

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 19-1641
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:29:03 AM
Attachments: [OSU Written Testimony.docx](#)

From: Mandolyn Newell <mmnew101@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 6:51 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Ohio State University Combined Heat and Power Facility

Dear Ohio Power Sitting Board,

Please accept my attached written testimony for the Ohio State University combined heat and power facility. The case number is 19-1641-EL-BGN.

As a tOSU student, it would mean a lot to me and my peers if our viewpoints could be expressed and heard. If you have any questions, please reach out.

Best,
Mandolyn Newell
7148 Sherbrook Dr, Westerville, OH 43082
(614) 753-3851

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August 3, 2020

Dear members of the Ohio Power Sitting Board,

I am writing in regard to the combined heat and power plant intended for The Ohio State University's campus.

I am a Mechanical Engineering student at the Ohio State University and want to express my support for the proposed power plant. In my field of study, I examine data first and form my opinion second. Unfortunately, it seems that a handful of my peers are forming opinions before learning the facts. However, many OSU students and faculty have used factual information to arrive at the sensible and feasible conclusion to support the proposed new heat recovery power plant.

The university's proposal for a new natural gas-fired plant is in efforts to advance its sustainability initiatives. It will cut carbon emissions by 35% within the first year of operation. This is a significant and meaningful leap toward environmental progress that many students, including myself, are applauding.

The University has done the research and understands the climate benefits of clean burning natural gas. Recent studies demonstrate that as energy production of natural gas has increased in Ohio, emissions have declined. According to the *Center for Climate Change and Energy Solutions*, from 2005-2017 emissions in the electric power sector have decreased by 27% as a result of using natural gas instead of coal. The director of Ohio State's Sustainability Institute said herself that renewable energy options were considered and were found to not be "economically feasible."

As America leads the world in cutting CO2 emissions using low carbon fuels like natural gas, OSU will lead colleges by making the use of energy much more efficient. This power facility is a necessary piece of infrastructure that is a responsible, environmentally friendly bridge to the future of energy.

While there are appropriate applications of renewable energy sources, so are there appropriate applications of natural gas-fired power plants. The latter provides Ohio, along with most of the world's population, clean and affordable electric power. Students and faculty of tOSU want the environmental advancements, efficiency improvements, and cost reductions that this combined heat and power plant will achieve. The selection made by The Ohio State University is the appropriate choice for environmental and economic gains.

Thank you for your consideration,
Mandolyn Newell
Mechanical Engineering student of The Ohio State University

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in

Case No(s). 19-1641-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment of Mandolyn Newell, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.