

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment for case no. 20-1680-EL-BGN
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:53:55 AM

Please do NOT approve the Yellow Wood project. We are a family of six, and we are stuck right in the middle of what I know is going to be the biggest mess of our lives. We moved to this area six years ago, because I teach in a public school about 15 minutes from my home, and because my husband is a farmer and we both love the country life and wanted a nice, beautiful, peaceful setting to raise our family. We have four children- 12, 11, 8 and 1. We found out about this solar project, through the grapevine of our country friends, a few months ago. The company and the people they sold it to did a good job of keeping it a secret. I was completely devastated when my husband told me. We had just finished building an addition on our house. We've spent years making it nice and doing projects, and now I'm not sure we will even be able to sell it when the time comes. No one will want to stare at panels on four sides of their house. We will be completely surrounded. I am so beyond frustrated! And then there are the health concerns. We have well water. I don't care what anyone says, there's no way these things are safe. Read it again- I have FOUR small children. I don't want to worry about what toxic chemicals are being dumped into our drinking water. Our bathing water. What chemicals, like cadmium, might possibly get leaked into our water. Read the notes on what exactly cadmium is. Here are some, just in case you're not familiar. "Cadmium and its compounds are highly toxic and exposure to this metal is known to cause cancer and targets the body's cardiovascular, renal, gastrointestinal, neurological, reproductive, and respiratory systems." This is MY family. This is OUR home. It should be safe. And that is anything but safe! I also have seen warnings about the impact the project will have in the beginning stages on respiratory health. The amount of dust that the project will create is unbelievable. How will they control that?! I have a child with asthma. Regular dust from farm fields during planting and harvest season is an issue for us. I can't even imagine what the nonstop construction for acres around us will cause. I can't even begin to put into words how worried I am about the impact this will have on my children. In addition, we live on a QUIET road. Or what used to be quiet. Between the ridiculous amounts of construction vehicles and machines, worker trucks, and residents driving up and down trying to see what's going on with the project, the road will be anything but quiet once it starts. We've already had the trucks up and down the road several times a week surveying. And these are narrow country roads. There is a solar panel project not far from us that is already working, and I have heard nothing but complaints about the workers from area neighbors. They say they fly down the road in their vehicles and throw trash everywhere. They've found drug needles outside in the ditches, and one of the workers overdosed TWICE in a local gas station. Seriously?! Again, I have 4 children! Clearly the companies have not used good judgment in hiring workers. Everyone wants to say it's going to bring jobs to the area, but these are not the workers we want. And after the project is constructed, they will only need 4 to maintain them. 4 for 2700 acres. How is that going to work? There are so many unanswered questions! And guess what? The whole project was kept under wraps, and people in the community are JUST now finding out about it. No one knew anything about it, except the people who sold out. And guess what else.... those people won't have the panels in front of or behind their houses, because of course they don't want to look at it. What does that tell you? It's so good for the environment and everyone is so on board with the projects, but the people who are leaving comments in support of them are either not impacted by it or are earning money off of them. I've seen letters for other local projects that are from New York and Oregon. Those people don't care about the communities or the land around here. They were just told by people in support of them to send blanket letters. The people who the panels actually impact don't want them around! Why aren't our voices the ones that are being heard? How can ANYONE think this is a good idea? Besides being an eyesore, having unknown health risks, and causing a complete and utter disturbance for homeowners, what about the wildlife? This particular project has 2700 acres that are being used. Where are the animals going that live on that land?

I used to love this community, but with these solar panels, this is not an area I will raise my children in. I'm so very angry that I will have to uproot them and go somewhere else.. that my family is now forced to make a housing decision at a moment's notice. Please do NOT approve this project. The people whose voices should matter don't want it here!!

Jamie Roberts

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Summary: Public Comment Public Comment of Jamie Roberts, via website electronically filed
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