

To: Whom It May Concern

Re: Yellow Wood Project/Clinton County, Ohio CASE: 20-1680-EL-BGN

Da: 1/30/21

Fr. Charles L. Thompson, Martinsville, Ohio

As a life-long resident of Clinton County, where my family has a small farm. I would like to state my opposition to the current Yellow Wood Project. The Yellow Wood Project is leasing productive crop lands and fields where grain is now being grown. This ground has been farmed by generations of Clinton County farmers.

Once these fields are no longer used for crop production, they will only be used for the housing of solar panels. That is, if the Yellow Wood Project proceeds. This project will negatively impact the townships of Clark and Jefferson greatly. Honestly, in my opinion, the entire county will feel the impact if this project proceeds.

First, the project was not clearly explained to the general public, who are living in and/or near the townships of Clark and Jefferson. Two waivers to meet and discuss the project were granted because of the current restrictions related to the ongoing pandemic.

Secondly, property values in and around the south eastern part of Clinton County will be dramatically impacted. These solar panels are extremely unsightly and will remain so for generations. The environmental impact to the county and its residents and wildlife will be diminished. Many families supplement their food supply with in-season hunting. The grazing of crop land, throughout the seasons, is essential for the growth and procreation of wildlife that will be hunted and processed for consumption.

While I am not a scientist, is it not simple science to understand that these panels will not process CO2 like a growing field of corn or soybeans?

I also question the safety of our water tables. Our family, and others, still use well water. Are there studies that will confidently give us data to prove that the use of well water will remain safe after the establishment of these panels in surrounding fields once they are housing solar panels?

Long term, the loss of these crop producing acres will be detrimental to the economy of Clinton County, especially the agricultural sector. The agricultural sector has typically been a consistent supporter of all of Clinton County and its economy.

I also question the integrity of a company that negotiates, what I perceive, as hush money to residents in the area. I can provide names of residents that have been offered financial settlements to keep quiet. Interestingly, this money has been offered to those who have been, until recently, openly and vocally opposed to this project.

In closing, the completion of this project will be a generational disaster for anyone living in the general vicinity of these solar panels proposed by the Yellow Wood Project.

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Summary: Public Comment Public Comment of Charles L. Thompson, via website
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