

Katrina Kessler, Commissioner

March 25, 2024

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road


Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subject: The Solar Store's support of the Region Nine Development Commission CPRG Coalition
Proposal for Solar on Rural Public Facilities (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

The Solar Store is writing to support the Region Nine Development Commission CPRG Coalition's application to implement 3.6 MW of solar electric generating systems on public owned facilities across 36 rural Minnesota counties. As a Minnesota based solar business that works every day in rural Minnesota, we know how important it is that rural communities get opportunities to participate fully in the energy transition. Solar public works projects garner vital exposure that provides community benefits to all and builds further support for future projects. We will support the proposed work through communication to local community members and when possible, help in project support and implementation. The Region Nine Development Commission CPRG Coalition's proposal goals dovetail exactly with The Solar Store's mission to provide safe, reliable solar energy systems that meet the needs of the diverse, rural communities of Minnesota. Although The Solar Store's work to this point has been on private land, we advocate for both public and private entities to develop solar technologies. The Solar Store stands ready to support this public program and its implementation in whatever ways are most effective.

Sincerely,



Gary Winters

CEO – The Solar Store LLC

mnsolarstore@gmail.com

785-554-9249

Mankatosolarstore.com

1420 N Riverfront Drive, Suite 101

Mankato, MN 56001