**Subject: Urgent Action Needed: Please Oppose SF 2393 - Protect Minnesota's Clean Energy and Solar Future**

Dear Senator [NAME],

As a solar homeowner and clean energy advocate in Minnesota, I am writing to urge you to oppose SF 2393 (Sen. Frentz), the Senate Energy budget bill. This legislation would severely undermine our state's progress toward a clean energy future and would directly harm thousands of Minnesotans like me who have invested in solar energy, or are considering an investment.

### **Net Metering Reduction Would Devastate Solar Economics**

The most alarming aspect of SF 2393 is the potentially drastic reduction in compensation for excess electricity that residential solar owners like me send back to the grid. I invested in my solar system based on the promise of fair retail-rate compensation through net metering. This bill would slash that rate for anyone investing in solar to "avoided cost" for cooperative and municipal utility customers, reducing compensation from approximately $0.12 per kWh to as little as $0.02- $0.03 per kWh.

This 67% reduction would devastate the financial calculations that justified my investment in solar, and prevent my neighbors from making the same decision. What's more frustrating is that cooperative utilities' own data shows less than 1% of their customers have solar installations, so this change won't meaningfully impact utility finances—it simply punishes member owners who wish to take initiative on clean energy, and controlling their own energy bills.

### **Community Solar Gardens Repeal Blocks Access to Clean Energy**

SF 2393 would also completely repeal Minnesota's successful community solar garden program. While I was fortunate enough to install rooftop solar, many of my friends, neighbors, and family members rely on community solar to access renewable energy benefits. Eliminating this program would restrict clean energy access to only those with suitable properties and sufficient financial resources, moving Minnesota backward at the exact time we should be expanding access to clean energy.

### **Undermining Our 100% Carbon-Free Electricity Commitment**

Just last year, Minnesota made a landmark commitment to 100% carbon-free electricity. Now SF 2393 proposes exceptions that would allow certain utilities to continue using fossil fuels beyond established deadlines. As someone who has experienced increasingly severe Minnesota weather—from dangerous air quality during wildfire season to extreme floods and droughts—I believe these carve-outs directly contradict the climate action we desperately need. The bill also includes troubling exemptions from Minnesota's environmental laws specifically for super-sized data centers. These energy-intensive facilities should be subject to more environmental oversight, not less. These exemptions appear designed to benefit big tech corporations at the expense of our climate goals and environmental protections.

**Threatening 5,000 Minnesota Solar Jobs**

Perhaps most concerning is the impact this bill would have on Minnesota's solar workforce of approximately 5,000 jobs statewide. These are skilled, well-paying positions that provide career paths for Minnesotans. By undermining the economics of solar for both residential customers and community solar subscribers, SF 2393 puts these jobs at serious risk. During an economic transition, we should be supporting growing industries like solar, not creating policy that threatens their viability.

### **Vote NO on SF 2393**

I respectfully ask you to vote NO on SF 2393 as it currently stands. At minimum, please remove the solar provisions from this bill until a proper stakeholder process can address any legitimate concerns without punishing solar adopters or undermining our climate goals.

Minnesota's response to the climate crisis should be to accelerate our clean energy transition—not to apply the brakes, or exempt large corporations from Minnesota law. The provisions in this bill would have real financial impacts on thousands of Minnesotans who invested in solar in good faith, and remove one of the most effective and only tools for low to moderate income Minnesotans to participate in the clean energy transition in CSG, all while setting dangerous precedents that undermine our state's clean energy leadership.

Please stand with solar owners and advocates by opposing SF 2393 and protecting Minnesota's clean energy future.

Sincerely,

[Your Name] [Your Address] [Your Contact Information]