

**From:** [Puco ContactOPSB](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment 20-1605  
**Date:** Monday, May 2, 2022 11:20:18 AM

---

<b>Contact Name:</b>	Pat Buzard
<b>Address:</b>	4415 W. Breese Rd
<b>City:</b>	Lima
<b>State</b>	Ohio
<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	45806
<b>Docketing Case Number:</b>	Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN
<b>Project Name:</b>	Birch Solar
<b>Enter your Comment or Complaint:</b>	<p>Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN OPSB criteria for making decisions include, "That the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity." The Birch Solar project proposed for Allen and Auglaize County does not serve the public interest because there is no interest in big mega-solar projects here. Of the 12 townships in Allen County, 10 have stated such. Our other townships, Shawnee and Perry are in the midst of solar now. Senate Bill 52, it seems, came too late for them. I'm sure there was much lobbying on Birch Solar's part to prevent anyone stopping their project. Shawnee Township did not ask for Birch Solar to come here. The Shawnee Township Trustees oppose this project and at a public meeting on November 4, 2021, our Allen County Commissioners opposed this project along with our Sanitary Engineer. The possibility of flooding, well contamination, dust, noise, glare, worry that Birch Solar will stand up to their promises is not convenient. There will be 3 years of inconvenience while they construct and deconstruct. And where will these panels go when they are unproductive in 35 years? I am sure there are areas that would welcome these solar projects. Solar companies must be told to seek these places out. To take productive farm land out of use for 35 years is risky for all. There is no guarantee how productive this land will be after 35 years of solar panels. Those of us who live adjacent to this proposed facility will receive no energy from it. My electric bill will be just as high, and will increase</p>

like everyone elses. Why should we be inconvenienced for 35 years for energy that will go, who knows, how far away? Because we have flat land and power stations already in place, they should just be allowed to come here? How easy. Businesses that want this solar power should find a way to build a facility next door to them! On March 24, 2022 our President said there will be food shortages. "It's going to be real," he said. Over 51,000 acres are already in some stage of being operational. Another 33,000 acres will follow if approved. That's over 84,000 acres of productive farm ground used for supplemental energy. Think of the bushels they can produce and the food for man and animal. I really hope the OPSB is not thinking in the back of their minds that this is not something they should be concerned about. Have you spoken to farmers who fear for the productivity of farmland after 35 years of solar panels? This is an enormous experiment. No one can say these solar projects will be a benefit because we can't see the future and none of the projects have come to an end. So we really don't know how this will all turn out. Pretty risky, I'd say. Please do not impose this solar project on the residents of Allen and Auglaize Counties. Pat Buzard 4415 W. Breese Rd. Lima, Ohio 45806

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**5/2/2022 12:35:27 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 20-1605-EL-BGN**

Summary: Public Comment of Pat Buzard, via website, electronically filed by  
Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing