to squeeze in everywhere else. "We need to look at every previously developed piece of land: every rooftop, every parking lot and, here in California, 4,000 miles of open canal," Jordan Harris, CEO of Solar AquaGrid, said.

Will solar energy come from utility-scale projects?

Solar panels are now a common sight on houses, businesses and some government infrastructure. But analysts still expect most solar energy production in the near future to come from utility-scale projects, in part because of the savings that comes with massive installations. It's those projects that are facing pushback.

Do people who live near solar projects get notice?

This indicates that processes for giving notice to people who live near projects are not working. The most trusted sources of information are people who live near existing solar projects, community organizations and university staff. The least trusted are solar developers and government officials.

Project Summary: This project seeks to reduce energy burden and electrify 300 tribal homes by installing 2.5 kW off-grid solar photovoltaic (solar PV) and battery energy storage systems. Communities within the Navajo and Hopi Nations ...

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