

**BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of :
Springwater Solar, LLC for a Certificate : Case No. 22-0094-EL-BGN
of Environmental Compatibility and :
Public Need. :
:
:
:

**PREFILED TESTIMONY
OF**

Allison Renick

**ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO,
POWER SITING DEPARTMENT**

STAFF EX. ____

October 27, 2022

1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Allison Renick, and my business address is 180 East Broad
3 Street, Columbus, OH 43215.

4
5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) as a
7 Utility Specialist II within the Power Siting Department.

8
9 3. Q. Please describe your job title and duties.

10 A. My responsibilities during this time have primarily involved application
11 review of Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) cases, focusing on ecological
12 issues related to threatened and endangered species, vegetation, and surface
13 water. I have also been responsible for the preparation of staff reports and
14 coordination of Staff review and field work for Board cases.

15
16 4. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

17 A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environment and Natural
18 Resources from the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio in 2018.
19 From 2019 to 2021 I worked in environmental consulting, primarily
20 conducting environmental monitoring and multimedia sampling at various
21 construction, industrial, and Superfund and Brownfield sites. I have been
22 employed by the PUCO since August 2021.

1 5. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Ohio Power Siting
2 Board?

3 A. Yes.
4

5 6. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

6 A. I served as the overall Staff Project Lead for the investigation that resulted
7 in the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) that was filed September
8 26, 2022. I managed the Staff investigation and preparation of the Staff
9 Report in this case. In addition, as a signatory party, Staff supports the Joint
10 Stipulation that was filed in this docket on October 27, 2022.
11

12 7. Q. What kind of case is this?

13 A. In this case, the Springwater Solar, LLC (Applicant) proposes to construct,
14 own, and operate and maintain a 155 MW solar-powered generating facility
15 and an up to 75 MW alternating current battery energy storage system
16 located in Madison and Franklin County, Ohio.
17

18 8. Q. Please summarize Staff's investigation that was conducted in this case.

19 A. Staff's investigation included reviewing the application, conducting site
20 visits to the proposed facility location, acquiring additional information
21 from the Applicant, obtaining input from state agencies that compose the
22 Board along with other relevant state and federal agencies, and preparing

1 the Staff Report that presents Staff’s analysis, conclusions, and
2 recommendations. Staff is recommending that the Board approve the
3 application subject to the 48 conditions that are presented in the Joint
4 Stipulation.

5
6 9. Q. What impacts did Staff review for the project in arriving at this conclusion?

7 A. Staff reviewed various types of land use impacts including residential,
8 recreational, institutional, ecological, cultural resources, agricultural, and
9 overall geological suitability. Staff also reviewed the financial, noise
10 impacts, safety, impacts to the electric grid, decommissioning end of
11 facility operation impacts, and aesthetic impacts of the project. Staff also
12 analyzed whether the proposed solar electric generating facility and its
13 electric facilities are consistent with regional plans for expansion of the
14 electric power grid serving this state and that this facility would serve the
15 interests of electric system economy and reliability.

16 10. Q. Are you sponsoring any general conditions in the Staff Report?

17 A. Yes. I am sponsoring conditions not specifically addressed by other Staff
18 witnesses. These include conditions: 1, 2, 3, 14, 15, 17, and 19.

19
20 11. Q. Are you sponsoring any specific conditions in the Staff Report?

21 A. Yes. I was the lead analyst for the project, but specifically recommended
22 conditions 13, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 of the Staff Report,

1 which are captured, at times with modifications, in conditions of the
2 Stipulation signed by Staff. Condition 39 was erroneously unnumbered in
3 the Staff Report, and as such Conditions 40, 41, and 42 were erroneously
4 numbered 39, 40, and 41. The Joint Stipulation Addressed this error and
5 correctly identified these conditions are 39, 40, 41, and 42.

6
7 12. Q. Why is staff recommending these conditions?

8 A. These conditions are needed to ensure the minimization of potential adverse
9 impact to surface waters, wildlife, and vegetation.

10
11 13. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

12 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony
13 as new information subsequently becomes available or in response to
14 positions taken by other parties.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Prefiled Testimony of Allison Renick**, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Power Siting Department, was served via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 27th day of October 2022.

/s/ Shaun Lyons

Shaun Lyons

Assistant Attorney General

Parties of Record:

mmcdonnell@dickinsonwright.com

cpirik@dickinsonwright.com

todonnell@dickinsonwright.com

cendsley@ofbf.org

lcurtis@ofbf.org

Administrative Law Judge:

Dan.Fullin@puco.ohio.gov

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in

Case No(s). 22-0094-EL-BGN

Summary: Testimony Prefiled Testimony of Allison Renick on Behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Power Siting Department electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M. Naeder on behalf of OPSB