

13-D430-EZ-BTX

## Z-Acres Farms LLC

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**Ohio Power Siting Board**  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

**To Whom It May Concern:**

The following is information related to how irrigation affects my farming practice. I am including a chart so you can compare the difference between the two types of land. These figures are on a per acre cost.

Using today's cost and returns figures (see below), you can see how much affect a pivot has on a dry land field (sandbox). With the addition of a pivot now there is little loss in yield year to year due to dry weather. The next step is to simply manage H2O as an input on a as need basis.

The bigger issue of adding H<sub>2</sub>O is the distance it comes to the electric towers. As we all know, water is a very good conductor of electricity. You need not actually touch the wires to get a charge. This is proved to be true by listening to the lines on a very humid day as they snap, crackle, and pop! In order to operate the pivot it requires there to be people and machinery to pump the H<sub>2</sub>O thru the system. The people now have the distinct possibility of getting a shock even though they are miles apart! My employees and I are not real interested in having our natural curly hair straightened or straight hair curled! In my opinion, any lines that were to be placed would have to be a minimum of 100 feet from the spray of the H<sub>2</sub>O.

Thank you for your time with this matter.

Bye Bob A M.M.

**Byron P. Gearhart**  
**Managing Member**

BPG/jh

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Technician                      Date Processed Nov 9 6 2012

Irrigated Land (per acre)	
Input Cost:	\$610
Income:	230 bu/a @ \$5
	\$1150
Net Profit:	\$540

Dry Land (per acre)	
Input Cost:	\$445
Income:	130 bu/a @ \$5
	\$650
Net Profit:	\$205