

Good Neighbor Practices Committee
Background Information– Solar Fencing Examples

Task:

- Examples of different types of fences used for utility-scale solar projects. Target between 3-6 examples if possible.

Table 1: Fencing Requirements within County Ordinances

	County	Pop. per sq.mi	Ordinance	Fencing Requirements
IA	Story	172.1	Story County Code Ords. § 90.08.8	Ground-mounted solar energy device or combination of devices comprising a C-SES shall be enclosed by perimeter fencing at a height of eight feet to restrict unauthorized access. Security fences and gates must be maintained in good condition until the site is decommissioned.
IL	Champaign	206.7	Champaign County Zoning Ord. 6.1.5(D)	PV SOLAR FARM equipment and structures shall be fully enclosed and secured by a fence with a minimum height of 7 feet.
IL	Clinton	77.9	Clinton County Code § 40-5-23(D)	The perimeter shall be secured by security fencing of at least six (6) feet in height. The fence shall be maintained by the applicant. The fence shall contain an appropriate warning signage containing “High Voltage”, the facilities 911 address and a 24-hour emergency contact number. Lock boxes and keys shall be provided at locked entrances for emergency personnel access. The name and phone numbers of the electric utility provider and site operator shall be posted as well as the facility address
IL	DeKalb	159.1	DeKalb County Ord. 2018-06	No fencing is required however if installed on the property the fencing shall have a maximum height of eight (8) feet. The fence shall contain appropriate warning signage that is posted such that is clearly visible on the site.
IL	Grundy	125.6	Grundy County Code § 8-2-5-30(E)	Fencing: Perimeter fencing having a maximum height of eight feet (8') shall be installed around the boundary of the solar farm. The fence shall contain appropriate warning signage that is posted such that it is clearly visible on the site
IL	Henry	59.9	Henry County Zoning Ord. § 3.07(C)	Fencing. A security fence of at least six feet in height but no greater than 8 feet shall inclose the SFES.
IL	McHenry	514.1	McHenry County Zoning Ord. § 14.3.PP	14.3.PP.2.g. Fencing shall be provided in compliance with the National Electrical Code, as applicable. The use of barbed wire must comply with Section 14.5.H.1.c. of this Ordinance

IL	Peoria	293.9	Peoria County Code § 7.17.3(1)(c)	Security Fencing. Facility Equipment and structures shall be fully enclosed and secured by a perimeter fence with a height of 6 to 8 feet.
IL	Will	833.1	Will County Code § 155-9.245	Security barrier. Solar energy systems that are part of a solar farm must be enclosed by perimeter security fencing or other county-approved barrier with a minimum height of at least six feet. The use of barbed wire or razor wire that runs along the top of chain linked fences is permitted
IL	Winnebago	556.2	Winnebago County Code UDO § 15.3.28(A)	None listed
IN	DeKalb	119.2	DeKalb County Ordinance § 3.13	<p>Fences:</p> <p>a. Location: Fences are required around the perimeter of a CSES project area and are not subject to setback requirements except as noted below.</p> <p>1. Fences shall not encroach on an existing right-of-way line along roadways. Any fence constructed forward of the proposed right-of-way line as noted in the Thoroughfare Plan shall be moved at the CSES Operator's expense if instructed to do so by the County Highway Superintendent.</p> <p>2. Fences shall only be placed in a drainage or utility easement with written permission from the DeKalb County Drainage Board or applicable easement holder.</p> <p>b. Height: 1. Opaque (privacy) fences shall not exceed six (6) feet in height. 2. There is no height limit for transparent (chain link) fences.</p> <p>c. Prohibitions: Razor wire fences are not permitted. Barbed wire is permitted.</p>
IN	Howard	285.5	Howard County Zoning Ordinance	Requirements are unclear
IN	Montgomery	75.2	Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance Article 13	Fence must be 8 ft min, no more than 12 ft.
MN	Carver	302	Carver County Zoning Ord. § 152.057(C)(2)	Fencing requirements unclear
MN	Chisago	136.5	Chisago Land Use Ord. § 7.31(F)	Security Fence Design – No chain link, or barbed wire fencing is permitted. The security fence surrounding the facility shall consist of agricultural fencing, also known as “deer fence” which is of woven wire composition.
MN	Chisago	136.5		
MN	Clay	62.5	Clay County Renewable Energy Ord. 2018-02 § 10.1.1	None listed

Examples of Solar Fences - Identified from the Streetview Search

- 1. Chain Link



- 2. Chain Link with Barbed Wire



3. Chain link with visual barrier



4. Wood Post with Wire Fencing



This type is sold as an animal and pollinator friendly solar fence. See example here: [BEK-3317 3Fold Solar Arrays_LR netto.pdf](#)

5. Wood Post with Wire Fencing and Barbed Wire on top



May be electrified (St. Peter Minn)

6. Black Steel Decorative



This was across from a residential street and other fencing within the site was chain link (Exelon Chicago)

7. Low profile wire



West Waconia Solar – View from HWY – Carver County MN