

March 13, 2023

Re: Agenda Item 23-085 regarding a Special Use for 3901 W. Reservoir, Peoria

Dear Mayor and Members of the Peoria City Council:

In 2022, the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria established a "Climate Change Committee". One of the purposes of this committee is to help local governments in central Illinois address the challenges of climate change, global warming, and sustainability.

With that purpose in mind, the Board of Directors of the local League of Women Voters has reviewed the issues related to Agenda Item 23-085, and is respectfully requesting that the you follow the recommendations from your staff to approve a special use for a "solar utility facility" for the property located at 3901 West Reservoir, Peoria.

Surveys conducted nationally consistently show that over 50% of Americans are "alarmed" or concerned about climate change. We anticipate that these numbers would be similar for those living within the City of Peoria.

Climate change will not disappear on its own. It will take concerted efforts by individuals, businesses, and government to address this challenge. The City of Peoria has an opportunity to address this challenge in a meaningful and concrete way, by allowing for the development of this community solar project.

In addition to addressing climate change, this proposed development will create good, well-paying jobs for skilled tradespeople, while at the same time allowing citizens – homeowners and renters alike -- to lower their utility bills. Approval of this project will promote sustainable growth and send a clear message that clean energy "plays in Peoria".

We strongly encourage you to follow the recommendations of your professional staff and grant the requested special use for this property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Board of Directors League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria