

**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of Birch :  
Solar 1, LLC for a Certificate of :  
Environmental Compatibility and Public : Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN  
Need. :

**PREFILED TESTIMONY  
OF**

**Jess Stottsberry**

**ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
POWER SITING DEPARTMENT**

**STAFF EX. \_\_\_\_**

**May 11, 2022**

1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Jess Stottsberry, and my business address is 180 East Broad  
3 Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.  
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5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) as a  
7 Utility Specialist 2 in the Power Siting Department.  
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9 3. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

10 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Marietta College. I  
11 worked in the private industry as an oilfield geologist from May 1998 to  
12 January 2000. I then began employment with the Ohio Environmental  
13 Protection Agency's Central Office - Division of Drinking and Ground  
14 Waters where I worked as a geologist for 21 years. I transferred to PUCO  
15 in January 2021 to work as a Utility Specialist. My responsibilities during  
16 this time have primarily involved review of Ohio Power Siting Board  
17 (Board) cases with focus on geology and hydrogeology.  
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19 4. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Ohio Power Siting Board  
20 (Board)?

21 A. Yes. I have testified in prior proceedings before the Board on behalf of  
22 Board staff (Staff).

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5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

A. I am sponsoring a portion of the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) that was filed in the docket of this case on October 20, 2021. Specifically, I am sponsoring the Staff Report section titled “Geology” and “Public and Private Water Supplies” subsection of the “Ecological Impacts” section.

6. Q. Are you sponsoring any conditions in the Staff Report? If so, which ones?

A. I am sponsoring conditions 4, 5, 6, 7, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 of the Staff Report.

7. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony, as new information subsequently becomes available or in response to positions taken by other parties.

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of Jess Stottsberry, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Power Siting Department, was served via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 11th day of May 2022.

/s/Jodi J. Bair

Jodi J. Bair  
Assistant Attorney General

### Parties of Record:

[epierce@auglaizecounty.org](mailto:epierce@auglaizecounty.org)  
[RDove@keglerbrown.com](mailto:RDove@keglerbrown.com)  
[EChristensen@bdlaw.com](mailto:EChristensen@bdlaw.com)  
[jlandfried@bdlaw.com](mailto:jlandfried@bdlaw.com)  
[HJacobs@bdlaw.com](mailto:HJacobs@bdlaw.com)  
[JReagan@bdlaw.com](mailto:JReagan@bdlaw.com)  
[amilam@ofbf.org](mailto:amilam@ofbf.org)  
[cendsley@ofbf.org](mailto:cendsley@ofbf.org)  
[clay@cbalyeat.com](mailto:clay@cbalyeat.com)  
[lcurtis@ofbf.org](mailto:lcurtis@ofbf.org)  
[jvankley@vankleywalker.com](mailto:jvankley@vankleywalker.com)  
[cpirik@dickinsonwright.com](mailto:cpirik@dickinsonwright.com)  
[todonnell@dickinsonwright.com](mailto:todonnell@dickinsonwright.com)

### Administrative Law Judges:

[Michael.Williams@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:Michael.Williams@puco.ohio.gov)  
[Jesse.Davis@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:Jesse.Davis@puco.ohio.gov)

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

Summary: Testimony of Jess Stottsberry electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y.  
Scott on behalf of OPSB