

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for 20-1605-EL-BGN [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0cg3un:ref]
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:02:20 PM

House Bill No. 786- To temporarily suspend the certification of major utility facilities that are powered by solar or wind and economically significant wind farms.

Susan Fantz
3769 Shalloway Dr.
Lima, Ohio 45806

Ohio Power Siting Board
180 E Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Case # 20-1404-EL-BGN

December 2, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

What can the people of Shawnee Township say to you, the Ohio Power Siting Board, that you have not heard before from Ohio residents of towns invaded by solar or wind farms? We do not want them in our back yards and neither would you. By now, you Siting Board members are probably numb to the emotional messages of protest. By now, you probably think you are allowing these green energy projects to move into our small towns for the “greater good” of all. But what about us? Who speaks up for the citizens affected by this LightSource BP project in our back yards and on our precious farm land?

You should! This project belongs in a less densely populated area and on less productive land or in an industrial site. This solar industrial project is so massive that one could say you are experimenting with us to see how it works out. This is wrong on so many levels. You should not be willing to sacrifice the welfare and happiness of thousands of township residents just because there is a big sub station and rail access nearby. We know that is a driving force for the proposed project but that should not override the many reasons to reject this project. This project should not just be about the big money they throw at governments and the few property owners who gain big at the loss of thousands of residents.

I ask you to reject the LightSource BP application for residents who have not had sufficient notice and time to research the pros and cons for themselves and how it will affect them. Less than 150 residents received notice of any meetings and what was happening and only days before the event and around the Thanksgiving holiday. We have learned from other communities that is a standard operating method for projects, to keep it quiet as long as possible to suppress resistance. Some residents projected to be surrounded on three sides by the solar complex were never notified. In these cases where home owners feel their property values will be affected, they offer bags of money for their trouble. Do you realize the owners don't want to have to sell and they don't want to be bought off? This will have a negative effect on finding buyers for homes in our township. People have choices and it won't be here like it has been in the past. Are you ok with their covert tactics employed on your fellow citizens? Does it not tell you they are capable of anything to get your approval, including lies and flowery promises that won't come true? Will you help us fight off the big money predators stealing your Ohio farm land heritage or ... help them destroy us?

This project should be in an industrial area. It does not fit with our zoning or planned township development. This project is not agricultural, rather, it is industrial and should be treated as such. If you allow LightSource BP to disrupt zoning then what is next?

The 2600 acre proposed project causes many problems for the township such as light pollution in residential areas, wildlife disruption with massive fencing where native animals roam, water run-off issues, environmental hazards (LightSource says their panels are safe and free of toxins, but there are many sources of articles from around the world that question that).

Destruction of prime farm land will benefit the PJM grid for private firms using the solar energy we are told. So, we lose land, enjoyment of property and value for whose benefit? Certainly not ours.

Will Ohio Government, County and even Local government love the money coming either way? Yes! Please understand that someone has to lose so you can win with this proposal. Or, you can tell them to spend a bit more of their project income windfall and buy land or leases on industrial areas instead. That's a win-win.

Now, the abysmal record that LightSource has with their partner BP should give you pause. BP has one of the worst records for safety and environmental hazard episodes ever. Are you willing to risk your reputations with allowing them back in Lima? Now that citizens have learned your board has all the power and we locally have none, we will look to you collectively and individually if it comes to pass that this project fails or worse, causes damage to the land as projected.

In conclusion I offer a glimpse of what my fellow Shawnee Township residents feel is happening. If you approve the LightSource BP Solar project you have said to us, "You don't matter, just live with the consequences of our decision in your lives."

Please do not choose big corporation money over your citizens.

Vote No.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fantz 

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Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

12/11/2020 4:09:12 PM

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

Summary: Public Comment Public Comment of Susan Fantz via website electronically filed by
Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing