

**From:** City Council  
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**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



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Submitted values are:

Date: Saturday, November 04, 2017  
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council  
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Comments:  
Friday, November 3, 2017  
His Worship Mayor Clark and Members of Saskatoon City Council,  
c/o City Clerk's Office  
City of Saskatoon

Your Worship and Members of Council,

I'm Jason Praski, the Installations Committee chair for the SES Solar Co-op and request permission to address Members of Council on the Standing Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services when you next meet on the morning of November 6th. My remarks will be as outlined below.

The SES Solar Co-op is very glad to see the proposed options and incentives for expanded solar power production in Saskatoon as presented in the reports before Council today, and specifically as outlined in Agenda item 7.2.2. (Utility Scale Solar Power Plant). If approved soon, they will help get us on track with reducing our GHG emissions, and growing the local economy.

For maximum emissions reduction impact and hopefully for minimal effort by the City, we would suggest allowing either a Virtual Net Metering program or a Feed in Tariff program (at a reasonable price) to encourage local companies to install larger amounts of solar power at the most effective locations, such as large industrial rooftops or large unused open spaces. Power consumers will then have another option to power their new (and hopefully existing) buildings, electric vehicles, etc. with renewable energy.

We'd also encourage the City to support provincial or federal carbon pricing to help consumers transition faster to lowering their GHG emissions. It may also help the City recover costs related to supporting more renewables, depending on what's negotiated.

With respect to the immediate recommendation before your Standing Committee, the SES Solar Co-op strongly supports Saskatoon Light and Power's recommendation that Parcel M (a 13 acre undeveloped parcel of land along Circle Drive) be set aside for a solar power plant. We also support the proposal for a mix of financial models to finance the project, as outlined on page 3 of the main Saskatoon Light and Power submission.

The SES Solar Co-op also supports SL&P's suggestion that we aim for 50MW of installed solar power in Saskatoon by 2025 (see table on page 4 of the administration report). We support using a mix of direct investment, local community co-ops, net metering and local independent power production to achieve this goal, especially if the economic benefits can stay local.

In closing, just a quick update on the status of the SES Solar Co-op for members of the Standing Committee. We now have 168 members and have installed 210 solar panels in Saskatoon with 63 kilowatts of generating capacity, some of that in partnership with Saskatoon Light and Power. We are working on several more installations and our strategic plan is to own larger installations as the City and SaskPower allow. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:  
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/201776>