



July 18, 2024

Jenifer French
Chair
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairwoman French:

On behalf of the 1,900 members of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to express my support for the Stark Solar Project (Case #23-0931-EL-BGN).

We are grateful that Stark County, like the entire state of Ohio, is experiencing a considerable boost in economic momentum, leading to millions in additional investment and the creation of new jobs in our communities. This growth will continue to increase the demand for electricity by Canton Regional Chamber members and other businesses in our region and statewide.

One of the many benefits of the Stark Solar Project is that it will generate energy to be placed directly onto the power grid. This energy will go where it is most needed, which may potentially be right here in Stark County. Ohio has always been at the forefront of innovation in energy. We must continue to encourage the creation of energy in our state to send a strong message to potential investors that we will invariably be a leader in development.

In addition to the generation of clean, reliable, much-needed energy, the Stark Solar Project also has many other benefits. These include the revenue it will generate for local taxing jurisdictions and the respect shown for landowner rights.

Taxing jurisdictions closest to the project are projected to receive more than \$57 million over the 40-year period that Stark Solar will be operational. This translates directly to the highest-quality education for our children, well-maintained roads, and state-of-the-art facilities for first responders.

Further, support of the Stark Solar Project means support for landowner rights in Stark County. By advocating for landowners who voluntarily opted into the project, we show that the spirit of liberty and personal property rights is alive and well in Stark County and the state of Ohio.

I hope the Ohio Power Siting Board will approve the Stark Solar Project, which will help energize the future growth and development of our economy and communities. If you have any questions regarding my support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Dafler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeff Dafler
President & CEO

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

7/18/2024 2:41:57 PM

in

Case No(s). 23-0931-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment of Jeff Dafler, CEO and President, Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.