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To: Ohio Power Siting Board

Re: 20-1757-EL-BGN: Union Ridge Solar

Date: September 17, 2021

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As a resident and member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 683, I am writing in support of the Union Ridge Solar project in Harrison Township, Licking County.

Our country is changing how we manufacture, develop, and generate energy, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 683 is ready to build utility scale solar energy projects in our community. These state-of-the-art systems will have no air emissions, no water pollution, or chemical emissions.

As a resident of Licking County, we are fortunate to have Union Ridge Solar, which will bring clean jobs and economic vitality to our county and region in a responsible way.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has been diligently training our workforce for the clean energy economy. Because of this, we understand that the OPSB regulatory process to site utility scale generation, whether it be solar or any other type of generation is extremely rigorous, and typically takes about a year. This is longer than regulatory permitting for any other type of industry. We strongly support the solar industry and Union Ridge Solar.

Union Ridge Solar will create over 200-300 direct construction jobs and 2-3 long-term jobs for maintaining the facility. We are prepared to help companies like Leeward Energy meet the workforce challenges in Licking County. We consider this a huge opportunity for the men and women in the skilled trades.

Additionally, as a resident of the community, I am pleased that the project will generate \$750,000 annually for the life of the project. This stable revenue will support our county, townships, and most importantly, our schools.

Renewable energy and projects like the Union Ridge Solar represent the future of energy and economic growth in Ohio, and IBEW is a part of that future.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for Union Ridge Solar.

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