



Chair Sykes, Vice-Chair Wenholz, Commissioner Drago,

As president of Threemile Canyon Farms, I write today in support of Rowan Digital Infrastructure's application to rezone a 274-acre parcel of our property to general industrial use. As national leaders in sustainable agriculture, we believe that while the land is presently zoned for agriculture, this land is not suitable for farming.

Threemile Canyon has never irrigated or actively farmed it this parcel and has no plans to do so in the future. In fact, the property has not been farmed in the seven decades for which we have records. Research from the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District also concludes that the soil is "not farmable."

More than 11 miles outside of town, this parcel borders property owned by the U.S. military and Portland General Electric, far from any potential community impact. Other industrial-zoned parcels currently exist within a mile of this parcel. The project will connect to existing and planned transmission lines, eliminating the need for new connections to be developed. The Project Parcel is located about 5,000 feet from the Carty site and adjacent to an existing 230 kV transmission line ROW. The existing 230-kV transmission runs about 1.6 miles along the western boundary of the Project Parcel and Tower Road to the existing transmission infrastructure at the Carty site.

Truly responsible farming practices are key to our business model, and we are grateful that Rowan is committed to continuing this legacy of stewardship by powering this facility with renewable energy and utilizing development best practices throughout construction. Sustainable projects can set a positive standard for all infrastructure development in our region.

The rezone will add to the significant economic growth for our county by transitioning an underutilized and nonproductive piece of ground with little value as "farmland" into a tangible and long-term benefit for our community.

Rowan has demonstrated responsible stewardship through its sustainability and conservation practices, such as weed control and the use of appropriate landscaping measures that support agriculture and minimize water use. Other practices include recycling of construction waste, setting aside conservation areas, and maintaining setbacks from areas of concern.

Finally, we are grateful for the project team's commitment to a strong collaboration with our community – both within and outside of the public process – as their application moves to the county planning commission and eventually to this body.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Bill Antilla, President, Threemile Canyon Farms