



**Testimony Presented at the OPSB Public Hearing
Regarding the Kingwood Solar Project
Case Record 21-0117-EL-BGN
15 November 2021 Greene County Fairgrounds**

**by
William McCuddy,
3111 Wilberforce-Clifton Road, Miami Township 45314**

My name is William McCuddy and I live at 3111 Wilberforce-Clifton Road a few hundred yards downhill from the North array of this intended project.

I have long held concerns about the effect it would have on the aquifer and on the wells of the many farms and houses that surround Kingwood if it were approved, including mine. Specifically, I am concerned that these hundreds of acres of glass sitting on top of what are now open fields that currently soak up water and store it in the shallow alluvial layer will instead run the water off and choke the recharge in what is a very sensitive, very shallow aquifer.

I have voiced these concerns at two previous meetings, first on 6 April 2021 at the hearing for the Greene County Commission and second at Vespers informational meeting 29 June 2021. At this event I expressed my concerns to a Vesper legal representative who took my contact information and promised that someone from the company would call me back and address the issue. I never heard back.

I am here tonight to once again ask that careful consideration be given to the possible damage this project could inflict on the surrounding community.

In my understanding, the alluvial layer acts like a sponge to not only soak up rainwater but to store it and slow its dispersal into the underlying bedrock. In this case the alluvial layer may also overlie karstic limestone and dolomite with myriad joints and bedding planes which can quickly drain groundwater to the lowest places in the terrain, such as the Little Miami River. The thicker this alluvial "sponge", the more water it can hold. However in some portions of the project area the alluvial layer appears to be less than 25 feet in depth.

Residents of the area are highly dependent on groundwater wells for residential and farming use, and recharge of water from the surface is important to maintaining those wells. It is unclear at this point what impact the solar panel arrays will have on groundwater recharge within the project area and Vesper has, to date, provided no information on that potential impact.

I firmly believe that the acres of glass over the aquifer and the soil compaction from heavy construction traffic and hundreds of ten foot metal piers per acre being driven into the ground have the potential to significantly disrupt the recharge rate, and endanger wells in the many homes and farms which surround, and in some cases are even surrounded by, this ill conceived project.

Kingwood Solar is not a benefit to our community. It doesn't take much diligence to find the information I present here. It doesn't look like Vesper has made the attempt, just as they never tried to call me and discuss this issue.

I would respectfully ask that this project be denied. Thank you.