

Ohio Power Siting Board
PUCO
180 East Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215

5311 Rd. 12
Ottawa, OH 45875
Sept. 27, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

On my way to work today I marveled at the landscape that I have come to know and appreciate for the past 44 years. It will soon be blighted with solar panels. My home and farm are adjacent to the future Powell Creek Solar Farm. Have you seen or visited this area where single family homes are located? This is a residential and farming area. Come check us out!

Most of the people who "signed up" for this deal to fill their pockets don't even live on the land they committed to this project so they really don't care about the people who will be affected. They won't have to look at it every day or worry about future health and environmental concerns. There isn't any more land being made; we need to care for and preserve what we have. Some of our forefathers would be sickened to see the farms they worked hard to establish be covered in solar panels surrounded with fencing and vegetation unbecoming to this land.

The negative aspects of solar farms far outweigh the positive ones.

Consider: Wildlife habitat

- Soil compaction during construction

- Drainage issues

- Service and replacement of nonfunctioning panels in the future

- Disposal of used and broken panels

- Production process and materials used to make panels and posts

- Vegetation (weed) control

- Decreasing land values

- Loss of productive farm land

- Economic loss to the local community

- Unknown health concerns such as water contamination, cancer risks

- Prison like appearance of the landscape

Considering this is to be a solar farm, it sure will not be very productive since Ohio averages only 72 clear days annually where clouds cover less than 30% of the sky. A solar field should be built in an area of wide open space where there is appropriate sunshine.

Earlier this summer at a local township meeting, opposition was strongly evident. The community does not want solar panels to "decorate" their landscape. Only the few who have monetary interest are in agreement. At another local informational meeting I learned that even employees of Avangrid do not live near or on land leased to a solar company, (Rather, ironic, isn't it?) and they're pushing it on us?!

More studies need to be done to ensure the safety and health of such an undertaking. Solar is a new "field" with too many uncertainties. Please stop solar development!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peg Niese". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Peg Niese

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
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Case No(s). 20-1084-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment of Susan Hawk electronically filed by Docketing Staff
on behalf of Docketing.