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### The Farmstead Market at Ebenhack Farms Impact Statement

Our farm has been in the Ebenhack Family for over 100 years. Currently Wesley and Suzie operate our fruit and vegetable farm and event space. We grow food for 8 area Farmers Markets as well as have an on-farm store. On the farm we have strawberry, blackberry, apple, and pumpkin u-picks are well as host other agritourism activities throughout the year. We also have a space for weddings, bridal and baby showers, office get togethers, etc.

The Scioto Solar Project will greatly impact our farm, business, and family. Below are the ways in which this project will be detrimental to us.

1. Visual impact on business. Our clients and customers participate and rent our space for its ability to provide an on the farm experience and setting. With the fence and panels from the Solar Project as well as the noise it will become extremely difficult to draw customers and secure clients to rent our space. What bride is going to want to have a wedding venue knowing that there will be fence and solar panels in the background of their pictures. How are they going to explain to their guest that the farm wedding is through a solar project?
2. Wildlife damage on the farm is going to greatly increase. With the 2000 acres just south of us and now this 1000 acres just north of us these projects are creating a funnel for wildlife to go directly through our farm. The types and kinds of crops that we grow (fruit trees and bushes) are very susceptible to deer damage because they take many years to reach production. We are very concerned that every year our whole crop will be decimated by deer and other wildlife and we won't be able to do anything about it.
3. Weather and rain pattern change. With that many acres in solar panels what effects will it have on the weather and rain patterns? We rely on our climate for our livelihood and even the smallest change can have a large impact.
4. Dust Damage. With an increase in construction and traffic there will be a large amount of dust in the air. If that dust gets on our berries they will be completely trashed. We can not wash our berries before they are sold and if they have dust on them, they won't even be able to be used as wine/jam berries. This is a major part of our income and would ruin any chance of having a successful season.
5. Safety for our workers. We employ around 15 workers that come to our farm daily throughout the season May-October. Dungan road is not very wide and many of our workers are within the first couple of years of having a drivers license. We will have to worry every day that our workers will be safe coming to and from work. We also could have trouble hiring as parents may not want to put their kids in danger.
6. Safety of our customers. We also have customers coming up and down the road to get to the store and on farm events. We don't want to have them get hit by trucks and large equipment.
7. Fire Danger. If there is a fire in one of the fields, we fear that it will catch fire to our farm. That will not only destroy our investment in infrastructure and equipment but could also contaminate our soil, water, and air forever. Not to mention our lives and health are at risk.

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