

The proposed Rouget Road Solar Farm is anticipated to significantly affect the economics of Palmyra Township and Lenawee County, Michigan. Here's a comprehensive summary of its economic impacts:

1. Construction Phase Impact

- **Employment:**
 - The project will employ 400 full-time equivalent workers over a 12-month construction period, contributing 38 local job years and an additional 79 indirect and induced job years.
- **Wages and Economic Output:**
 - \$6.7 million in wages and benefits.
 - \$24.3 million in economic output within Lenawee County.

2. Ongoing Operations Impact

- **Employment:**
 - During its 35-year operational phase, the farm is expected to support 14 jobs annually (5 direct and 9 indirect/induced).
- **Wages and Economic Output:**
 - \$1.1 million in local wages and benefits annually.
 - \$2.3 million in annual local economic output.

3. Fiscal Impacts

- **Scenario 1 (Taxation of Land and Capital Investments):**
 - Total local tax revenue: \$44.4 million over 35 years.
 - Breakdown:
 - Lenawee County: \$12.4 million
 - Palmyra Township: \$5.7 million
 - Local School Districts: \$11.8 million (split between Blissfield and Adrian City School Districts)
 - Lenawee Intermediate School District: \$14.0 million
 - Library Fund: \$0.6 million
- **Scenario 2 (Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for 20 years, followed by taxation):**
 - Total local revenue: \$43.2 million over 35 years.
 - Breakdown:
 - Lenawee County: \$12.0 million
 - Palmyra Township: \$5.6 million
 - Local School Districts: \$10.5 million (split between Blissfield and Adrian City School Districts)
 - Lenawee Intermediate School District: \$13.6 million
 - Library Fund: \$0.5 million

4. Comparison with Current Agricultural Use

- **Economic Contribution:**
 - Current use supports 6 jobs and generates \$1.4 million annually in local economic output.
- **Fiscal Contribution:**
 - Current agricultural use generates \$2.1 million in total tax revenue over 35 years, which is 21 times lower than the projected revenue from the solar farm.

5. Sector-Specific Impacts

- **Construction Sector:**
 - The construction industry, a critical local economic driver with above-average wages (\$1,147/week), will gain \$4.1 million in wages and benefits from the project.
- **Land Use:**
 - Conversion from agricultural to solar will generate \$3.4 million in land-based tax revenues alone, a notable increase over current agricultural tax contributions.

6. Broader Economic Context

- **Electricity Market Alignment:**
 - The project supports Michigan's trend toward renewable energy, which is growing but remains a small share of the state's electricity production compared to coal and natural gas.
 - **Environmental Contributions:**
 - Reduced reliance on high-emission energy sources aligns with broader carbon reduction goals.
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