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County approves zoning change for solar farm

(KNZA)--The Doniphan County Commission has approved a zoning change to allow for a solar powered electric generating facility, just south of Troy.

According to the unofficial minutes from Monday's meeting, the commission took the action on a 2-1 vote following a hearing drawing no opposition. Commissioner Wayne Grable cast the lone dissenting vote.

Doniphan Electric requested a conditional use for a 4-acre tract located at 1438 180th Road.

The Doniphan County Regional Planning Commission voted last month to recommend that the conditional use be denied until further information on regulations could be gathered.

Zoning Administrator Julie Meng presented the County Commission Monday with a list of conditions for the conditional use permit.

Commissioners were told the facility will consist of 500 solar panels and is expected to generate over 591,000 kilowatt hours per year.

The facility will be built, owned and operated by North Little Rock Arkansas-based Today's Power, Inc., an electric cooperative that specializes in small, utility-scale solar generation projects.

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