

**From:** [Puco ContactOPSB](#)  
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Comment on Case # 20-1679-EL-BGN to Ohio Power Siting Board

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed solar energy project. I appreciate the care taken to hear the concerns of the citizenry as well as the full permitting process required to assess the impacts of the project on the community and the environment. Personally I have served on several Boards and understand the challenges of making wise decisions. It's not possible to make everyone happy.

I trust you are each familiar with the talking points pro and con so I will not address those specifically. I have followed the slow development of renewable energy for 45+ years, and I am sure you are well aware that the typical frames for discussion address the trade-offs between the benefits of solar (or wind) installations for the environment and possible harms caused to local communities, farms, jobs lost to competing industries, and costs of the projects compared to competing fossil fuel industries. Free Market economists and fossil fuel funded think tanks have consistently warned of the dangers of interfering with the evolution of the energy industries by allowing the government to "pick the winners and the losers," arguing that fewer regulations and reliance on private investors will result in optimum outcomes for society.

There is a humorous adage that says "It's easier to predict the past than it is the future." As a general rule, true. However, ignoring the debate about reliance on government intervention versus reliance on private sector investors, climate scientists are "predicting" that in the next X number of years, we all face a future of global warming and catastrophic runaway climate change UNLESS we act now to transition rapidly to renewable energy sources. To me, that means, assuming the proposed Prairie Township solar energy project makes a strong case for approval, the OPCB should consider their decision in the larger context of recommendations from climate scientists. I trust their predictions, and I hope you will each agree.

Finally, as a father and grandfather, I urge you to put aside the inevitable squabbles about immediate concerns and vote your approval for future generations. Ask yourself, and your progeny, if these larger concerns are not in fact a **moral** issue?

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Summary: Public Comment of Charles W. Lynd, via website. electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing