

**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Solar )  
1, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental )  
Compatibility and Public Need to Construct a ) Case No. 20-1605-EL-BGN  
Solar-Powered Electric Generation Facility in )  
Allen and Auglaize Counties, Ohio. )

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**NOTICE OF ENHANCED COMMITMENTS FOR  
SETBACKS AND SCREENING**

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On June 15, 2021, as supplemented, Birch Solar 1, LLC (“Birch Solar”) filed its Application with the Ohio Power Siting Board (“Board”) for a certificate to construct a solar-powered electric generation facility in Shawnee Township, Allen County and Logan Township, Auglaize County, Ohio (“Facility”) with a generating capacity of up to 300 megawatts. Following the evidentiary hearing, the initial briefs and reply briefs were filed in July 2022.

Birch Solar has had additional outreach from neighbors and has committed to additional setbacks. In light of the continued conversations and feedback from the community, Birch Solar is committing to extend its setbacks to the Facility’s solar panels and racks, inverters, equipment, fences, laydown areas, parking lots, buildings, and aboveground collector lines and poles as follows:

- at least 300 feet from the public rights-of-way/easements of public roads present as of the filing date of the Application;
- at least 100 feet from the top of the banks of streams;
- at least 300 feet from the property lines of nonparticipating landowners (as such property lines exist as of the filing date of the Application); and
- at least 300 feet from the nearest wall of each nonparticipating landowner’s residence as of the filing date of the Application.

These commitments are above and beyond the Board’s recently required setbacks in *In Re Application of Dodson Creek Solar, LLC*, Case No. 20-1814-EL-BGN, Order (Sept. 15, 2022).

In addition, Birch Solar will work with each neighboring landowner to enhance its commitment to screen the Facility as referenced in the Application. These enhancements could include evergreens that will be five-feet tall at planting, vegetative plantings, and agricultural corridors, in addition to the previously stated setbacks.

These enhanced commitments further support approval of the Stipulation and issuance of a certificate in this matter. Once built, Birch Solar will set a new standard for responsible solar development in Ohio.

Through this filing, Birch Solar is not requesting that the record be reopened. Rather, Birch Solar respectfully requests that the Board take notice of these additional commitments made by Birch Solar and include these commitments as conditions in the final certificate issued in this case.

Respectfully,

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Ohio Power Siting Board's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced in the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to these cases. In addition, the undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing document is also being served upon the persons below this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

/s/ Christine M.T. Pirik

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**Case No(s). 20-1605-EL-BGN**

Summary: Notice - Notice of Enhanced Commitments for Setbacks and Screening  
electronically filed by Christine M.T. Pirik on behalf of Birch Solar 1, LLC