



Power Siting Board

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jenifer French, Chair

Kingwood Exhibit 23

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Board Members
Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Director, Ohio Development Services Agency
Director, Ohio Department of Health
Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture
Public Member
Ohio House of Representatives
Ohio Senate

June 30, 2021

Dick Gould
Commissioner
35 Greene St.
Xenia, OH 45385

RECEIVED
2021 JUL -6 AM 9:50
GREENE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Dear Dick Gould:

Recently, Vesper Energy held a public informational meeting regarding the proposed Kingwood Solar Project. We hope you were able to attend. At this time, the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) has not received an application filing for this project, but we want to reach out to you and let you know we are available as a resource to assist you as you navigate the OPSB process.

The OPSB is responsible for reviewing and approving plans for the construction of major utility facilities in Ohio. Through the Ohio Revised Code, the OPSB has jurisdiction over electric generating facilities, including solar farms and fossil fuel plants with a capacity of 50 megawatts (MW) or greater and wind farms that are 5 MW or greater. Additionally, the OPSB has jurisdiction over electric transmission lines and facilities of 100 kilovolts or more and natural gas transmission lines greater than 500 feet in length and more than 9 inches in diameter and designed to transport gas at a maximum operating pressure in excess of 125 pounds per square inch. The Board is comprised of seven members – the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the directors of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Development Services Agency, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and a public engineer appointed by the governor. Four non-voting legislative members – two from the Ohio Senate and two from the Ohio House of Representatives – complete the Board's membership.

Before any company can build a major utility in Ohio, a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need must be obtained from the OPSB. The OPSB assures that each project benefits the citizens of Ohio, promotes the state's economic interests and protects the environment and land-use. Once an application is filed, OPSB technical staff will begin its review of the project. Later in the review process, the OPSB will schedule a local public hearing where anyone will have an opportunity to share thoughts about the project with the Board. All testimony provided during this hearing is transcribed by a court report and becomes a part of the case record upon which the Board members must make their decision.

Additionally, anyone who satisfies the Board's intervention criteria may be accepted as a party to the case. Local government has automatic right to intervention. The OPSB's intervention rules are contained in Ohio Administrative Code section 4906-2-12. Parties may participate in the adjudicatory hearing, where the applicant, OPSB staff, and other parties to the case present testimony and evidence regarding the facility and cross examine each other. Parties may also file for rehearing of a Board decision or appeal the result to the Supreme Court of Ohio.

180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

(866) 270-6772
www.OPSB.ohio.gov

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The OPSB appreciates your interest in the proposed Kingwood Solar Project, case number 21-0117-EL-BGN and encourages your participation in the review process. We are here to answer any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-995-5476, or Jill.Kocher@PUCO.Ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Kocher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Kocher
Outreach Coordinator

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
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in

Case No(s). 21-0117-EL-BGN

Summary: Exhibit Applicant Exh 23 electronically filed by Mr. Ken Spencer on
behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc.