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The Holland Sentinel

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Zeeland Twp. files lawsuit

Municipality asked for PA 233 to be declared unconstitutional

Cassidey Kavathas
Holland Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK

A municipality in West Michigan has asked a circuit court judge to declare the state's much-debated Public Act 233 unconstitutional.

Zeeland Township has sued energy company RWE, which has a pending application for a large-scale solar development project before the Michigan Public Service Commission. The project would be located in both Zeeland Township and Jamestown Township near the Ottawa Executive Airport.

PA 233 is a relatively new state statute that allows applicants behind certain utility-scale solar, wind and battery energy storage projects to seek approval directly from the Michigan Public Service Commission, unless all affected local governments have adopted ordinances that are no more restrictive than state standards.

A host of municipalities across the state have taken issue with the statute, which they feel bypasses local zoning rights.

The complaint was filed in Ottawa County's 20th Circuit Court on July 7, according to an emailed statement from Zeeland Township Manager Joshua M. Eggleston.

The lawsuit asks the court to declare PA 233 unconstitutional under Article 7, Section 29 of the Michigan Constitution which states:

• "No ... corporation, public or private, operating a public utility shall have the right to the use of ... wires, poles, pipes, tracks, conduits or other utility facilities without the consent of the duly constituted authority of the county, township, city or village."

• "... Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, the right of all counties, townships, cities and villages to the reasonable control of their highways, streets, alleys and public places is hereby reserved to such local units of government."

RWE filed an application with the MPSC for Silver Maple Solar on April 3, bypassing the deciding bodies of Zeeland Township and Jamestown Township. The project boasting 200 megawatts would stretch across 1,914 acres of

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Tasty new business opens in former Supermarket Rosie



Corazón De Café on Thursday, July 2, in Holland. PHOTOS BY ADAM VANDER KOOY/HOLLAND SENTINEL

'Corazón de Café is more than just a coffee shop to me'

Austin Metz
Holland Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK

Corazón de Café has opened in Holland, replacing the former Supermarket Rosie.

The café opened June 20 at 106 W. 16th St. — serving customers seven days a week with coffee, breakfast, lunch and desserts. Juana Vasquez of California opened the business with her husband after extensive renovations.

Vasquez said the café reflects her upbringing and a longtime goal.

"Corazón de Café is more than just a coffee shop to me — it's a reflection of my culture, my family and everything I've worked so hard to build," she said.

The menu includes birria, burgers, tortas, bagels, sandwiches and other



A spread of tacos; a torta; a bacon, egg and cheese sandwich; drinks and a strawberry-filled concha at Corazón De Café on July 2, in Holland.

lunch and breakfast items. For a sweet treat, there's crepes, churros, pancakes, waffles and stuffed concha.

Thirty? There's lattes, frappes and

milkshakes, as well as refreshers, raspados, aguas frescas, hot tea, house coffee and chocomil served in a traditional bag.

The couple renovated the space to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere reflecting their culture and personality. The café is the second Corazón de Café in West Michigan, joining an existing shop on 28th Street in Wyoming.

The location is open daily 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

"We would love to invite everyone to come experience Corazón de Café," Vasquez said. "We truly appreciate every person who walks through our doors, and we can't wait to welcome new faces."

— Contact reporter Austin Metz at amet@hollandsentinel.com.

Here's where to vote early for primaries in Ottawa, Allegan

Mitchell Boatman
Holland Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK

Early, in-person voting will look significantly different for residents of Ottawa County in 2026.

In 2022, voters statewide approved a proposal to mandate nine days of early, in-person voting for state and federal elections, starting in 2024. For that election cycle, local municipalities partnered with Ottawa County to offer four regional centers, each open to all local voters.

In January 2025, however, officials confirmed those centers would not return. Ottawa County Clerk Justin Roebuck told The Sentinel that neighboring counties with individual sites saw higher early voting turnout.

The majority of municipalities in Ottawa County and Allegan County will host their own early voting for the primaries in August 2026. The others are spread across seven joint agreements.

The Sentinel has compiled locations and hours for early voting, available July 25-Aug. 2.

Ottawa County

Allendale Township, Blendon Township, Hudsonville

8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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