

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comment 21-0902
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1. Where do you plan to purchase your panels? Most seem to be looking to China in which some of the people on the projects have indicated to me contain possible hazardous material within the panel. Not to mention, First Solar is an Ohio company that builds panels.
2. What fencing do you plan to use around your project if approved? 6' chain link with 3 strands of barbwire or Ag style? This has been a bi issue with some of the early permitted projects in my district with the chain link being referred to as prison fence.
3. What will be your setbacks from non-participating land owners? Property lines as well as distance from primary dwellings? Set back from roads?
4. Noxious weed control during construction? This is a current issue that is on-going with projects here. Weeds that neighboring farmers have worked on for years are now "going to seed" and effecting their properties.
5. Road Use Maintenance Agreement (RUMA) We are learning lessons on this right now. We have a RUMA signed but there is an argument between the project owner and the contractor as to who is responsible at this time for damage. Meanwhile, the residents suffer with the damage. Another issue that this arising out of this construction is damage outside of the project area. With the stone being hauled in of smaller county/township roads are being damaged and they are not covered under the RUMA. This could be a big issue for counties/townships that simply do not have to funds to repair. Roads to and from the stone quarry to the project should be mapped and only those roads allowed to be used and must be included and repaired within the RUMA.
6. How are property owners, schools and local governments guaranteed the funding promised by the Solar company in the event of default? Obviously, the lure of these projects is the influx of cash to those I mentioned. What happens in 10 years if this is found to not be working and you have companies that go bankrupt? What is the protection. Could the company purchase bonding?
7. Decommissioning-- While there is a requirement to have a bond with the PUCO to do this, is there an additional protection for the county where the project is located. I have been told in the past that the PUCO has not kept up on these decommissioning bonds and if they are not kept up to date this could again be an issue that the counties/landowners are left to deal with.
8. Vegetative screening around the project-- My personal opinion is there needs to be screening on all areas where the project has road frontage. There also needs to be a vegetative screening maintenance plan/review for replacement of dead plants, trees and bushes with a time frame to replace.

These solar companies are businesses and are here to make money, I understand. But they sell

themselves as people who want to be good neighbors and "trust us, we will do the right thing". I have found that not to be accurate. They will do the right thing as it pertains to their own self interest and not the desires of the communities to which they locate. Regardless of what they say. As I have told everyone, I am not opposed to solar and believe in Personal Property rights. However, these projects must be installed correctly and with proper setbacks.

State Representative Shane Wilkin

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Summary: Public Comment of State Representative, Shane Wilkin, via website,
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