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COMMISSION

Case # 2024-00406

June 1, 2025

Dear KY PSC Board Members:

We are writing today regarding the solar plant proposed for southern Muhlenberg County. While we aren't county residents, we do reserve week-long vacations at Lake Malone State Park at least once a year and sometimes twice each year. Even when we aren't staying there for a week, we still drive over for day trips several times throughout the year.

We choose to vacation at Lake Malone because of the peace and quiet the area offers visitors. The drive on Highway 431 to reach the park is scenic with rolling hills, open fields, and trees filling the horizon. When people talk about wanting to escape to the country, this area is it! It's one of the few really natural areas left in the region that "progress" has left untouched. A massive solar plant would ruin that. Most people don't go to the country to see industry; they go there to avoid it.

Tourists spend money in the county at Lake Malone's special events, at local restaurants, and at local shops while visiting there, so it seems like the elected officials and leaders would not want to hinder those tourism efforts and dollars that benefit the local economy. And with the addition of the Big Twigs, a new tourist attraction at the park, more people than ever go to Lake Malone State Park. In fact, we saw a post last week on Facebook from the Muhlenberg County Tourism Commission noting "the park has seen a 25% increase in visitation" since the Big Twigs' arrival.

Also, Highway 431 is already a busy stretch of road that is narrow, hilly, and curvy in places. Traveling in an RV with regular road traffic often feels dangerous, especially when meeting semi trucks or other large trucks in the RV. We hate to imagine what it would be like travelling in an RV and meeting the increased amount of traffic a project of this magnitude and for this extended period of time would bring. And it would be even worse for the local people who live there trying to get to work and school or carry on with their daily routines.

We hope you won't allow this solar plant to be put in such close proximity to Lake Malone. We think it is one of the nicest state parks in the entire state, and an area as serene and special as southern Muhlenberg County deserves to be protected from a major industry such as this that will have long-lasting impacts for tourists, and even more importantly, community members.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Charles and June Vincent