

We are John and Paula Spring and live at 4160 Bowsher Rd., Lima, OH. The proposed solar complex will be across the road to the south of us. Therefore, we are considered to be adjacent property owners. We have lived at this residence for approximately 25 years and have raised our family here. We are adamantly against this project for several reasons.

#### EFFECT ON WILDLIFE:

Birch Solar proposes a 7 to 10 ft. high wildlife fence that will surround this complex. This fence will run for miles. The only way for wildlife to get from section to section will be roadways. Birch Solar proposes 300' setback from adjacent owners dwelling, not property, nor public roadways. The fence will run parallel next to the roads.

The only path for wildlife will be roads (Show road pics. East and West).



We and others have many wildlife pictures including eagle, deer, fox coyote, geese, ducks, and turkeys (Show Deer and Fox pics).



Bald eagles have just returned to this area the last couple of years

(Show Eagle pics). What effect will this have on them?



SAFETY OF PANELS:

My understanding is these panels will be produced in China, with little or no regulations or specifications. There will be thousands of these panels placed above our wells, next to our creeks and rivers. Residents in Shawnee Township are an experiment. No one seems to have any idea if these panels will leak toxic materials. There is no data on large mega solar complexes next to a residential area.

#### FLOODING:

My understanding is these fields tiles were installed around 40 or 50 years ago. Currently in the spring, the field south of us floods over the road and into a field beside us.





When crops are planted we don't see that type of flooding. The concern is you take out the crops and replace with panels what will the runoff be? In addition, each panel will have six I-Beams pile driven to a 6' depth. Not only are field tiles a concern, but farmers have been laying plastic drain tiles for years. When all this tile is destroyed where will the water flow? This unknown could be devastating to homeowners and neighboring farmers.

#### PROPERTY VALUE:

On my road, property values presently vary from \$200,000 to \$500,000. Birch Solar is offering \$10,000 per side for compensation. For

us it's one side. The unknown what effect will it have? 15 – 20 % impact? Birch Solar stated in their proposal, viewpoints will be covered with trees and shrubbery. I requested their latest layout showing this image. Our property looking south had no trees or shrubs, just fence. I asked why and they sent back a revised layout, marked up with a sharpie, showing a few trees in front of our house along the road. Not along the fence like the proposed. What will this do to my property value looking at fencing and panels?

Although we are not against solar complexes in general, we are against this complex being so close to residential areas. There are just too many unknowns. Also, in closing none of this energy being produced will be available locally. Thank you for listening to our testimony.

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