

July 13, 2022

Siting Board,

As a life-long resident of Shawnee Township, and as a landowner of properties directly affected and surrounded by the proposed Birch Solar project (Case 20-1605-el-bgn), I urge you to reject this project as it is a detriment to our community.

There are far too many unanswered, unresearched and unregulated issues when it comes to the affects of an industrial solar project placed in a residential community.

I am concerned about contaminated ground water as my properties rely on wells as our water source due to runoff from the panels. There is not enough research guaranteeing our wellbeing, and too many incidences in other city, states and countries that point towards ground contamination from these projects. That would have a lasting affect on the ability to grow food for generations or approximately 30 to 40 years.

We purchased our home in 1988 due to the location. We have had the enjoyment of nature and wildlife for many years. That would be gone if this project is approved. Not only would the project potentially contaminate our ground water, but also the sources that the wildlife drink and eat from. As we watch communities grow, we see the movement of wildlife as they are being pushed out of their natural habitats. They roam into populated areas looking for food and water as their homes are destroyed by building and industry. There is a place for such projects, but residential areas are not the place for industrial solar projects.

Allowing such project would severely affect my property value. With the current economy, people are already struggling to afford their homes and their property taxes. If our home values decline due to this project, and the value and taxes remain high, selling your house at a loss is only part of the consequence. Foreclosure due to the inability to maintain the costs, and lack of purchasers who would like to be in the middle of an industrial solar project, would most likely complete the cycle of how to start a blighted community.

Our roadways, that have been maintained for years with tax dollars would be a traffic nightmare along with being dirty and damaged for months during the project period. There is no agreement with Birch Solar that would oversee our roadways during the project. This would also put a strain on our local police due to the complaints about speed, dirt and equipment on the roadways.

There is no benefit to our community from this project. There is no power staying in our community, no power bills will be reduced, we will have reduced housing values, we will incur all the physical damage for years to come on our land and roadways, we will be left with potential health effects, and we will have the burden of figuring out how to clean up someone else's mess when they (Birch Solar/BP Lighthouse) take the money and run! This is about the all-mighty dollar bill and not about people's welfare and that is immoral and unethical.

You must reject this project!

Carla Krohn



4500 W Breese Road

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