

From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cEQc6:ref]
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It has been brought to our attention that Lightsource BP, a solar farm development is potentially planning to install 2600-3900 acres of solar panels near my home and yours. We own 5 acres of land that we have horses on and this project will be directly across the street and down the road from our property. I have several concerns with this project and urge that all of these are considered and addressed. My first concern is the market value of our home, I have seen the statistics and frankly it doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that they are way off. They said the value of our home which is 1/10 of a mile from the solar farm would have a decrease in value up to 7% and up to a mile away the value would be decreased by 1%. I do not need to be a realtor to know that nobody wants to live near a solar farm no matter how nice the home is due to the fact that you do not move out to the country to be looking at solar farms with 10 ft fences around them. You move out to the country to see farm fields and wild animals, nature. We have always lived in the Shawnee area and about 7 years ago our home was built in the Shawnee area so we could continue to live in a great area. We have added the horse barns and pastures, which in turn cost us a great deal of money but the horses and having a horse farm is worth it. We are in our late 40's and are paying down our home so that one day hopefully in the not so distant future we can retire and have our home and property paid for, this solar farm would decrease the value of our home and all the money that we have put into our home to increase its value will all be lost. No one is going to want to purchase a horse farm next to a solar farm. This will also affect our Shawnee school system as well. We have a great school system and people move to the Shawnee area for the schools. If there is a major solar farm in a vast portion of the district, then school attendance or academic standards will decrease due to the fact the upper to middle class families will not live in an area in which they are surrounded by solar panels. Our second concern is the environmental issues with solar farms causing significant pollution and health issues arising out of the "dirty electricity". I have read that the amount of EMF Radiation emitted from the panels is quite small but the real issue is the solar panel/photovoltaic system. The "dirty electricity" produced from these systems ultimately radiate EMF radiation into nearby homes. The World Health Organization released material on this in August 2016 stating some people that had lower levels of EMF exposure at home reported symptoms of headache, anxiety, suicide, depression, nausea, fatigue and loss of libido. I have also read reports that state the EMF Radiation is cancer causing. This is not a risk I want to take with myself, my family or my animals. Here are a few articles to the point that I am making:

<https://www.nationalreview.com/2017/06/solar-panel-waste-environmental-threat-clean-energy>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/05/23/if-solar-panels-are-so-clean-why-do-they-produce-so-much-toxic-waste>

<https://www.electrosmogprevention.org/public-health-alert/health-alerts-solar-panel-systems/health-risks-of-solar-panels>.

When these panels have rainwater washed over them, they release Cadmium. Cadmium is released at a rate of 100,000 lbs per 1.8 million panels which is close to the number of panels that will be installed if this project is built. Cadmium causes cancer, and affects the body's cardiovascular, renal, gastrointestinal, neurological, reproductive and respiratory systems. Along with Cadmium the toxic panels also contain Lead and Chromium which are also given off when the solar panels get old and they release these toxic fumes, which as you know causes carcinogenic (cancer) and teratogenic (birth defects). All this information is in the article

above and below

<https://www.stopthesolarfarms.com/f/stopthesolarfarmsNOW14pages.pdf>

<https://www.americanexperiment.org/2019/08/environmental-disaster-solar-energy>

Along with the EMF, these panels omit the sound which is another factor. Managing Noise Levels at Solar Facilities, quiet rural areas have a background noise level around 30dBA. Wind experience that a 5 decibel increase can cause annoyance and at 40 dBA, the noise can be intolerable. We all know that solar facilities contain inverters and transformers. Solar inverters convert DC voltage from panels to AC voltage. Transformers step that voltage up to grid voltages. Inverters and transformers emit tonal noise due to magnetostriction, and emit broadband fan noise where components are fan-cooled. Typical A-weighted noise levels for each grid-connect system component are in the range of 65-68 dBA at 10 meters. This is a problem as well, would you want to live next to that noise? My third concern is what about the wildlife displacement and endangerment to the wildlife that has taken off in this area? This project could adversely affect the habitat of 11 identified endangered and/or protected species/migratory birds. We also have a population of Deer, Wild Turkeys, Bald Eagles, Minks, Quail and Pheasants that will be displaced and must migrate elsewhere. With 10 ft fences around all this area, it will make it impossible for animals to move around in this area.

To have Wild Turkey and the National bird the Bald Eagle in our backyards is something that not too many people can say that they have and we can and it is quite a sight.

<https://www.bv.com/perspectives/impact-solar-energy-wildlife-emerging-environmental-issue>

<https://www.fws.gov/ecological-services/energy-development/solar.html>

Aircraft and Vehicle Travel - We are located in a direct path for life flight helicopters traveling to and from St. Rita's/Mercy Health Hospital. Below are studies from the FAA and the government that show how a solar farm could adversely affect pilots by producing a glare and causing impairment. What about vehicle travel? The panels are proposed to be adjacent to St. Rt 501 and Breese Rd. in Shawnee Township, both of these roads are highly traveled roads in our area. What about glare to drivers? <https://www.aviationprojects.com.au/news-view/solar-farms-and-aviation-61>

<https://www.osti.gov/servlets/purl/1145288>

Flooding, Erosion and the Watershed – Here are several articles that mention a potential of increased surface water run-off, erosion and how it will affect the watershed from solar farm sites and how it will affect the neighboring properties.

<https://coastalagro.com/solar-farming-not-a-good-use-of-agricultural-land>

<https://www.wtvr.com/2018/02/08/green-solar-farm-is-turning-an-essex-county-watershed-brown>


<https://www.eetimes.com/top-negative-impacts-solar-panels-have-on-environment>

The fourth concern is that the archaeological sites or historic structures have not been taken into consideration? This whole area is Shawnee Indian land, they had their villages on the ground that the solar panels were to be placed as well as their burial grounds. The Hog Creek, Blackhoof, Logan and Springtown villages were all in this area that the panels are being built. This is a real concern for losing our history and conserving the land that once was Indian land. Kevin Smith is the CEO of Lightsource BP and you can see from this article below, he was the CEO and inventor of this solar farm and when it didn't make profit and failed, he left the company a year before this happened, so his name was not associated with this failed project. Here is the article about it.

<https://www.evwind.es/2020/02/07/the-closure-of-solarreserve-an-isolated-case-of-the-concentrated-solar-power-industry>

My research shows these panels are not even manufactured in the United States but China. Even though solar energy can be a good thing some sites are just not suitable for solar development and I strongly oppose this project.

Thank you.

Angie Gallup 

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Summary: Public Comment of Angie Gallup, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing