



From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFiQ5:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 8:21:17 AM

In Fridays meeting one of the persons from Birch said that most of the field tile in the project area is 80 to 100 years old. that is not true as i have personally witnessed new field tile in this area installed in the last 10 years. they also made the statement that the posts used to support these panels are 12' long and that they would only be 4' above the ground level and be pile driven. that would mean 8' in the ground. the new tile is not the depth that they say is around 10'. $12'-4'=8'$ these tile must be protected and they need to verify buy doing actual field verification rather than going by outdated 80>100 year old records. This is going to create major flooding issues both upstream and downstream of this project. I have no idea where they are getting their information from but it is not accurate and obviously out dated 

ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFiQ5:ref

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFYLR:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:17:52 AM


I am a very concerned resident of Shawnee Township where Lightsource BP is proposing a 2,600 acre Solar farm. This farm is HUGE and doesn't not make sense to put in such a populated area. They have no studies that even compare to having these farms so close to this many residential homes. The company is paying off "adjacent" homeowners in order for them to be on their side. This is all about business to them. They have absolutely no care about all the other surrounding people it will affect. My family lives across the road from the projected project in view of the substation they plan to use and we were not contacted about this. We found out on Facebook from someone else. Every one in Shawnee township should have been made aware by mail as not everyone has a computer and very few people still get a newspaper. We have Bald eagles who live in the wooded areas and they hunt for their food in the fields they plan to destroy. Lightsource has stated multiple times they will not cut down trees. However during the public meeting at Apollo, Kevin stated he couldn't promise they would cut down trees here and there. The stories are changing and no one knows what to believe anymore. First it was going to have 400 jobs during the building and 10 after. Now they stated 35-400 and only 4-5 once it's built. Again, there are the lies. Everyone in our community are worried about property values decreasing. It's common sense that someone would not purposely buy a house with that large of a solar farm next to it. Lightsource keeps stating people want them here. No they do not!! Only the few greedy farmers that are only thinking of themselves. Also, why in Ohio? We do not have THAT many sunny days compared to other states. The energy created by this massive solar farm will not even benefit the residents locally. We will have to look at the depressing acres and acres of collar panels. This does not belong in this area!!!! 

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFTYi:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:35:45 AM

It is 6:04 on 11/20/20 and there is NO/ZERO access to the website Lightsource BP has published for this public meeting. I have tried on multiple devices using different internet access. I request these public meetings be rescheduled!

Jim Thompson 

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFUFk:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:54:16 AM


The public meeting I am currently attempting to watch is unfair. It is hard to log in on the website. The site keeps freezing up, The slides are hard to read. This limits the citizens that wish to watch and participate. I try to ask questions and you are limited in how many characters you can put in the box. We cannot ask our questions fairly. This project is a joke on how it is being presented to the citizens.

John Newland 

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605-EL-BGN [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFTtt:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:55:23 AM

Trying to watch Public Info Mtg for proposed major utility facility. What a joke. Blurry, bad connection, bad audio. Quit using COVID as an excuse. This should be delayed until after holidays and after COVID let's up so we can have true Public Meetings. Unfair to us who oppose this project. I wanted to be part of this meeting but it's almost impossible with all the issues. 

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFznV:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 10:39:44 AM

I would like to express concerns about the Birch Solar Industrial Complex that is planned for 2,600 acres. (20-1605)

Solar facilities of this size are typically in the deserts in states such as Arizona, Nevada, and California. When they are located on land that was previously farm land they are typically much smaller than the 2,600 acre proposed project.

Furthermore, when you see large farms that were converted to solar facilities that are in areas that are extremely rural with population densities significantly smaller than what you see in Shawnee Township.

In Ohio there are currently 16 utility scale solar facilities that are pending, approved or under construction. Not one is in a township with a population as large as Shawnee Township. Additionally, Allen County with a population of 102,000 is the 26th largest county in Ohio. In regards to county size you need to go down to the 45th largest county (Pickaway) before you see a solar facility within the county. Large utility-scale solar facilities in Ohio as well as the entire nation are located in extremely low-density population areas. Shawnee Township does not fit the description as a low-density population area.

A key takeaway is that this proposed project really stands out as being outlier when you consider the large size of the project relative to the population density of Shawnee Township.

As a result, it is not possible to effectively complete a benchmarking analysis in a comprehensive fashion. This should stop all of us in our tracks. What are we doing here?

Shawnee Township currently has no solar farms. So with no experience with solar farms the township is going to start with a 2,600 acre solar industrial complex?? This makes little sense!

Kind Regards,

G. Jones 

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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFi5C:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 11:02:27 AM

I have many concerns with the projected Birch Solar Project that is currently in the works for Shawnee Township/Allen County. This project is 2,600 acres and is located in a heavily populated area where there are so many families/homes that will be affected. There aren't any studies that done on Solar fields that compare the size of this one that is near such dense residential areas. Our area has bald eagles that use the fields to hunt their food. Lightsource BP stated they would not cut down any wooded areas but at the Apollo meeting on 11/18/2020, Kevin Smith then stated that he cannot promise they will not cut down any trees. LightSource also stated this project would create 400 temporary jobs then dwindle down to 10 ongoing positions once it is up and running. The meeting 11/20/2020, they stated jobs would be 350-400 and then once it is up and running it will employ about 4-5 ongoing employees. There are so many lies they have told the community and they just continue. They sent out notices to homes that would be affected in the area, my family lives in view of the field and substation and we were not contacted at all. We found out on Facebook. This is a HUGE project and I feel as if EVERYONE in Shawnee Township, whether they are adjacent or not, should have been contacted and made aware by mail. They stated they had it in the paper. Well...welcome to 2020 where not many people get the paper anymore and many people do not have computers or internet to read about it on there either. LightSource keeps stating that people want them here in the community which is a lie. Only a FEW farmers have agreed, and they are the only one benefiting from this as they are being paid off. Our local trustees from all the townships are also not in favor and have official votes on record stating this. Through our democracy, we were able to vote on who represents us at this local level. And these Nays fall on deaf ears at any level above them. When I want to put an inground pool in my very own backyard, I would have to propose it to our township. Go through all the steps necessary and they would vote on this. They have also started making offers to pay off adjacent landowners. Please take the time to look at and review the concerns that the local community has. This is about the WHOLE community, not just the few farmers/landowners who will benefit. The energy produced from the massive solar project will not benefit us locally at all, it will be sold to large corporations and utilities that aren't even near us. There are plenty of other places that Lightsource can build their Solar Farm where there isn't so many residents around. Again, please take all concerns of our community into consideration.

Rachel Stombaugh



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From: [Matthew Butler](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cFtW9:ref]
Date: Monday, November 23, 2020 11:04:34 AM

My name is Kyle Kuhbander. I'm writing this email concerning a potential solar project from a company called Lightsource BP. The project is named the Birch Solar Project. In my case it will surround my property for a full 360°, as my home sits a quarter mile out in the middle of a field. They have contacted me stating my property will have a 10' tall fence surrounding it which will have a massive impact on the free movement of wildlife both to and from my property.

My wife and I are both avid archery hunters for the wild turkey and whitetail deer that call our surrounding area their home. Over the years we've paid for the privilege to hunt in the state of Ohio via annual hunting and fishing licenses plus the cost of game tags. We finally after years of having permission to hunt others land, saved enough money to purchase property with our home on it. Almost exclusively for the right to hunt our own property via landowner tags.

This right will be unapologetically stripped away from my family. The amount of money hunting and fishing brings into the state of Ohio is staggering. It's really important to hundreds of thousands of people around the state. This development will surely guarantee that not only my family but the entire community of landowners who hunt these areas will all but cease to exist. I'm speaking for every Hunter, Fisher and Trapper in the area when I say this will deprive us of our God given right to provide for our families by carrying on the sacred traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping. Our lifestyle is already under constant attack from animal rights activists, the government and public opinion. We urge to strongly oppose Lightsource BP Birch Solar Farm when the time comes to cast your vote.

Respectfully,

Kyle Kuhbander 

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11/23/2020 11:53:16 AM

in

Case No(s). 20-1605-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment Public Comment of Concerned Consumer, Jim Thompson, John Newland, G. Jones, Rachel Stombaugh, Kyle Kuhbander via website electronically filed by PUCO Docketing on behalf of Docketing