

June 8, 2021

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3797

**Re: Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN** - In the Matter of the Application of Birch Solar 1, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in Allen and Auglaize Counties, Ohio.

**Response to Eighth Data Request from Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Attached please find Birch Solar 1, LLC's ("Applicant") Response to the Eighth Data Request from the staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB Staff"). The Applicant provided this response to OPSB Staff on June 8, 2021.

We are available, at your convenience, to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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Ms. Tanowa Troupe  
Birch Solar 1, LLC  
Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN  
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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Ohio Power Siting Board's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced in the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to these cases. In addition, the undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing document is also being served upon the persons below this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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4829-7443-3772 v1 [92234-1]

**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Solar 1, )  
LLC for a Certificate of Environmental )  
Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a Solar- ) Case No: 20-1605-EL-BGN  
Powered Electric Generation Facility in Allen and )  
Auglaize Counties, Ohio. )

**BIRCH SOLAR 1, LLC 'S  
RESPONSE TO THE EIGHTH DATA REQUEST  
FROM THE STAFF OF THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

On February 12, 2021, as supplemented on March 25 and 31, 2021, and April 5, 2021, Birch Solar 1, LLC (“Applicant”) filed an application (“Application”) with the Ohio Power Siting Board (“OPSB”) proposing to construct a solar-powered electric generation facility in Allen and Auglaize Counties, Ohio.

On May 26, 2021, the Staff of the OPSB (“OPSB Staff”) provided the Applicant with OPSB Staff’s Eighth Data Request. Now comes the Applicant providing the following response to the Eighth Data Request from the OPSB Staff.

**Water Conservation Practice / Water Impacts**

1. **Referencing Birch Solar 1, LL’s Response to the Second Data Request from the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board (DR# 21), Birch Solar indicated that in the rare instance where the modules would need to be cleaned that approximately 3 gallons of water per module would be used to clean the approximately 635,584 modules. In order for Staff to determine the impact of that water usage on the area, please indicate the anticipated likely source of that water (e.g. city water, local water body).**

**Response:** As is stated in the application, in rare instances panels may need to be cleaned. Cleaning is rare in areas with precipitation. If cleaning was required, the Project would consider many different water sources including, but not limited to, municipal water sources or private water companies.

**Facility Design**

2. **Regarding the operations and maintenance building, would the Applicant apply for a building permit from any state and/or local authority other than a certificate from the Ohio Power Siting Board?**

**Response:** The Project will apply for any applicable building permit related to the Operations and Maintenance facility and applicable municipal law.

3. **For clarification, provide an illustration (or photo), basic design details and general engineering specifications (including types of materials to be used) for the perimeter fencing.**

**Response:** Proposed fencing would consist of cedar pressure treated wood posts approximately 7-8 feet tall with metal welded wire fencing. The picture below illustrates the fencing proposal.



4. **Provide a project map that depicts anticipated locations for farm animal grazing activities. Quantify the total amount of grazing acres under consideration.**

**Response:** Grazing activities and areas would be determined in consultation with the farmer selected to have grazing rights. Rotational grazing would be the most effective and would allow sheep herds to rotate to manage areas to help control the grasses, pollinator and native plants growth and reduce the need for mowing. Grazing also helps to maintain the rural character of the Project Area. Attachment 1 shows possibly areas for grazing which would be considered with area farmers.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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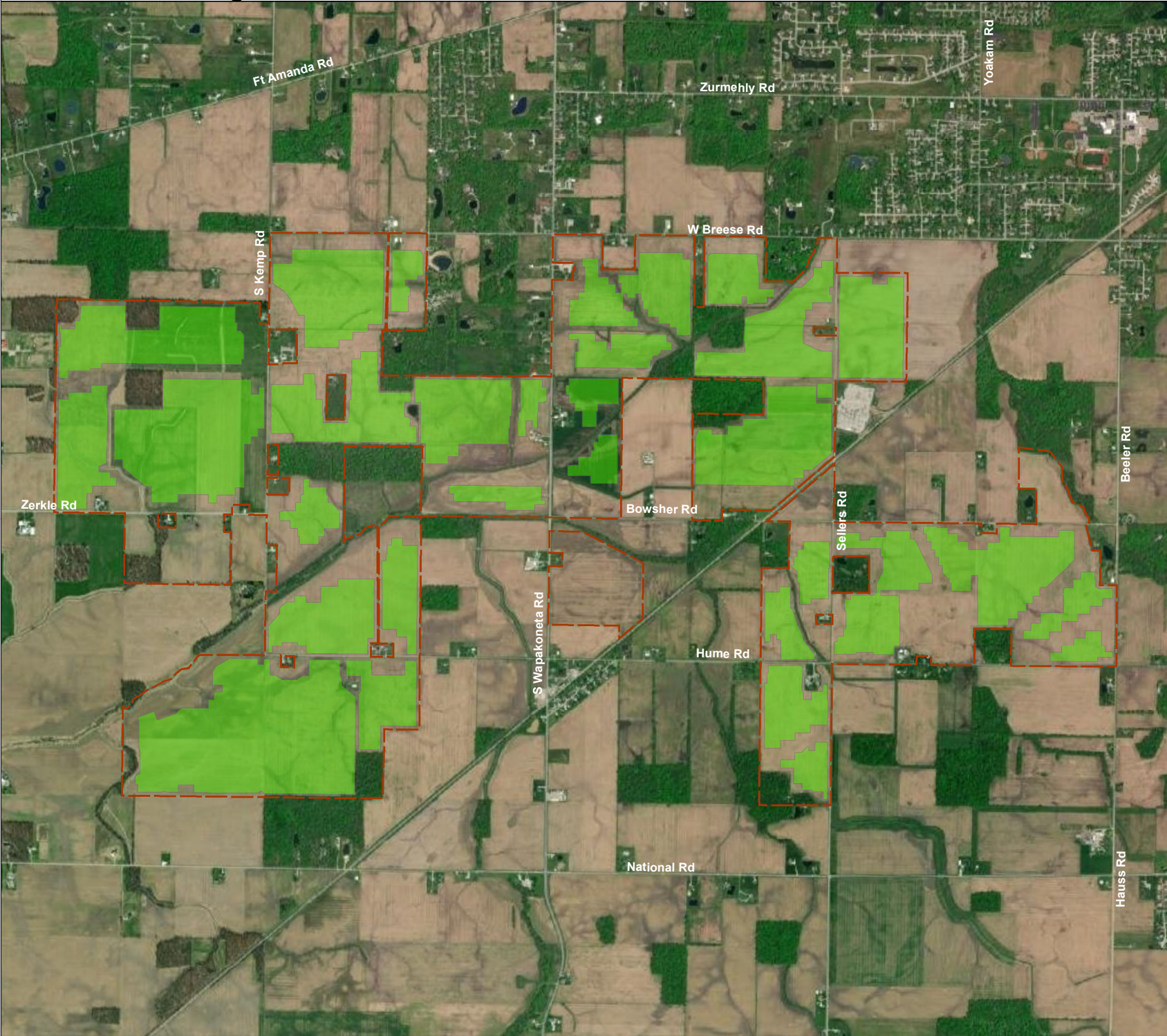
*Attorneys for Birch Solar 1, LLC*



4836-4447-3836 v1 [92234-1]

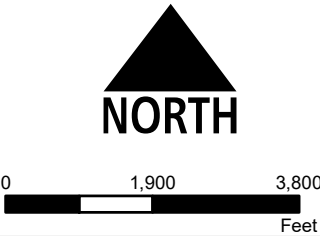


# Birch Solar - Grazing Areas Under Consideration

Birch Solar  
Allen & Auglaize Counties, Ohio  
Date: June 8, 2021



-  Birch Solar Boundary
-  Grazing Areas Under Consideration



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

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

Summary: Response to 8th Data Request from OPSB Staff electronically filed by Christine M. T. Pirik on behalf of Birch Solar 1, LLC