

BEFORE

THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application)

Of South Branch LLC, for a)

Certificate of Environmental) Case No. 21-0669-EL-BGN

Compatibility and Public Need)

To Construct a Solar-Powered)

Electric Generation Facility in)

Hancock County, Ohio)

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

LANNY BOES

19694 Township Road 218

Fostoria, Ohio 44830

On behalf of

Travis Bohn – Intervenor

May 25, 2022

Q-1. Please state your name and address and years of farming.

A-1. My name is Lanny Boes. I am an Adjacent landowner and witness residing at 19694 Township Road 218, Fostoria, Ohio, which sits in Hancock County and Washington Township. I've been a farmer for 56 years.

Q-2. What is soil health?

Q-2. A soil health is very important to plant health because healthy soil produces healthy plants because everything plants need comes from the soil except sunlight and air. Soil is full of small living organisms. Some are called microrisa which have a sim-bionic relationship with the plants. Whereby they provide nutrients for the plants in exchange for simple sugar, sometimes you can see them, they look like fine white mold. Soil health is most often a direct result of organic matter. So the higher level of organic matter in the soil the more microorganisms it can support, the more water it can hold and the less dense it will be creating a better environment for root growth. Organic matter can be increased by growing plants that produce more roots and caring for them by having proper fertility and drainage so their soil doesn't become waterlogged. This is very important to anyone trying to make a living producing crops because it is estimated that the first 95% of production goes to pay for expenses, leaving the last little bit to live on and that is why the solar farms will most likely not be farmed for a very long time because the soil will not be healthy enough to produce a profitable crop, no one wants to work to lose money doing it. The native pollinator plants to be grown on the solar farms will not increase organic matter or fertility, just the opposite. The solar advocate likes to say it will be good for the soil to rest if that were true. Why do we need lawn fertilizer?

Q-3. What is decommissioning?

A-3, When it comes time to decommission the solar project, it is stated that the area is to be ripped at least 18 inches deep unless there are tile. After many years of experience, I have never known of someone operating a bulldozer that could tell where tile are and in this area they are parallel systems placed 40 to 50 feet apart most are at least 24 inches deep I know because I installed most of them during my 43 year farm drainage contracting career, but some older ones are not as deep but still working. So if the tile gets damaged, it won't matter to the solar company because their responsibility is over and if it is like the pipeline company they do the ripping when they feel like it, not when the soil is dry and friable so instead of improving soil structure it will be destroyed for many years.

Q-4. What is VOR?

A-4. Almost everyday several airplanes fly directly over the proposed South Branch Solar site at pattern altitude which is 1,000 feet for Fostoria Airport, they are flown by students from Bowling Green State University flight school. They are on VOR alpha which is a very high frequency Omnidirectional Range that pilots use to follow when they can't see landmarks on the ground, these young students are learning how to fly in clouds or fog and this particular VOR alpha is the approach to the Fostoria Airport six miles away. The radio interference or the glare could be a problem.

Q-13. Any further comments?

A-13. Yes. We are a great, loving, caring community and the Leeward solar company is just the opposite of our community. They lie, are greedy and don't really care about us the people who will have to live next to those obtrusive panels. They will cause us more grief by their lies and upset us even more by constantly seeing those ugly panels for 30 plus years in God's green countryside. Therefore, they are not the kind of people we want in our community or as neighbors. They are like thorns in our side. We do not want them here at all. Please don't saddle us in our dying years with that despicable company. Thank you.

Q-14. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

A-14. Yes it does. However, I reserve the right to offer supplemental testimony if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Lanny Boes

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

5/25/2022 4:21:18 PM

in

Case No(s). 21-0669-EL-BGN

Summary: Testimony electronically filed by Mr. Travis Bohn on behalf of Bohn,
Travis David Mr.