

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
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Subject: comment for 20-1757-EL-BGN
Date: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 7:55:10 AM

From: Susan Vivyan
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 9:39 PM
Subject: Union Ridge Solar Proposal in Harrison Township

I attended tonight's meeting (8/31/21) at the Harrison Township "garage" and wanted to write to express another perspective that was not addressed.

I live in Beechwood Trails which has greatly benefited from the Union Ridge Solar's donation to our Park & Pool. Their generous donation helped tremendously in the revitalization & repairs to aging structures (pool, building, and park). Putting their partnership and support aside I have additional points which support Union Ridge's Solar project.

1. I would rather have Union Ridge in our backyard than 300-400 homes built in the same area. These homes MAY contribute more children to our schools. Who pays for the student's education? Our tax dollars. More students, an increase in our taxes. My understanding is that Union Ridge Solar gets a tax credit for a period of time. During this time (in lieu of paying taxes) they contribute monies to the local school district. I would rather have money coming into the schools than (possibly) having an increase in our taxes.
2. Who controls the development of the land? The farmer or those who are impacted directly? Who owns the view? Who owns the fields contiguous to the homes? What rights do homeowners have in development that may impact their view? Where is the line drawn?
3. The argument was made about the safety, potential hazards of solar panels which are unknown (according to one speaker). What about 5G towers that surround us? Has anyone done studies on their safety? I know some companies that now sell products to mitigate the hazards of these towers (which they claim). What about our microwave? Weren't we just recently informed of the cancer hazards using Round-Up? Didn't the companies know of these hazards for a while? Similar to cigarettes. I am not aware of any studies of the hazards of solar panels. If this argument holds any weight maybe, we should stay in our homes (how safe are they?) and not venture out in public as who knows what we might be exposed to?
4. Pataskala is a growing area. My opinion is that you have to have your head in the sand to not see the change. The school district just built a new high school; *my understanding* is that they are building 1,100 homes off Broad St. toward Columbus as well as more homes on Broad St. (Rte. 16) going toward Granville. We are a developing area and are "ripe" for more homes, apartments, commercial businesses, etc.

5. I would rather have a commercial development which contributes more money to our schools without impacting our taxes. The infrastructure (sewer, water, electricity, etc.) to develop a new subdivision to me has greater environmental impact than a solar farm which generates energy from the sun. Also, more homes mean an increase in traffic on Watkins Rd. which leads to greater stress on the roads and more maintenance costs. More homes mean more cars which also generate more pollution. Would the people who are close by the proposed solar farm want the additional noise from a new subdivision (if built?). Parties, car noise, etc. may be louder than the noise from the solar panels that someone mentioned in the meeting.
6. To live near a field in a growing community I think you would have to wonder what *might* be developed down the road? Doesn't the farmer have a right to sell to whomever he wants? Do the adjacent homeowners own the farmer's field or the sky?
7. As I said I applaud Union Ridge's partnership with our local park & pool; however, there are additional considerations which also support my affirmative vote for Union Ridge to move forward in their plans for solar panels in Harrison Township.

Susan Vivyan

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