

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comment 20-1680
Date: Monday, September 19, 2022 8:13:18 AM

I wish to Object to the Yellow wood solar project. This project is taking 3000 acres out of food production. An article "Preserving Farmland for Future Generations." Statistics listed are 175 acres lost every hour to housing and other industries. 24 million acres lost between 1982 and 2012. I don't see it slowing down. Land is lost at One acre per minute to development. Nate Lotze National association of Realtors on common ground serving American farmers. There is the American Farmland trust trying to help solve the problem. 2014. The land being lost is some of the most productive farmland in the country. This information is from https://puco.my.salesforce.com/apex/AFSC_UrlCheck?id=04a0q8y000000akGtAAI (globalagriculturalproductivity.org) California is losing 50,000 acres of farmland per year. Healthy https://puco.my.salesforce.com/apex/AFSC_UrlCheck?id=04a0q8y000000akGuAAI (plants.org) It is projected we will have 10 billion people to feed by 2050. To me this translates into a lot more hungry children. Mark Twain said "Land they are not making anymore of it." Produce Protect Reduce Restore is an organization to help with these food insecurities. My point is this is going to be a big problem soon. Over the years farmers have been searching ways to make their land more productive to feed the people of this world. There are more organizations with the goal of preserving Farmland. If preserving farm land was not a problem then why have so many organizations devoted to this problem. Farmers experiment with new tillage practices. Better ways to increase their crop production. Compete for best yields. This is their way of life.

"Secretary LaRose has said it best in his news release Spotlighting Ohio's Agricultural Industry. I quote Our state relies on the land and the people who cultivate it. Agriculture is our states number one industry and to day most of Ohio's 77,000 farms are run by families. It continues These businesses play an active role in their Communities , created jobs, modernized farming operations, and even taken to social media to educate others on modern farming.' Ohioans are known for their values and They're exemplified in our agricultural community. Agriculture is Ohio's largest industry. This industry is able to contribute food to the world. But we are losing our land, our values. Solar panels can not feed the world. I work at Hope Emergency an organization operated by the catholic church for the needy. We give out food to feed the hungry from 4 counties. I can not imagine not having the food to give out to these needy grateful clients who are trying to get ahead. Some we see regularly some we see once or twice. A Grandmother recently received custody of her grandchildren and needed some help to feed them. A client had some medical problems and knew he could get food so was able to pay for the medications he needed. It would break my heart to not be able to provide for the families who obtain the food they need. Not being able to watch the corn and beans or wheat grow and be harvested for food as I leave my home is very distressing to me . Knowing the fertile land is being harmed for other purposes is distressing. Watching land that has been coddled into production for food being destroyed. Is there any thought given to this possibility of losing so much land we don't have food . If we have food only the rich can afford to buy it. Food Prices have skyrocketed already.

The amount of government funding being poured in to solar projects is very concerning. If an industry is sustainable on its own it doesn't need government funding. Wouldn't many large successful companies be involved in the solar projects if there was income to support them. It just concerns me that it doesn't seem like much thinking is put in all aspects of the project and the impact on the community before approval is given. Shouldn't we look at all the costs and variances involved before an approval is given.

Diane Rhonemus

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

9/19/2022 9:12:34 AM

in

Case No(s). 20-1680-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment of Diane Rhonemus, via website, electronically filed by
Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing