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December 6th, 2021

Matt Butler, Administrator Officer
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Butler,

I am writing to offer my support to the proposed Chipmunk Solar Project for Jackson Township, Pickaway County. I request that this letter be filed as a comment on Ohio Power Siting Board **Case # 21-960-EL-BGN**.

I am the granddaughter of Melvin R. Steck (8845 Yankeetown Pike). He officially retired from farming this year at 101 years old and as we thought about next steps for the farm, the Chipmunk Solar project meets all of our criteria as we thoroughly considered the best use of the farm.

My grandfather is excited to see his land that he's owned and farmed for the last 60 years, be a part of something bigger that provides clean energy, funnels increased taxes to support local schools, and is a viable economic solution that allows the farm to stay intact, allowing flexibility for this land in the future.

As the only grandchild, my grandmother made me promise her over 20 years ago that I would do everything in my power to keep the farm intact and not sell it off for housing developments. My grandmother would have been so pleased to see Pickaway County being offered these opportunities and that my grandparents' farm could be a part of it. They have always supported tax levies for schools and strongly supported the importance of investing in education. They were always future thinking in farming practices and conscientious of their choices for how they farmed and the related effect on the land, community, and the air and water quality.

This project is a meaningful legacy for my grandparents and their farm. It is also a way for them to provide financial support for their great grandchildren (my 2 sons: John, 11 and Evan, 8). I want my children to be connected to the farm, to Pickaway County, and their great grandparents; as well as the future. I want to lead by example in how we can do our part as a family to support the clean energy industry to help Ohio and America have clean, safe energy.

After doing our research, we feel the Chipmunk Solar Project is led by knowledgeable professionals that are in it for the long haul based on previous projects in other communities and have the community's interest in mind in addition to the financial gain.

I urge you to vote yes for the Chipmunk Solar Project and allow our family to continue the tradition of farming, albeit in a different way.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Steck Semertzides

CC Nathan Wiles, Chipmunk Solar Project

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Summary: Public Comment of Elizabeth Steck Semertzides, via website,
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