

Case No. 20-1605-EL-BEN

Public Hearing - Date- 11-4-21 Time \_\_\_\_\_

**I SUPPORT the Project, but I do not want to testify:**

[illegible]

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.

Technician OK Date Processed 11/7/21

Case No. 20-1605 - EL - BGM  
Local Public Hearing - Date- 11/4/21 Time 6 pm

I SUPPORT the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Sydney Trivino	1 UNIVERSITY DR BLUFFTON ALLEN
Trinity Bergman	1 UNIVERSITY DR Bluffton Allen
Deborah Yoder	1 University Dr. Bluffton Allen

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Local Public Hearing - Date- \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

I SUPPORT the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Rachel Kroeger	716 W 1st St, Delphos
Kylee Glive	445 Angela Dr Seneca
Zac Lykins	8864 Indian Mound Rd, Pittsfield, OH

Case No. 20-1605-EL-RGN

Local Public Hearing - Date- 11/4/21 Time 6 pm

I SUPPORT the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
<del>CHARLES BLOUGTON</del>	
CHARLES BLOUGTON	109 PERU ST. BLOUIN, OH 45817-Kelley
ERIC BLOUGTON	3167 CLEMENT LIMA OH 45806 (SHAWNEE)
MICHAEL EVANS	162 DENISON St WESTERVILLE, OH 43081
Kim Wright	3250 Denny Dr Lima OH 45801
Tim Lucey/Wireman	1413 S.R. 385 Waynesfield OH 45894
Alice Edwards	702 Cornell, Lima 45802
Judith C. Decker	1231 Leland Ave Lima OH 45802
Brady Johnston	3003 Allentown Rd. Lima, OH 45805
Barnett Feigh	4375 W. Home Rd/ Cridersville OH 45806
Betty Feigh	4375 W. Home Rd Cridersville Ohio 45806
FORREST EVERETT LOAY	707 S. Blackwood ST Apt 112 Waynesfield OH 45895



## Local Public Hearing - Date-

**I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:**

1

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Local Public Hearing - Date- \_\_\_\_\_

Time- \_\_\_\_\_

I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Mary H. Hoop	19779 Fairmount Rd. Wapakoneta, O. Troy
Danb-trin	Angela's Co. 14248 Keller Rd, Wapak Aug. Co.
Joshua Rubenski	15601 Boundary Rd, Anglage Wapak, 45885
<del>Sharon</del>	
Sara Newland - Sara Newland	3554 Georgian Ave Lima OH 45806 Shawnee Twp
Kim Stohler	Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895 Union

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Public Hearing - Date- \_\_\_\_\_ Time- \_\_\_\_\_

I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Becky Dicus	14428 S.R. 65, Wakarusa Twp, Union, Auglaize Co
Natalie Johnson	4100 Yellowwood St Lima OH 45806
Pamela J Doty	19741 Gibson Rd Wapakoneta 45887
Linda Bishop	6013 T.R. 246 Findlay, OH
Brandon Brendenbach	2076 TR 249, Arcadia OH

Case No. 20-1005 - EL - BLN  
 Local Public Hearing - Date- 11/4/21 Time- 6 pm

I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Klayton Hillery	2032 Bowsher Rd Wapak, OH 45806
Mary Hillery	2032 Bowsher Rd Wapak, OH 45806
Kacie Bott (Prison)	22705 S Kemp Rd Lima OH 45806
Jesse Bott	22705 S Kemp Rd Lima OH 45806
Rita Kay Andrews	5635 Spencerville Rd. Lima Oh. 45805
Mary Jennings	3610 Yoxam Rd. Lima, Ohio 45806
RORI Cosbett	4490 W Breeset Rd Lima-OH 45806
Angie Gallup	1908 Wapak Coedville Rd Wapak OH 45895
SAM KELLERMAN	09153 MONROE RD WAPAK OH 45806
Logan Kellerman	09153 Monroe Rd Wapak Ohio (Logan Twp)
Ann SAIDER	4116 Yellowwood Lima 45806
Pat True	17677 Twp 218, Arcadia OH 44804 Cass Twp
Angie Farley	3080 S Kemp Rd, Lima OH 45806
Jamie Marley	602 W Murphy Lima 45801

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Local Public Hearing - Date- \_\_\_\_\_

Time- \_\_\_\_\_

I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Rachelle Harmon	304 E. Brown Rd. Arcadia OH Washington Township
Alexandra Carter	20574 1st 385 Lukewau, OH 43331
Angela Holmes	2545 Hall Dr Lima OH Shawnee Township
H. BRUCE DUKEMAN	200 Arrowheads Dr Lima Shawnee Twp 45806
BANBARA ANN DUKEMAN	200 Arrowheads Twp, Lima, Shawnee Twp 45806
Ben Violet	Marion Township Allen Co
TRAVIS UNTERBRINK	1648 JO JEAN RD, SHAWNEE TWP.
Lori Meyer	4011 Shawnee Rd Shawnee Twp
GRACY MEYER	4011 Shawnee Rd Shawnee Twp
Pam Bibler	19116 Top Rd 218 Footoria, Oh
BILLY ENIDERS	4116 Yellowwood St Shawnee Twp
Quinn Sprick	1103 Echo Lake Dr. Piqua OH -
Ronald C. Boop	19779 Fairmount Rd, Wapakoneta, Ohio, Union Twp, Aug 20, 2010
Jim Rice	14248 Kohler Rd. Wapak. Aug. Co.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Public Hearing - Date- \_\_\_\_\_ Time- \_\_\_\_\_

I OPPOSE the Project, but I do not want to testify:

Name (please print)	Address (including township and county)
Lesley Hange	9457 ROSEBROOK RD SHERWOOD OH DELAWARE
Jeffrey Hange	9457 Rosebrook Rd. Sherwood, OH Delaware twp Delaware Co.

October 28, 2021

Re: Case No: 20-1605-EL-BGN

Dear Power Siting Board:

I write to you today in support of Birch Solar. I live and work in the project area and I look forward to working on an energy project that will have a significant impact on our community and economy.

**The Birch Solar project will create significant new revenue that will stay local and bring \$2.7 million of additional dollars each year to schools and other community services.** Lightsource bp has committed to a \$500,000 Community Fund to help support local needs.

**Most important to me and my family are the 400 direct jobs along with an additional 400 indirect jobs, during 12+ month construction, with a minimum of 80% local labor.**

Birch Solar represents approximately \$337 million in private capital injected into the economy. There will be a \$4.6 million per year contribution to the economy in ongoing operations to maintain the facility and the land, most of which will be spent in the region.

Lightsource bp listened to the community and enhanced setbacks, added hundreds of additional evergreens, and provided adjacent landowners with financial benefits.

Lightsource bp has been a true community partner and Birch Solar will add significant value to our community for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *Chance White*

Address: *1711 North 44 Dr*

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *David O. Smith*  
*David O. Smith*

Address:

*515 W. Ashwood Ave.*  
*Lima, Ohio 45801*



October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *Nick Huff*

Address: *12377 Buckland Hilder  
Wapak 45895*

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name:

Risa Keith

Address:

12377 Buckland Holden Rd  
Wapak

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name:

  
KEVIN J. CASEMIER

Address:

158 W. JACKSON ST  
BLUFFTON, OH 45817

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: Justin Holt

Address: 4515 Slabtown Rd  
Lima, OH 45801

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *Donavan Wooddell*

Address: *1300 Melrose*

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *Junior Conting*

Address: *4085 Shawnee rd  
Lima OH 45806*

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name:

*Bob RMA*

Address:

*237 N Center Vaughnsville OH 45893*

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *DevM Casemier*

Address: *105 E. Pearl St. Beavercreek, OH, 45806*



October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name:

*Scotta Bruggeman*

Address:

October 28, 2021

Re: Case No: 20-1605-EL-BGN

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Name: 

Address:

October 28, 2021

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name:

*Matt Bruggeman*  
*Matt Bruggeman*

Address:

October 28, 2021

Re: Case No: 20-1605-EL-BGN

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Thank you for your consideration,

Name: *Nate Swaney*

Address: *2815 S Conant Rd  
Spencerville OH 45887*



SOUTH KEMP ROAD

SCALE: 1:200



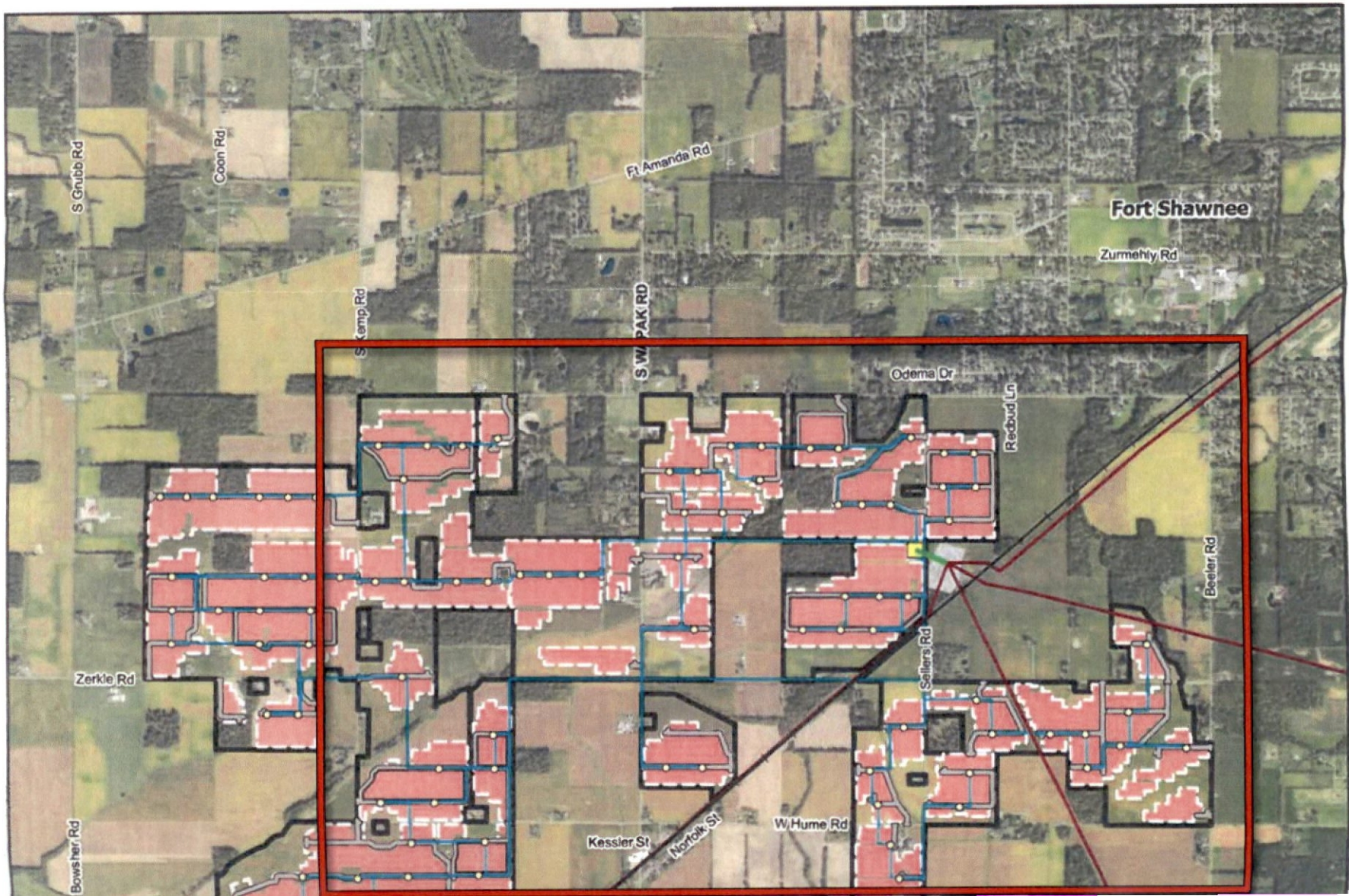
EXHIBIT A - Page 2a of 7  
Christopher & Ann Fisher  
BIRCH SOLAR COMPLEX  
10% DESIGN LAYOUT

LEGEND:

- SOLAR PANELS
- ACCESS ROADS
- ACIDIC INVERTERS
- FENCING
- PROPERTY LINES
- SEDIMENT BASINS

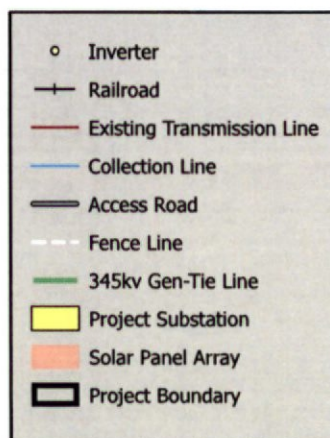
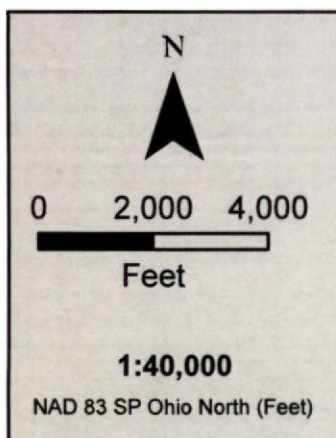
ZERKLE ROAD







Iron  
Copper  
#50 (35)



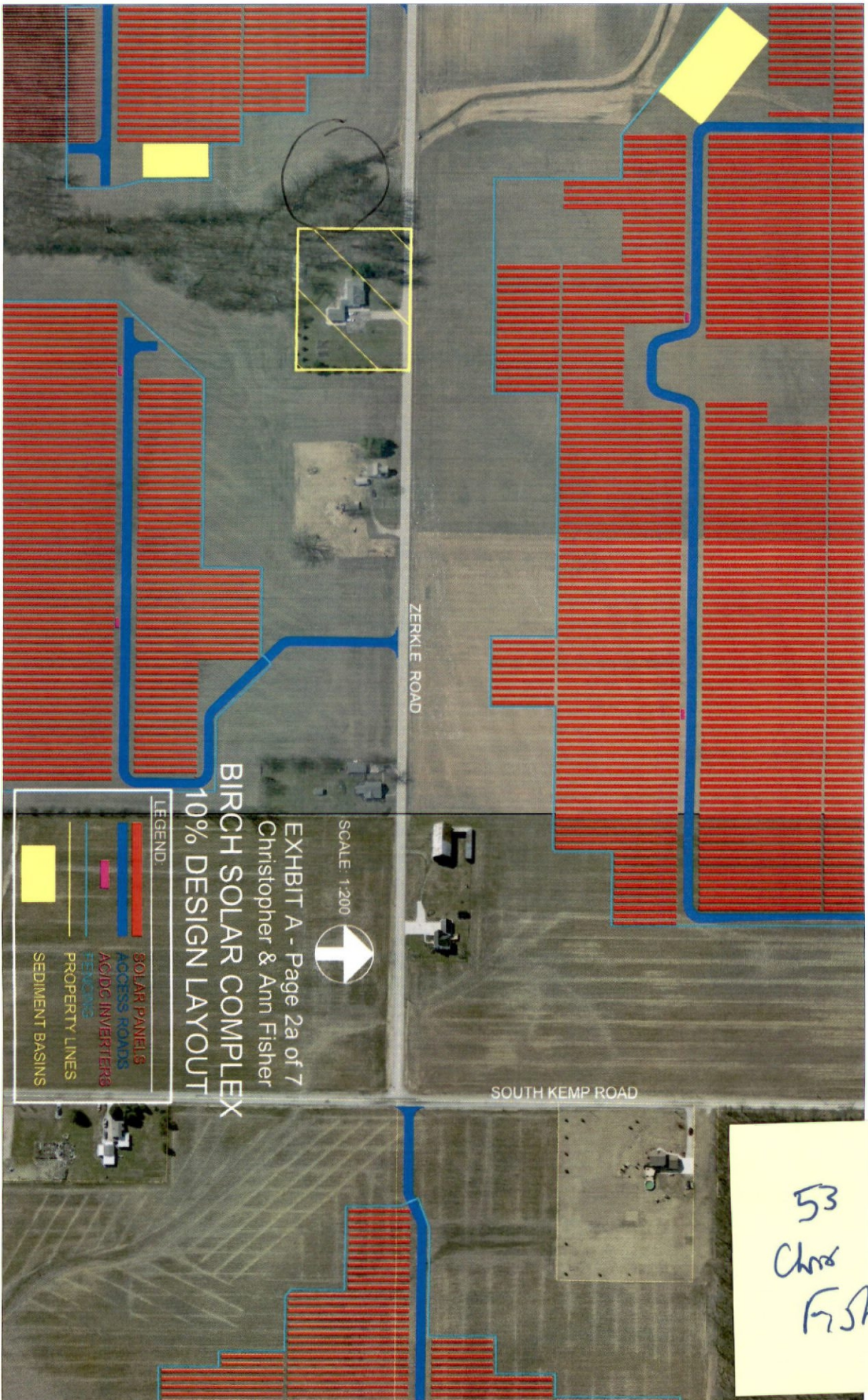
## Overview Map

### 20-1605-EL-BGN

#### Birch Solar

Maps are presented solely for the purpose of providing a visual representation of the project in the staff report, and are not intended to modify the project as presented by the Applicant in its certified application and supplemental materials.





53  
Chris  
Fisher



11/06/2021

I purchased a small farm on Hume Rd. in 1986 with the intent of retiring there in the future. I served on active duty, US Army a little over 20 years; and served as a pastor of local churches for 24 years. I retired in 2018. I had my retirement home built in 2017/18 and moved in July 2018. Soon thereafter I found out they were planning an INDUSTRIAL site 1 1/4 miles west of my home. This was not my idea of a good retirement location, and the likely destruction of my home. I stand firmly against this Devil's Loner project.

David R. Gerber

DAVID R. GERBER

CHAPLAIN (MAJOR) US ARMY RETIRED

REV. DR. GERBER

UM CHURCH RETIRED

2100 W. HUME RD.

LIMA, OH 45806

Barrett Feigh, Sr.  
Birch Solar  
Public Hearing  
November 4, 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to be here tonight and share personal story with Birch Solar.

My farm is a second-generation corn, bean, and wheat operation and some livestock.

We are proud of what we do, but will not be farming forever and have to think about what is right for our future and the future of our community.

I worked at Clark Equipment, but has been farming since they closed.

I also served almost 40 years active in the Coast Guard, and active duty was in Maine and Boston, where my wife is from.

Birch Solar represents energy diversification, a strong economic opportunity, and jobs for our region.

Lightsource bp has stepped up to the challenge and worked with the community to address concerns and be a real corporate partner.

We are proud to be a part of this project and hope the Ohio Power Siting Board approves Birch Solar.

Betty Feigh

Birch Solar

Public Hearing

November 4, 2021

[katsbet@gmail.com](mailto:katsbet@gmail.com)

Thank you for the opportunity to be here tonight and share my support for Birch Solar. I believe there is no better place to raise a family and call home than Shawnee, in Allen County.

My family farms here and we grow corn, soy, and wheat. We also raise goats and heifers (beef) and my son farms down the road. My kids were in 4-H and we are the typical farm family.

The operation in 1942 and we are second generation. We have lived here since 1977 and raised our family here.

I am now retired from Apollo Career Center and my husband worked at Clark Equipment—but has been farming since they closed.

We thought long and hard about getting involved with a solar project, but after consulting with family and knowing the positive contributions to our community, we knew it was the right decision.

This is the future of energy. Where is our energy going to come from? We are going to get energy from somewhere. And I am proud to host the new generation of energy on our farm.

There are communities all over going solar. Eventually, this is going to happen. Or something else on agricultural property—like subdivisions or some industrial or commercial complex.

The tax benefits to our community are so much more than what our farm can contribute. There will be \$2.7 million in tax payments to schools and local governments annually.

Jobs, economic benefits, and clean energy are what is right for our community and I hope this project moves forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



October 22, 2021

Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Comment-Birch Solar 1 Pending Case No, 20-1605-EL-BGN

Dear Board:

I am writing to the Board in opposition to the subject solar project. I am an appointed person of the Board of County Commissioners, Allen County, Ohio assigned the responsibility to oversee and manage the Allen County, Ohio Sanitary Sewer District in accordance with the statutes of Sections 6117 and 6103 of the Ohio Revised Code. One of my primary duties is to facilitate the development and expansion of our public sanitary sewer infrastructure providing for the ability to expand residential, industrial, retail and commercial development within our County Sewer District.

Our mission and goal as a County utility is to ensure that potable water supplies and sanitary sewer disposal service are available to support development through the planning established within long range planning of water and sewer utilities. In order for the County to cost effectively facilitate infrastructure development providing service to current residents with failing private on-lot treatment systems and future land development initiatives it is paramount to support land use that will provide for residential, industrial, retail and commercial development. This will ensure that centralized potable water and sanitary sewer facilities are able to be constructed in a fiscally feasible manner. Utility systems are initially planned, developed and constructed in a manner taking into account an economy of scale with growth and consolidation of utility systems.

The construction of the Birch Solar 1 Project as presented would eliminate the ability for the County to expand its sanitary sewer collection system within the Shawnee Sewer Sub-district due to the loss of developable land and making it extremely difficult to serve current residents in economically feasible manner. This project would be constructing a virtual wall along our current southern border of the Shawnee Sewer Sub-district collection system making it financially impossible to complete further expansion south of the County's water and sewer infrastructure.

Please contact my office for any questions.

Sincerely,

*Stephen M. Kayatin, P.E.*  
Stephen M. Kayatin, P.E.  
Sanitary Engineer

SMK



150'

120'

300ft

Zerkle Road

South Kemp Road

SCALE: 1:200

EXHIBIT A - Page 2a of 7  
Christopher & Ann Fisher

**BIRCH SOLAR COMPLEX**  
10% DESIGN LAYOUT

**LEGEND:**

- SOLAR PANELS
- ACCESS ROADS
- ACIDIC INVERTERS
- FENCING
- PROPERTY LINES
- SEDIMENT BASINS

SOUTH KEMP ROAD

300 ft

ZERKLE ROAD

word  
across the

SCALE: 1:200



EXHIBIT A - Page 2a of 7  
Christopher & Ann Fisher

BIRCH SOLAR COMPLEX  
10% DESIGN LAYOUT

### LEGEND:

SOLAR PANELS  
ACCESS ROADS  
ACIDIC INVERTERS  
FENCING  
PROPERTY LINES  
SEDIMENT BASINS

50

150

120

SOUTH KEMP ROAD





October 22, 2021

Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Comment-Birch Solar 1 Pending Case No, 20-1605-EL-BGN

Dear Board:

I am writing to the Board in opposition to the subject solar project. I am an appointed person of the Board of County Commissioners, Allen County, Ohio assigned the responsibility to oversee and manage the Allen County, Ohio Sanitary Sewer District in accordance with the statutes of Sections 6117 and 6103 of the Ohio Revised Code. One of my primary duties is to facilitate the development and expansion of our public sanitary sewer infrastructure providing for the ability to expand residential, industrial, retail and commercial development within our County Sewer District.

Our mission and goal as a County utility is to ensure that potable water supplies and sanitary sewer disposal service are available to support development through the planning established within long range planning of water and sewer utilities. In order for the County to cost effectively facilitate infrastructure development providing service to current residents with failing private on-lot treatment systems and future land development initiatives it is paramount to support land use that will provide for residential, industrial, retail and commercial development. This will ensure that centralized potable water and sanitary sewer facilities are able to be constructed in a fiscally feasible manner. Utility systems are initially planned, developed and constructed in a manner taking into account an economy of scale with growth and consolidation of utility systems.

The construction of the Birch Solar 1 Project as presented would eliminate the ability for the County to expand its sanitary sewer collection system within the Shawnee Sewer Sub-district due to the loss of developable land and making it extremely difficult to serve current residents in economically feasible manner. This project would be constructing a virtual wall along our current southern border of the Shawnee Sewer Sub-district collection system making it financially impossible to complete further expansion south of the County's water and sewer infrastructure.

Please contact my office for any questions.

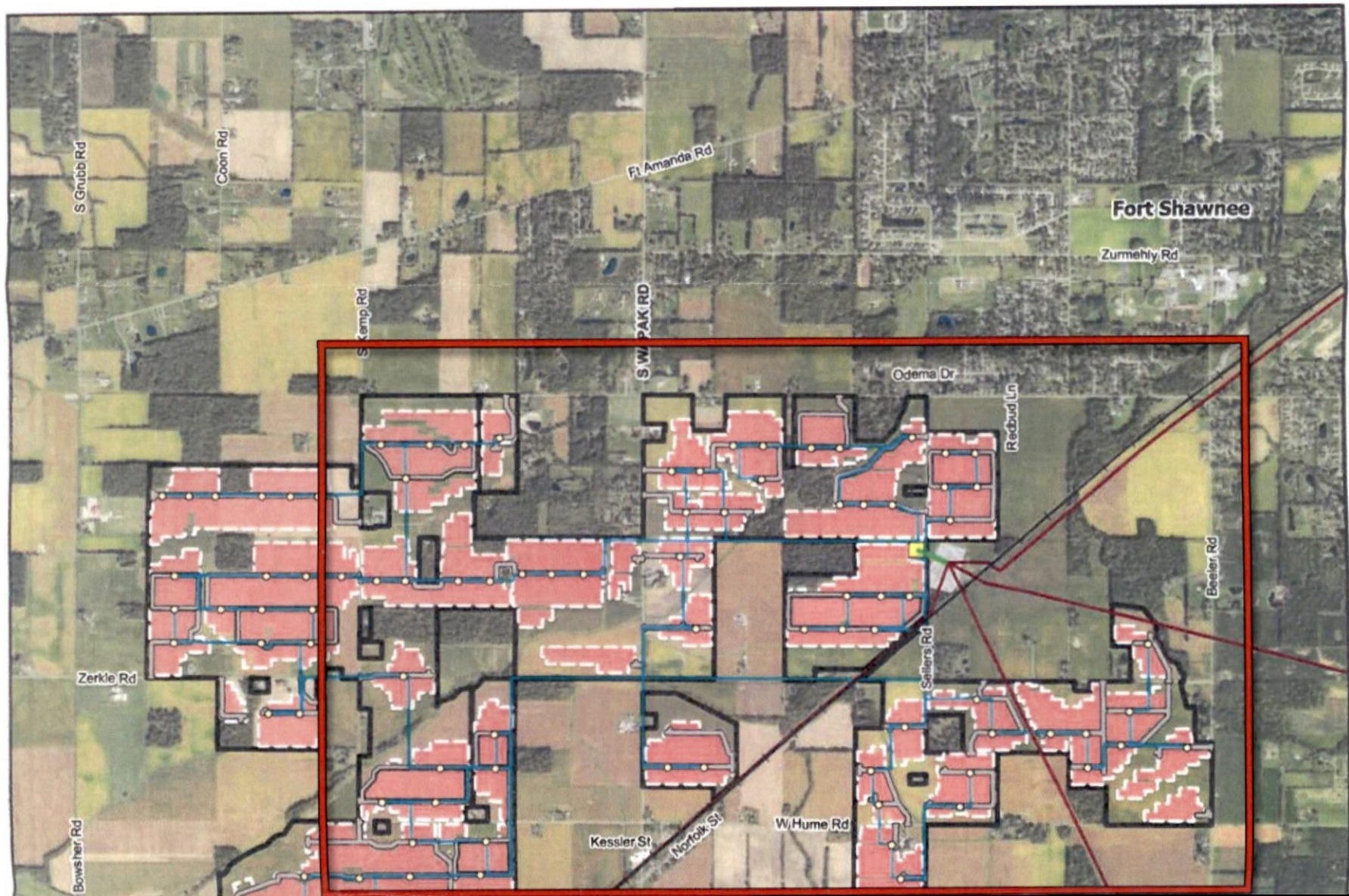
Sincerely,

*Stephen M. Kayatin, P.E.*  
Stephen M. Kayatin, P.E.  
Sanitary Engineer

SMK

#27  
Kayatin







April 13, 2021

The Honorable Mike DeWine, Governor  
The State of Ohio  
Riffe Center, 30th Floor,  
77 South High Street,  
Columbus, OH 43215

Rae Neal  
#14

Dear Governor DeWine:

We, Ohio medical professionals, have responsibilities to care for our patients' immediate health concerns. We know that the welfare of our patients depends on having access not only to excellent healthcare, but also to healthy food, water, and air. For this to happen, our elected officials need to accelerate our state's transition to a renewable energy economy.

Ohio is among the top ten energy consumers in the United States. Currently, the majority of our power supply comes from over 20 coal and natural gas power plants. Due to these power plants, high emission industries, and our transportation infrastructure, Ohio ranks sixth in carbon dioxide emissions in the US. Air pollution-related to fossil fuel combustion, including sulfur dioxide, surface ozone, and fine particulate matter, causes a host of health harms to Ohioans, especially to our children.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's 2019 report on the Top 100 Asthma Capitals ranked Akron, Cleveland, Dayton, Toledo, Columbus, and Cincinnati among the most challenging places to live for people with asthma. Over 250,000 of Ohio's children have asthma, and African-American and Hispanic children are disproportionately impacted. Air pollution both causes and exacerbates asthma, and also contributes to poor birth outcomes such as premature birth and low birth weight, both of which are risk factors for infant mortality, a public health crisis in our state. Moreover, a study conducted by Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center found that children exposed to traffic-related air pollution showed reductions in brain size and cerebrospinal fluid (the fluid cushioning the brain), leading to various developmental and physical delays. Even prenatal exposure to air pollution affects kids' learning, cognition, attention, and sleep. These are a few of many examples. The list of studies highlighting harmful health effects of our current energy sector is growing each day.

Even though the health harms of fossil fuel burning have been documented extensively, too little has been done at the state level to advance clean, renewable energy, and sustainable, equitable transportation. One of the most recent examples is the passing of House Bill 6, which rolled back renewable energy standards and energy efficiency programs, while subsidizing two coal-fired power plants. Fortunately, many Ohio cities—like Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, and others—have stepped up to help fill the void of state leadership, and have used aggregation to commit to 100 percent renewable energy. These communities are serving as an example of what can be done to commit to improving air quality and ensuring a healthy environment for our citizens, and it is time for the state of Ohio to follow their lead.

As health professionals living and working in Ohio, we ask the state legislature and governor to immediately reinstate Ohio's renewable energy standards and energy efficiency programs, to invest in public transportation and improve electric vehicle infrastructure, and to set concrete goals to transition fossil fuel-based power plants to renewable energy by 2050. The health of Ohio's families—especially our children—depends on it.

Sincerely,



The Ohio Chapter of the  
American Academy of  
Pediatrics



Ohio  
CHAPTER

The Ohio Chapter of The  
American College of  
Cardiology



The Ohio Thoracic Society



The Ohio Public Health  
Association



Sustainability in Medicine  
at the Ohio State  
University College of  
Medicine: An affiliate of  
Medical Students for a  
Sustainable Future



Ohio Clinicians for Climate  
Action



The Ohio University  
Heritage College of  
Osteopathic Medicine  
Chapter of Physicians  
Action Network

Dr. Francois Abi Fadel  
Hajera Afreeen, Medical Student  
Dr. Raouf Amin  
Dr. Dennis Auckley  
Elizabeth Auckley, Medical Student  
Ross Bales, Medical Student

Brian Hansen, Medical Student  
Dr. Jennifer Hardie  
Dr. William Hardie  
Alexander Hare, Medical Student  
Dr. Kari Harper  
Dr. David Harris

Dr. Diana Pi  
Arden Piepho, Medical Student  
Megan Pino, Medical Student  
Corbin Pontious, Medical Student  
Michelle Rebuffatti, Medical Student  
Dr. Catherine Romanos

Christian Blough, Medical Student  
Dr. Thomas Boat  
Dr. Aparna Bole  
Jenna Braun, Medical Student  
Carolina Brea, Medical Student  
Dr. John Brewington  
Dr. Gregory Burg  
Sarah Burns, Medical Student  
David Bushart, Medical Student  
Woo Yul Byun, Medical Student  
Troy Cao, Medical Student  
Lucinda Cave, MSN, RN  
Jennifer Cenker, Medical Student

Coreena Chan, Medical Student  
Monica Chapman, RN  
Mehak Chawla, Medical Student  
Corinne Conaway, Medical Student  
Kylene Daily, Medical Student  
Joshua Debo, Medical Student  
Zoey Del Pinto, Medical Student  
Dr. Katherine Dobbs  
Lisa Dorn, Medical Student  
Francisca Douglass, Medical Student  
Student

Benny Eckertle, Medical Student  
Victoria El-Hayek, Medical Student  
Alan Esparza Gutierrez, Medical Student

Catherine Fabian, Medical Student  
Jessica Fulton, Medical Student  
Nicholas Gajkowski, Medical Student

Dr. Victor Garcia

Erin Gill, Medical Student  
Dr. Mike Gittelman  
Sal Gomez, Medical Student

Dr. Marium Husain  
Dr. Steve Jewell  
Dr. Alan Jobe  
Avani Kabra, Medical Student  
Juhi Katta, Medical Student  
Dr. Kathi Kemper  
Dr. Carolyn Kercsmar  
Sat Kartar Khalsa, Medical Student  
Dr. Sumita Khatri  
Dr. Steve Kirkby  
Dr. Haley Klimaszewski  
Dr. Elizabeth Kramer  
Alexander Ladron De Guevara, Medical Student

Dr. Amy Lee  
Dr. Michelle Lierl  
Dr. Janell Lundgren  
Dr. Satish Madala  
Jodie Makara, Medical Student  
Dru Martinez, Medical Student  
Dr. Gary McPhail  
Austin Miller, Medical Student  
Joseph Miller, Medical Student  
Daniel Naughton, Medical Student

Tawnya Rae Neal, APRN  
Megan Neumann, Medical Student  
Charissa Newkirk, Medical Student

Dr. Nicholas Newman  
Gracyn Noffert, Medical Student  
Dr. Kelly Omalia

Carolina Ortiz Villabona, Medical Student  
Austin Oslock, Medical Student  
Mackenzie Owen, Medical Student  
Sarah Pajka, Medical Student

Dr. Sara Scott  
Dr. Ash Sehgal  
Napiera Shareef, Medical Student  
Shuchi Sharma, Medical Student  
Saba Shevidi, Medical Student  
Jasneet Singh, Medical Student  
Mitchell Singstock, Medical Student  
Dr. Daniel Skinner  
Mike Smeltzer, MPH  
Paige Spieth, Medical Student  
Zoe Springstubb, PA-C  
Hendrik Stegall, Medical Student  
Dr. Arnold Strauss

Lori Sullivan, MSW, LSW  
Kimberly Sycks, Medical Student  
Zheng hong Tan, Medical Student  
Lauren Taylor, Medical Student  
Jennifer Tomlinson, MS, BSN, RN  
Dr. Cherie Torres-Silva  
Dr. Christopher Towe  
Jasmine Tuazon, Medical Student  
Lucy U, Medical Student  
Arti Vaishnav, Medical Student

Albert Vargas, Medical Student  
Divya Vinod, Medical Student  
Dr. Laura Walkup

Sarah Watson, RN  
Stephanie Wentzel, Medical Student  
Audrey White, Medical Student

Dr. Jeffrey Whitsett

Adam Wise, Medical Student  
Dr. Anne Wise  
Dr. Robert Wood



#9  
Jed Metzger

November 4, 2021

Docketing Division  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
Case number 20-1605-EL-BGN  
180 E. Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Ohio Power Siting Board;

Good evening members and staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board and welcome to Allen County. My name is Jed Metzger and I am the President and CEO of Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce. Having served at the chamber now for close to 25 years, we work every day to create a climate of growth and success in our community to improve the economic vitality and livability of the entire Allen County area. We welcome investments that create good paying jobs, new tax revenues, and the opportunity to diversify our local economy.

The proposed Birch Solar project in Allen County is one of those opportunities. We've seen hundreds of millions invested by renewable energy companies in our neighboring counties and now it's our turn at what could be a "once-in-a-generation" opportunity. New recession-proof income for our county and life-changing funding for our schools for decades to come; good paying jobs during construction that pay mortgages and put food on the table and the opportunity for landowners to generate new sources of income at a time when they're facing uncertain weather and market conditions.

Additionally, it's not often we have the chance to welcome millions in investment without having to provide major infrastructure enhancements such as water or road improvements. In getting to know more about the Birch Solar project and its developer, Lightsource BP, they've always been responsive, have answered our questions, addressed concerns, and have demonstrated a commitment to build responsibly.

We also know that some Allen County businesses have aggressive renewable energy goals, not only to reduce their carbon emissions but to reduce their energy expenses. Now, we have the

- School Districts (local) \$43.74M (54%)
- County \$13.77M (17%)
- Township \$19.44M (24%)
- Total for life of project (approximate) \$81M (100%)

The impact of the proposed PILOT program on school funding is significant; approximately a total of \$1.5 million will be provided to the local school districts annually.

Additional economic investment would include:

- 400 construction jobs, with 80% or more local labor
- \$337 million private capital investment to fund project
- \$4.6 million annual operations budget, primarily spent in region

It is the utmost importance to Lightsource bp that consideration is always given to the health and safety of community members near any project that they develop.

Lightsource bp is a very good corporate company willing to invest in the community and the workforce of our region. Lightsource bp representatives have held several public forums in person and virtually to offer the general public, public officials, and the business community the opportunity to learn more about the Birch Solar Project and give their opinion.

If you have any questions please contact me at my office 419-222-6045 or my cell 419-234-2600.

Sincerely,

Jed E. Metzger  
President/CEO







Case # 2D-1605-EL-BG14

20997 Wapet-Cridersville Rd.

Wapakoneta, OH 45895



2#



Case # 20-1605-EL-BGN

20997 Wapak-Crichtersville Rd.

Wapakoneta, OH 45895

John  
Smith





2



