



January 29, 2026

Illinois Nature Preserve Commission
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

**Subject: *Illinois State Protected Lands – No Effect Determination
Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Garden and Solar Farm LLC***

On behalf of Suncode LLC, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (Kimley-Horn) evaluated the Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Garden and Solar Farm LLC Project (“Project”) for compliance with Kane County Special Use Permit requirements. The Project consists of approximately 34 acres and is located south of Norris Road and east of Bliss Road, Blackberry Township, Kane County, Illinois. The Project will include the installation of an alternating current (AC) ground-mounted solar system. The Project will primarily consist of ground mounted solar panels, racking, associated electrical components, with security fencing and interior access roads. The Project is a privately funded project which is not anticipated to have a federal nexus. An Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool (EcoCAT) Consultation Termination letter is included in Attachment A. A figure showing Illinois protected lands is included in Attachment B.

The EcoCAT showed that a state and federally endangered bat, the northern long-eared bat, may be in the vicinity of the study area. However, according to the Termination Letter, the IDNR noted that adverse effects are unlikely. The EcoCAT showed no record of Illinois Natural Area Inventory sites, dedicated Illinois Nature Preserves, or registered Land and Water Reserves in the vicinity of the project location. A review of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) I-View tool showed that there were no INPC-protected lands in the vicinity of the project. The Lake Run Forest Preserve is located less than one-tenth of a mile to the north of the project. The Dick Young Forest Preserve is located approximately one mile to the north and northeast of the project. Both forest preserves are part of the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, and are not managed by the INPC.

Based on the proposed project, we conclude that the Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Garden and Solar Farm LLC Project will have “no effect” on protected lands managed by the INPC; thus, no consultation with the INPC is required based on the current Project.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via phone (952.905.2910) or email (max.forsman@kimley-horn.com).

Sincerely,

Max Forsman, Kimley-Horn

Attachment A

Applicant: SunCode LLC
Contact: Dominic Evenson
Address: 1 Park Plaza Suite 600
Irvine, CA 92614

IDNR Project Number: 2609524
Date: 01/13/2026

Project: Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Gardn and Solar Farm LLC
Address: South of Norris Rd, Sugar Grove

Description: Construction of a solar farm with associated access roads and utilities.

Natural Resource Review Results

Consultation for Endangered Species Protection and Natural Areas Preservation (Part 1075)

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database shows the following protected resources may be in the vicinity of the project location:

Northern Long-Eared Myotis (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

An IDNR staff member will evaluate this information and contact you to request additional information or to terminate consultation if adverse effects are unlikely.

Location

The applicant is responsible for the accuracy of the location submitted for the project.

County: Kane

Township, Range, Section:

39N, 7E, 34

39N, 7E, 35



IL Department of Natural Resources

Contact

Adam Rawe

217-785-5500

Division of Ecosystems & Environment

Government Jurisdiction

IL Environmental Protection Agency

Terri LeMasters

1020 North Grand Avenue East

Springfield, Illinois 61944 -9276

Disclaimer

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database cannot provide a conclusive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of natural resources in Illinois. This review reflects the information existing in the Database at the time of this inquiry, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, compliance with applicable statutes and regulations is required.

Terms of Use

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1. The IDNR EcoCAT website was developed so that units of local government, state agencies and the public could request information or begin natural resource consultations on-line for the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act. EcoCAT uses databases, Geographic Information System mapping, and a set of programmed decision rules to determine if proposed actions are in the vicinity of protected natural resources. By indicating your agreement to the Terms of Use for this application, you warrant that you will not use this web site for any other purpose.

2. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this website are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and/or the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.

3. IDNR reserves the right to enhance, modify, alter, or suspend the website at any time without notice, or to terminate or restrict access.

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Unauthorized use, tampering with or modification of this system, including supporting hardware or software, may subject the violator to criminal and civil penalties. In the event of unauthorized intrusion, all relevant information regarding possible violation of law may be provided to law enforcement officials.

Privacy

EcoCAT generates a public record subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Otherwise, IDNR uses the information submitted to EcoCAT solely for internal tracking purposes.



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

JB Pritzker, Governor

Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director

January 15, 2026

Dominic Evenson
SunCode LLC
1 Park Plaza Suite 600
Irvine, CA 92614

RE: Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Gardn and Solar Farm LLC
Project Number(s): 2609524
County: Kane

Dear Applicant:

This letter is in reference to the project you recently submitted for consultation. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely. Therefore, consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated.

However, the Department recommends:

Establishing pollinator-friendly habitat as groundcover wherever feasible. Solar Site Pollinator Establishment Guidelines can be found here:
<https://dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/pollinatorscorecard.html>

The site should be de-compacted before planting.

Long term management of the site should be planned for prior to development to ensure successful native pollinator habitat establishment and prevent the spread of invasive species throughout the lifetime of this project. An experienced ecological management consultant should be hired to assist with long-term management.

Required fencing, excluding areas near or adjacent to public access areas, should have a 6-inch gap along the bottom to prevent the restriction of wildlife movement. Woven wire or a suitable habitat wildlife friendly fence should be used. Barbed wire should be avoided.

Trees should be cleared between November 1st and March 31st. All night lighting should follow IDA guidance.



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This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

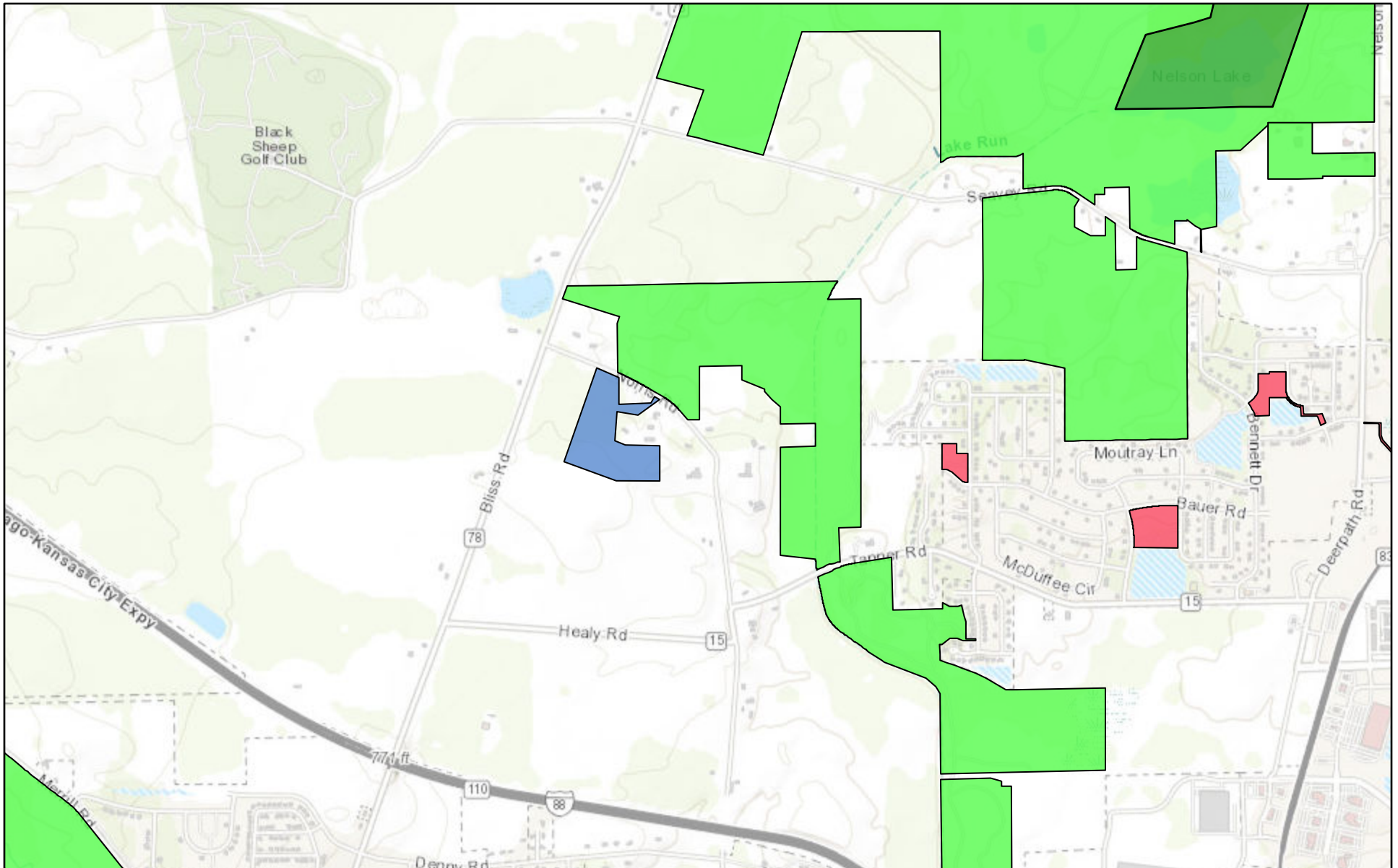
The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.





Isabella Allyn
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
217-785-5500

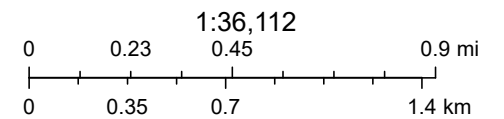
Attachment B

Douglas Family Farm Butterfly Garden and Solar Farm



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-  Study Area
-  Public Sector
-  INPC
-  Municipal Parks



City of Aurora, IL, County of Kane, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA

ArcGIS Web AppBuilder