



**Ohio Senate**  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-8285

**Committees:**

Small Business & Economic Opportunity Committee  
(Chairman)  
Primary & Secondary Education Committee  
Transportation Committee  
Workforce & Higher Education Committee

**Michael A. Rulli**

State Senator  
33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Re: 21-0764-EL-BGN

**Distinguished Board Members:**

Although I am in favor of alternative energy source development in the state of Ohio, including wind and solar, I am very much opposed to the enormous, industrial-scale Kensington Solar project that is being proposed for the Summitville, Ohio vicinity in Columbiana County, which is in my Ohio Senate district.

Moreover, placing a 2,000 acre industrial solar facility in this picturesque farming community is problematic when, as it appears to me, there is overwhelming objections by those who live and work adjacent to the proposed project. This opposition is very much in evidence by the expansive petition drive that is under way and which, according to my office, already has more than 100 signatures. It is also a matter strongly opposed by virtually every, if not every, elected official of the area and the county.

Furthermore, my main opposition to this solar facility stems from its encirclement of two historic church and gravesites. One of which, the St John's Catholic Church, recently received substantial private financial support to rehabilitate its early 1800's interior space. The other church, the Bethesda Presbyterian Church, was the site at which the famous Morgan's Raiders were confronted during the American Civil War. The permanent memorial to this historic happening is located on the grounds of the church graveyard.

This solar project would, in essence, be desecrating these sacred and holy sites of great historic significance to Columbiana County and to this important rural area of the county. In fact, the location of this solar facility tramples upon the original tracts of land upon which Morgan's Raiders traveled through Columbiana County, which was, in fact, the furthest point north of any Confederate troops to penetrate.

Surely, there are other locales in Ohio that are less populated, less farmable, and have less historical significance to the communities affected than that of Summitville, Ohio? The Ohio General Assembly has already passed legislation to curb and halt the development of large-scale industrial solar operations such is being proposed here in communities that object to them. After considering these notable historic sites and listening to the pleas of community members, I hope the members of this board will reconsider this particular site for this project. Thank you for your indulgence on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Rulli".

Michael A. Rulli  
State Senator  
33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

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

**8/19/2022 8:47:12 AM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 21-0764-EL-BGN**

Summary: Public Comment of Michael A. Rulli, State Senator 33rd Senate District,  
via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing