

## EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Serving Kentuckians Since 1906

RECEIVED

APR 2 0 2021

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BTC 147 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, Ky. 40475-3102

www.cedet.eku.edu

April 15, 2021

Center for Economic Development

Entrepreneurship and Technology

(CEDET)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the AEUG Madison Solar Project (Case 2020-00219), which would be located in Madison County, outside the City of Richmond.

The timing of this project is important to Madison County's recovery from the Covid-19 slowdown. With many local businesses impacted, the influx of construction jobs from this 100 MW project will not only help area residents who work in the construction trades, it will create a ripple of economy activity across the county from restaurants to the suppliers who will be providing materials needed by the project.

This project represents a \$120 million private investment in our county, as well as an investment in the clean energy infrastructure that firms want to power their business. Acciona has demonstrated that their intention is to hire local support and to use some of the revenue of the project to address local needs. Local groups like God's Outreach and Sustainable Berea have signaled their support.

This project will pay dividends to the community for years to come. Kentucky and Madison County need more investments that embrace sustainability.

I thank you for considering my comments and urge your approval of this project.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Martin, Ph.D.

**Executive Director** 

