From: Puco ContactOPSB
To: Puco Docketing

Subject: public comment 21-0669-el-bgn

Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:30:26 AM

Ohio Power Siting Board,

I am Sue Keller, my husband is Lyle, and we own the farm where Keller Bison LLC is located. We bought our house in 1977. In 1987 we were able to purchase our farm. We have loved our farm life raising two children and now four grandchildren in Arcadia. At the age of 73, Lyle still runs the farm. Our daughter Megan, and her husband Adam manage the bison business. I am a retired teacher.

We never thought in our golden years, we would be faced with the possibility of being surrounded on three sides by solar panels. Our daughter and her husband tried to build a house on our farm in 2019 but were denied by our local zoning regulations. YET our local zoning means nothing as the solar company threatens to change the life that we, as well as all people touched by having solar panels in their landscape, will face. It is ironic that the very person that helped create zoning in Washington Twp has sold out to solar.

We have concerns that will effect our farm and business.....The land to our east drains under the road onto our farm, through the pasture waterway and into the creek. That is the head water of the Portage River. We are worried about toxins in the water runoff from the solar panels. The fields to our west behind our farm also drain directly across our farm and pastures. All of these fields will have solar panels in them if the project is constructed. What will this do to our hay fields, pastures, bison, and our business?

We are also worried about the potential rise in temperature from the heat retained by the panels. This could potentially affect the amount of rainfall in our area and affect our hay and pasture production. We as a family have worked hard to build a business with our bison. Will it be destroyed by something out of our control?

Then there is the noise level during construction. Our farm is in the direct proximity of construction. Will we need ear protection to go outside? The bison thrive in the serene pastures on our farm. The constant noise will affect the breeding season, it may even change their everyday behavior and eating habits. What solution is there for these potential problems that may affect business?

It has been stated that during construction water will be used to keep down the dust. There is a large well on CR 109, conveniently located on a solar participants property, that may be used. This will surely impact our water source along with others impacted by depleting the aquifer. A mature bison will drink 30 gallons of water a day. Who will supply water to our bison if this becomes an issue? And our home?

Our health concerns are serious. Lyle has had three back surgeries due to service in Vietnam, two open heart surgeries, colon cancer surgery, a stroke, endocarditis, flat-lined, and now has a pacemaker with a defibrillator. Stress, anxiety, worries about property values, toxic issues, noise levels, and ultimately impacts on the farm and bison business all affect Lyle's health. In our retired years we never thought a solar project would be built around our farm.

We, along with our neighbors, will pay the ultimate price for anyone who supports this solar project but who are not directly affected.

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Summary: Public Comment Public comment of Sue and Lyle Keller, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing