

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comments for 22-0549-EL-BGN
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:55:41 AM
Attachments: [Oak Run Solar Testimony - Sarah Spence.docx](#)
[Oak Run Solar Testimony - Taylor Christian.docx](#)



To the members of the OPSB:

My name is Taylor Christian, and I am the Field Director for the Ohio Land & Liberty Coalition. The Land & Liberty Coalition is a project of the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum (OHCEF). OHCEF focuses primarily on state-level policies, while the Land & Liberty Coalition engages on local energy issues across the State of Ohio.

As an Ohioan, I encourage you to approve the Oak Run Solar Project (Case No. 22-0549-EL-BGN). This project has a number of benefits that include: economic support for local schools and governments, business development for our region, and fulfillment of the State's obligation to protect property rights.

This project will bring nearly 1,200 jobs to Madison County during construction. It will provide almost \$130 million in revenue to the local school districts over the life of the project, and roughly \$80.8 million to various Madison County services. Additionally, it will generate an estimated \$5.2 million to be split among Deercreek, Monroe, and Somerford Townships.

In addition to direct revenue generated for local entities, Oak Run Solar, and renewable energy projects like it, are vital to attracting businesses. Companies like Google, Amazon, Ford, Honda, and many others want renewable energy. When looking to open new facilities, and thereby creating jobs, they're going to be attracted to areas that can provide it to them. The more we generate here, the better our chances of continuing to attract multi-billion-dollar facilities. If Ohio doesn't take the lead in renewable energy development, it could be losing out on a lot of opportunities for its workers.

Finally, approving Oak Run Solar will fulfill the government's obligation to protect our rights to property. Ultimately, the owner of the land should get to determine what goes on it. There are, of course, limits to that. We don't have the right to do things that impede on the rights of others. Fortunately, solar panels don't harm anyone. They operate quietly, produce less glare than your average window, and create no odor or byproduct. There are multiple studies that have shown no negative impact on property values. Oak Run Solar will be built on private land, and poses no harm to others' rights to life, liberty, or property. The government must respect our God-given right to do as we see fit with our own land.

In sum, I encourage you to approve Oak Run Solar. This solar farm will provide revenue for schools and local governments, without putting more strain on local taxpayers or current infrastructure. It will help attract job creators to the State of Ohio. And, approving the project will fulfill the government's obligation to protect our God-given property rights.

Sincerely,

Taylor Christian
Field Director
Ohio Land & Liberty Coalition



To the members of the OPSB:

My name is Sarah Spence, and I am the Executive Director for the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum (OHCEF). OHCEF was founded in 2015 to provide a forum for conservatives to discuss a diverse, all-of-the-above energy portfolio – one that includes not only existing sources of traditional energy generation, but one that also seeks to expand the development of clean and renewable energy sources. OHCEF believes that clean energy and energy made clean through technology can strengthen both our economy and our national security while providing unmatched opportunities for innovation and job creation.

As an Ohioan, I encourage you to approve the Oak Run Solar Project (Case No. 22-0549-EL-BGN). Ohio is currently the second largest energy importer in the country. Approving the Oak Run Solar Project will help increase Ohio's generation capacity and move Ohio toward becoming a net exporter of energy. More made-in-Ohio energy will allow us to be less reliant on energy produced in other states and countries, and will improve our economic outlook.

This project will bring nearly 1,200 jobs to Madison County during construction. It will provide almost \$130 million in revenue to local schools over the life of the project, and more than \$5 million to be split among Deercreek, Monroe, and Somerford Townships. Additionally, it will generate nearly \$81 million to various Madison County services.

It's also important to note how vital renewable energy development is to attracting businesses. Companies across the globe and right here in Ohio are looking to diversify their energy sources to include more clean energy. Intel's \$20 billion semiconductor plant in Licking County will be constructed to be powered 100% with renewable energy. 5/3 Bank became the first bank to use 100% renewable energy for its operations through a power purchase agreement. AEP plans to add more than 10,000 megawatts of new renewable resources to its generation portfolio by 2030. More than 110,000 Ohioans are employed by the clean energy industry.

I encourage you to approve Oak Run Solar. This solar farm will increase Ohio's energy independence by generating more electricity right here at home. It will provide significant revenue for local schools and local governments, without putting more strain on local taxpayers or current infrastructure. It will help to attract more job creators to Ohio, driving investment further into our communities.

Sincerely,

Sarah Spence
Executive Director
Ohio Conservative Energy Forum

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Summary: Public Comment Public Comment of Taylor Christian, Field Director of Ohio Land & Liberty Coalition and Sarah Spence, Executive Director of Ohio Conservative Energy Forum, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing