



**MARSHALL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY BUILDING
112 WEST JEFFERSON STREET
PLYMOUTH, IN 46563**

Monday, May 21, 2018

International City/County Management Association
777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 500
Washington, DC 20002

The Solar Foundation
1717 Pennsylvania AVE NW, Ste. 750
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Andrea Fox and Zach Greene:

On behalf of Marshall County, I am sharing our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated community with support from the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG). Over the last several years as the cost of solar has dropped, an increasing number of farmers, businesses, residents, and others in Marshall County have supplemented their electricity use by generating solar power.

In partnership with MACOG, County staff members will work to review zoning and permitting processes and communicate that information to make it easier, faster, and cheaper to go solar. This work will also prepare our region for the increase in this technology by cross-training inspectors and sharing information with local fire departments.

Marshall County will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following goals:

- Review opportunities to reduce barriers to local solar energy development
- Empower residents to reduce their energy costs by providing access to information and resources
- Support local economic development through the growing local solar industry

To track solar development, the County will work with installers and local solar owners to collect information such as the number residential, commercial, and institutional solar projects, installed solar capacity, and the proportion of solar connected to the grid or off-grid.

Inquiries related to Marshall County's SolSmart participation can be directed to the Marshall County Plan Office at 574-935-8540.

Sincerely,

Kevin Overmyer
President, Marshall County Commissioners