

December 9, 2020

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

**Re:** Case No. 20-1679-EL-BGN  
In the Matter of the Application of Pleasant Prairie Solar Energy LLC for a  
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a  
Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Franklin County, Ohio.

**Proof of Publication for Public Information Meeting**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Attached please find a copy of the proof of publication indicating that the notice of the public information meeting was published in the *Columbus Dispatch*, a newspaper of general circulation in Franklin County, Ohio.

The public information meeting will be held on Monday, December 14, 2020, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., via a live phone question and answer session on the project.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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4830-0800-2004 v1 [39579-53]

*The Columbus Dispatch*  
PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF OHIO, FRANKLIN COUNTY. SS:

Laura C Rauch  
Multi Media Sales Manager

*The Columbus Dispatch*, a newspaper published at  
Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, with a daily paid  
Circulation of over 130,000 copies, personally appeared  
and made oath that the notice of which a true copy is  
here unto attached was published in  
*The Columbus Dispatch* for 1 time(s) on

November 15, 2020

and that the rate charged therefore is the same  
as that charged for commercial advertising for  
like services.

*Laura C Rauch*

subscribed and Sworn on this 30th day of November  
2020 as witness my hand and seal of office.

*Veronica Hill*

NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF OHIO



VERONICA HILL  
Notary Public, State of Ohio  
My Commission Expires 12-04-2023

# Black firefighters allege racism

## New grievance follows inaction by leaders

**Tom Foreman Jr.**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — They threw her new cellphone on the roof of the station house and placed nails under the wheels of her pickup truck. As she prepared to answer a call, someone poured tobacco juice in her boots. It was too much for Timika Ingram to bear.

“It caused me pain, sleepless nights, suffering, anxiety,” said Ingram, whose four years as a firefighter in North Carolina amounted to a collection of indignities.

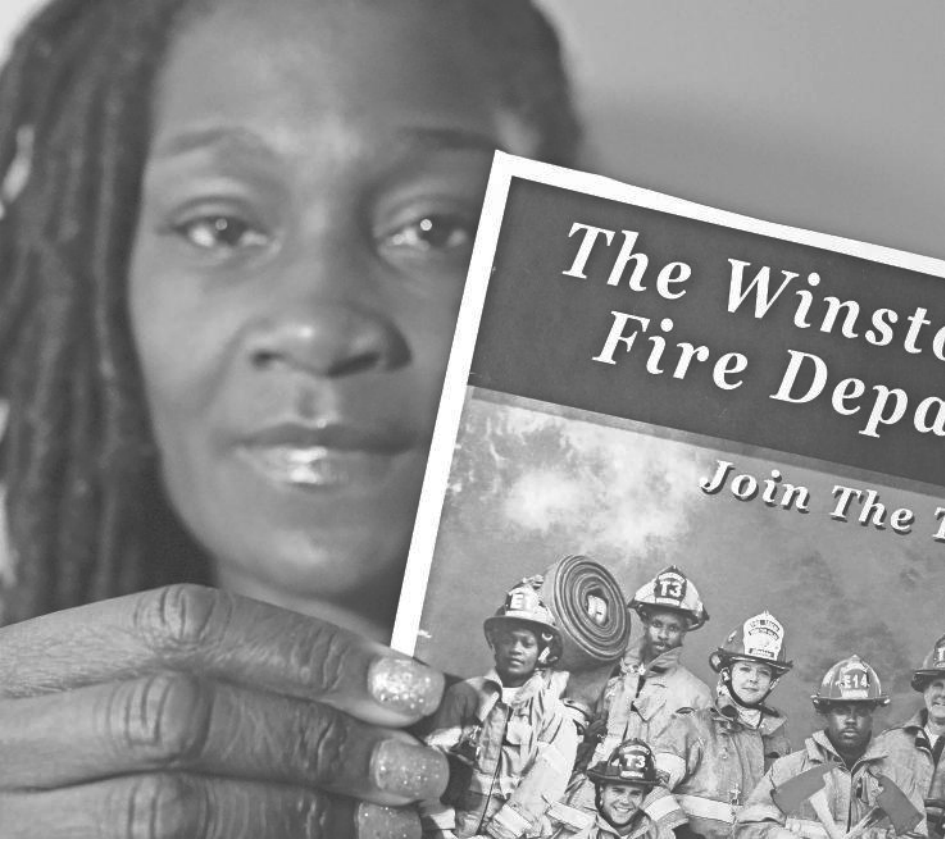
Other Black firefighters who endured similar treatment in the Winston-Salem Fire Department recently brought their complaints before the city. The grievance they filed in October calls for Chief William “Trey” Mayo to be fired for failing to discipline white firefighters who, the group said, have created a hostile work environment through comments in person and on social media.

“It’s a festering problem that has become even more disease-ridden and even more detrimental to the life of the individuals who work here because of the current chief,” said 28-year veteran firefighter Thomas Penn, a leader of the group that calls itself Omnibus.

Across the country, firefighters are confronting incidents of racism and discrimination as part of a burgeoning movement to call out and address racial injustice in America.

Two Black women sued the city of Denver in September, saying its fire department discriminated against them because of their gender and race. One alleged a captain overseeing her training said she should “keep her head down and act like a slave” to graduate from the program.

Last year, a Black firefighter sued city officials in Lansing, Michigan, saying they did nothing to stop racial discrimination within the fire department after he received hostile comments and found a banana on his assigned fire-truck’s windshield. He filed another lawsuit this summer.



**Timika Ingram says she left a North Carolina fire department after four years of harassment.** CHRIS CARLSON/AP

A white Delaware firefighter was charged in July with hate crimes and harassment after allegedly sending threatening messages to a Black paramedic and two part-time workers, one who is Black and the other white who has Black family members, the News Journal reported.

The Winston-Salem group alleged two white captains talked about running over demonstrators protesting the police killing of George Floyd, and that a firefighter made a noose during a rope and knots class in November 2017.

City Manager Lee Garrity cited the state’s personnel privacy law in declining to comment. He said the city has launched a so-called “climate assessment” through a Charlotte-based firm, which will evaluate the entire fire department regarding diversity, race, gender and sexual orientation. A report is due by year’s end, he said.

“We’d had very few grievances or

complaints in the last couple of years,” Garrity said. “But I am sure there are opportunities for improvement.”

Mayo didn’t return multiple phone calls seeking comment.

In early November, Penn said the climate assessment hadn’t begun and added in an email that department administrators, including Mayo, “attempted to intimidate and bully our members” by walking in during interviews.

Ingram said of her treatment throughout rookie school, “You develop alligator skin so that you can get on through the process. And then, hopefully, once you get in, you’ll be able to be an advocate or be able to be heard if anything goes on, because a lot went on with me.”

She officially joined the department in July 2006. Almost right away, she said, other firefighters stole her food and took her uniforms out of her personal space.

The cellphone incident was a significant factor in Ingram’s eventual departure because, without it, her three children had no way to reach her.

She said her white counterparts asked if she’d actually left her phone where it was last seen and even pretended to search for it.

“My daughter was a latchkey kid at the age of 9. My kids had no other way to get in touch. They didn’t know how. Something went wrong with my kids, and I couldn’t get to them and they couldn’t get to me,” she said. “That right there just set it off.”

Ingram was transferred and expressed concerns over her treatment to a superior who didn’t address them, she said.

“I was like, ‘I’m fighting a losing battle.’ You can talk all you want, say what you got to say,” she said.

In July 2010, Ingram quit. Her life spiraled downward for a time. She said she married someone “to mask the pain,” but that ended in divorce. Her car was repossessed and she was homeless. She missed work for four months, and doctors told her she developed lupus as a result of the stress she’d undergone as a firefighter.

Retired Winston-Salem firefighter Gary Waddell experienced discrimination on a different plane in 1989 because of his marriage to a white woman who visited him at the station shortly after he was assigned there.

“I didn’t think anything of it, but when my wife came inside of this fire station, I was told by my supervisor, who was a captain, that my wife could no longer come to the station to visit me,” Waddell said. “But the other members of my crew that I was working with, their wives could come by. But mine couldn’t. So that’s how I started my career.”

Today, Ingram works in medical services in Charlotte, the same job she took after leaving the fire department. She worked out a deal to get her car back, and she’s pursuing a degree in psychology. But she still thinks about the career she had to abandon.

“I just wished I could have stayed,” she said. “I really do, because I worked hard to get there. I trained to get there.”

## Notice of Public Information Meeting for Proposed Major Utility Facility

Pleasant Prairie Solar Energy LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Invenergy, scheduled a virtual public informational meeting for December 14, 2020. The facility will be sited on approximately 2,500 acres and have a maximum total generating capacity of up to 250 megawatts. The purpose of the facility is to generate electricity to inject into the local transmission grid. Construction is anticipated to begin as early as the second quarter of 2021, resulting in commercial operations in the fourth quarter of 2023. A map showing the general outline of the project area is below.

On December 14, 2020, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Pleasant Prairie Solar will host a public information meeting that will be virtual and will consist of a presentation about the proposed facility and approval process, as well as a live web/phone question and answer (Q&A) session on the project. This live Q&A session is being held in accordance with Rule 4906-3-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code, and the Ohio Power Siting Board’s entry issued on November 19, 2020, in Case No. 20-1679-EL-BGN. To access the live web/phone public information meeting and Q&A session on December 14, 2020, attendees can view the presentation online at the following link: [www.InvenergyPublicMeetings.com](http://www.InvenergyPublicMeetings.com). For phone access into the meeting, dial-in toll free: 877-229-8493 and enter access ID code: 119732#

No advance registration is necessary. If participants would like a printed handout of the presentation mailed to them to follow along with the audio-only presentation, hard copies can be requested by contacting [info@pleasantprairiesolar.com](mailto:info@pleasantprairiesolar.com), <https://pleasantprairiesolar.com/> or (773) 808-2145 at least one week in advance (by 12/07/20).

After the public information meeting is held, a recorded presentation about the Pleasant Prairie Solar project will be posted on Pleasant Prairie Solar Energy project’s website (<https://pleasantprairiesolar.com/>) for viewing by the public at their convenience. Hard copies of the presentation will also be available upon request by contacting the Pleasant Prairie Solar development team at [info@pleasantprairiesolar.com](mailto:info@pleasantprairiesolar.com).

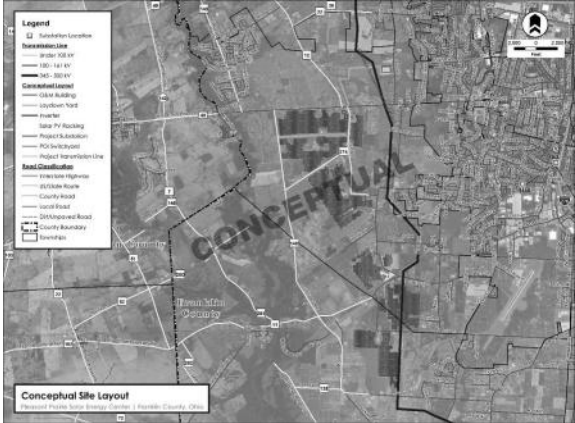
For additional information on how to access the live Q&A by either computer or phone, contact the Pleasant Prairie Solar project team via the addresses or telephone number listed above. If you are unable to access the virtual public information meeting via the internet and would like to receive a copy of the presentation, contact Pleasant Prairie Solar at the addresses or telephone number listed above.

Pleasant Prairie Solar anticipates filing its application with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) within 90 days of the live web/phone Q&A session. OPSB’s case number for the project is 20-1679-EL-BGN and the filings made with the OPSB in the case can be viewed at <http://dis.puc.state.oh.us/CaseRecord.aspx?CaseNo=20-1679&x=13&y=15>.

Upon the receipt of the application, OPSB will review the application to determine if it is complete so OPSB staff can begin its investigation. Should OPSB find the application complete, OPSB will set a date for public hearing, not less than 60 nor more than 90 days after such finding. The public hearing consists of two parts: a public hearing where OPSB will accept written or oral testimony and an adjudicatory hearing. 15 days prior to the public hearing, OPSB’s staff will submit a written report on the project.

OPSB accepts written comments on the project from interested persons at any time, as well as written or oral testimony from any person at the public hearing. Petitions to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing will be accepted by OPSB in accordance with a deadline set by OPSB. To request notification of the public hearing or submit comments in the docket contact OPSB at 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215, 1-866-270-6772, or [contactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:contactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us). Petitions to intervene should be addressed to Docketing Division, the Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215 or can be electronically filed. All correspondence and petitions to intervene must include reference to Case No. 20-1679-EL-BGN.

The following map shows the general outline of the project and location of the project area:



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

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**12/9/2020 4:47:52 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 20-1679-EL-BGN**

Summary: Proof of Pub for Public Information Meeting electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Pleasant Prairie Solar Energy LLC