

**LOCKE TOWNSHIP**

**Ingham County, Michigan**

**ORDINANCE #2023-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendment  
Large Solar Energy Systems Moratorium**

An Ordinance to impose a Moratorium for a limited period of time within Locke Township on all applications, approvals, construction, maintenance and operation of Large Solar Energy Systems [SES].

**THE TOWNSHIP OF LOCKE ORDAINS:**

Section 1: Findings and Purpose. The Township of Locke hereby finds and declares the purpose of this Ordinance to be as follows:

- A. Locke Township acknowledges that there is a current emphasis on the development of energy projects not utilizing fossil fuels, of which includes Large SES.
- B. Large SES are very significant structures that visibly impact the local environment, have the potential for generating noise, glare and radiation impact on nearby properties and public roads.
- C. Locke Township currently has Large SES regulations contained in the 2005 Locke Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended. Regulations being Ordinance #2018-01, Section 14.24. The Planning Commission has reviewed the regulations, updating and making large SES more user-friendly and concise. Ordinance #2022-02 pertaining to SES adopted August 2022.
- D. Locke Township further recognizes the need for a structured process of review and study of SES Ordinance revisions in order to determine compatibility with the best interests of the citizens of Locke Township.
- E. Locke Township has concluded that a moratorium for a limited period of time on the development of Large SES would further meet its goals to engage in a reasonable review process to determine how such development should be regulated, in considering the health, safety and welfare of the Locke Township citizens.

Section 2: Establishment of Moratorium. The Locke Township Board of Trustees hereby declares a limited moratorium on the acceptance of applications, the issuance of all permits and approvals for the construction, development and operation of Large SES within the Township for nine [9] months from the effective date of this Ordinance.

Section 3: Exceptions to Moratorium. The moratorium imposed under this Ordinance shall not apply to requests for Small and Medium Solar Energy Systems permitted by Section 14 of the Locke Township Zoning Ordinance.

Section 4: Term of Moratorium. The moratorium imposed hereunder shall expire upon the earlier of (A) nine [9] month period from the effective date of this Ordinance, unless extended by Township Board resolution for three [3] months; or (B) the effective date of any amendments to the Locke Township Zoning Ordinance addressing this matter.

Section 5: Severability, Effective Date and Adoption. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is declared void or unenforceable for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any portion of this Ordinance other than said part or portion thereof. This Ordinance shall be effective the day following publication.

### CERTIFICATION

State of Michigan  
County of Ingham

I, GLENDA S. TURNER, the duly elected, qualified and acting clerk of the Township of Locke, Ingham County, State of Michigan do hereby certify as follows:

1. The foregoing is a true and complete copy of Ordinance #2023-01 Zoning Ordinance Amendment for Large Solar Energy System Moratorium adopted by the Locke Township Board at a regular meeting on May 9, 2023.
2. The foregoing Ordinance was moved for adoption by Rambo, seconded by Davis and adopted by the following vote: Yes: 4 No: 1.
3. The Township Board members voted as follows:  
Yes: Shepler, Rambo, Turner, Davis  
No: Hart  
Abstaining: None Absent: None

The Supervisor declared Ordinance #2023-01 adopted.

4. The Notice of Ordinance Adoption was published on the 14th day of May, 2023, in The State Journal, a newspaper of general circulation in the Township of Locke.
5. That said Ordinance and the record of publication were duly recorded in the Book of Ordinances of the Township of Locke and is available for public use and inspection at the office of the Locke Township Clerk.
6. An attested copy of the foregoing Ordinance was filed with the Ingham County Clerk on May 17, 2023.

Glenda S Turner, Clerk May 17, 2023  
Glenda S Turner, Clerk Date