

Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00177
Response Monday, March 30, 2026

Your comments in the above referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2025-00177 in any further correspondence.

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Received through Public Comments

Sunday, March 29, 2026

From: Alicia Neal
City: Monticello
State: KY
Zip: 42633

Comments:

Hi, my name is Alicia Neal. I live in Monticello Ky. I reside in the Alpha community in Wayne County. Im writing today in regards to the solar panel project case 2025-00177 thats being proposed for this area. I find it deeply disturbing that I along with many others were unaware of this project in any way until this meeting that was held on March 26th was put into place. Had many of us known about the Frankort meeting I assure you lots wouldve been in attendance or made sure our voices were heard in some way. I think its extremely shameful that even our magistrate and county officials stumbled upon this meeting by accident or they wouldnt have been there. Though while in this meeting the Barrelhead company had plenty of representation. We had our meeting March 26th at 5:30 here in Monticello and many of us ask questions and expressed how disappointed to find out this had actually been going on since 2020. How come something so big and what we consider catastrophic to our area was kept a secret and notifications were slipped through knowingly in the simplest and unnoticeable ways possible so they could say notification had been given. Its amazing how in our small little town where the tiniest minor incident is broadcasted for all to know, yet, this was hid for 5 years. To the point our main officials had no known knowledge because our prior officials hid it. How deceitful and dishonest. People we elected to have our backs betrayed us. We that live in this area are fearful for our families and from the unknowns of this project because of obvious reasons such as in the future what health issues will come out linked to said project. There is simply no way even at best case scenario that our water ways will not be affected....living close to the lake where all creeks, springs, and sink holes allow water to run to it theres no way the run off of these panels can be contained. We swim in and drink this water. Our town relies heavily on tourism of which could stand in danger of effecting now that this information has came to light and has been passed along on social websites to inform the public unlike we were. Nobody in our community has ever bothered anybody about what they do with their own property. In facts many times in my life time our community has came together to help one another in times of need. Everybody knows everybody in our neck of the woods. Weve had a couple storms to produce tornadoes over the years right here in our little area. From what Ive learned these solar panels will produce extreme heat and will intensify the weather possibilities surrounding them, not to mention other environmental risks. We are all devastated that our beautiful area is going to be covered by these panels. For most of us we will have to endure these when driving by, but those living within close proximity will have to every day walk out their door having to experience all that comes attached from construction to end production

and its operation thereafter first hand. How terribly sad that these are allowed to be around people, their homes and disturb their lives. Nobody is against progress and new things, but when it takes a toll on everyday hard working folks, a community, and all the environmental/health risks that comes with such things as this one can not help but get involved. Not to mention in no way does this contribute to our community or county. I plead with you to see how this potentially in years to come can be issues for our children and their children and how this could affect the world theyll come to live in. How can these be justified? How can one turn a blind eye to hurting people? If this was 50 feet from a front door of anyone whose a part of this besides my fellow neighbors they would absolutely protest this also. I beg of you to take in account how from the very beginning of this its been a complete disaster and now that our community has become aware its morally, physically, and emotionally draining and taking a toll on us, and how devastating this is to all of us. This has caused chaos amongst people in our community. People on social media attacking others for being on the other side of this. The family and friends of the farmer whose property this is going to be on is tauting folks with pictures of green pastures saying my view is better than yours and another who posted pictures of this is our view while sitting on their front porch...its absolutely grotesque and sickening to watch. Its caused nothing, but division throughout our small town. Nobodys wanting to tell anyone what to do with their property.....we never have, but with this we must stand together for this isnt just about one person, this single pivotal moment in time or being on a side...its about whats best for everyone, future moments and holding on to our simple pristine beautiful country side and the way we live. As i have put forth effort to get others informed and to take part in letting their voices be heard I am met with phrases such as Weve been told its a done deal and theres nothing anybody can do so lots of folks took that at face value and arent even trying to let their feelings be known. Like many other things in this town a select few rule what others think and from there the train keeps on rolling down the track unchallenged. Please dont let this be one of those trains for there are far too many who feel the same, but go unheard and who have bought into the false representation and why try mentoring of those who clearly have things to personally gain from the success of this project.

I thank you for your time and listening to me, as well as others in my community who are begging for your help in preventing this from happening.

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Received through Public Comments

Saturday, March 28, 2026

From: Tina Frohnapfel
City: Monticello
State: Kentucky
Zip: 42633

Comments:

We are transplants here in Wayne County and we moved here in April of 2022. We could have moved anywhere in the nation because we sold all that we had, moved into a camper, and wanted to build a homestead somewhere. We chose Wayne County on purpose.

We chose Wayne County because of the rural, farm community. We chose it because it is a relatively low population, has beautiful scenery, and a close proximity to Lake Cumberland.

Since that time, we have grown to love the people of this county. We have dug our roots in deep and adopted this amazing place as our home. Our only regret is that we didnt move here 30 years ago.

We do not want this solar farm in this county for many reasons.

We do not believe that Barrelhead has acted in good faith but rather acted deceptively. Per the meeting held at the Aspire Center, the representative of Barrelhead stated that this project was birthed in 2020. The representative also stated that none of our elected representatives were notified until 2024. From what I have gathered, only 1 or 2 citizens of Wayne County knew of this project before the middle of March of this year. It is clear that this company actively hid this project from the citizens of Wayne County.

The Mennonite Church and school is extremely close to this proposed project. We were told at the meeting that this project would take 9 months to complete. There is no way that the church and school can operate normally during the construction phase this close to their property. Weddings, funerals, education, church dinners, and every other aspect of worship and education will be impacted by the construction process. While construction is temporary, the impact on this established church/school isnt temporary. Those who have laid their loved ones to rest in the cemetery will no longer have the peaceful, natural, and beautiful surroundings to pay their respects and reminisce about days gone by. Those who will lay their loved ones to rest in that location will be robbed of the peaceful and beautiful surroundings in which they could have gained a glimmer of joy knowing that their loved ones final resting place is serene.

While I do not believe I have the right to tell any individual what they can and cant do with their

land, I do believe that when there is potential impact on the surrounding homes and farms, that it is our responsibility to speak up. Some of these home and farms will never be the same if this project moves forward. There are generational farms in close proximity to this proposed site. Nobody involved in moving this project forward can say that there is no impact on those properties unless they are willingly blind. The children and grandchildren as well as those who have gone before us deserve to have their land, their way of life, and their beautiful surroundings left untouched. To destroy any of their heritage is both wrong and despicable.

We ask for this commission to reflect on the comments submitted by the people of Wayne County. We were not permitted much time to organize and fight this proposed project due to the manner in which Barrelhead has behaved. We ask that this project is not permitted to move forward in our county.

Respectfully,
Tina Frohnappel

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Received through Public Comments

Friday, March 27, 2026

From: Eric Sanders
City: Monticello
State: KY
Zip: 42633

Comments:

I am concerned about this proposal and the compounding generational impacts it will have on our rural community, including but not limited to:

Property Value

Has an independent analysis been conducted on potential impacts to surrounding residential property values, particularly for homes in close proximity?

Agricultural Land Use Soil Integrity:

What evidence exists that the land can be fully restored to productive agricultural use after decommissioning? What safeguards are in place to prevent long-term soil degradation?

Environmental Impact: Wildlife, Materials Management and Disposal, Drainage, Runoff:

What stormwater and drainage studies have been completed, and how will runoff be managed to prevent downstream impacts, including into Potts Creek and ultimately Lake Cumberland? Have formal environmental or wildlife impact studies been conducted, particularly regarding species observed in the area, including protected wildlife (e.g., bald eagles)?

Transmission Infrastructure:

Will new transmission lines or substations be required outside the project boundary, and how will routes be determined to minimize impact on nearby residents?

Zoning Precedent:

How does this project align with current zoning and long-term land use plans, and what precedent does it set for future industrial-scale development in agricultural areas?

Economic Benefit:

What is the projected net benefit to the local community after accounting for any tax incentives? How much of the generated energy will directly benefit local residents? Will residents of Alpha or Wayne County receive this energy? What portion of the project's economic benefit will remain within the local community?

Quality of Life:

What studies have been conducted regarding noise (inverters), glare, and visual impact for nearby homes and along KY-1009?

Community Impact:

How will construction and operation affect nearby community institutions, including Fairview Church and its associated cemetery, which has served the area for 70 years?

Long-Term Liability Questions:

The developer is headquartered out of state (Barrelhead Solar, LLC of St. Louis, Missouri), I would also like clarification on long-term accountability.

- Is there a legally binding decommissioning, restoration, and environmental compliance agreements, particularly in the event of ownership transfer or project abandonment?
- Will a financial bond be required to guarantee full site restoration?
- Who is responsible if the project changes ownership, defaults, or is abandoned?
- What is the cleanup protocol in the event of storm damage (e.g., tornado or hail)?
- What fire prevention and emergency response plans are in place?

Given the number of unresolved questions related to land use, infrastructure, long-term liability, and demonstrated local benefit, I believe this proposal requires further evaluation before moving forward. Approval without clear answers may set a precedent for similar developments without fully understanding their long-term impact on rural communities.

I respectfully request a written response to these questions or where these questions will be addressed publicly and access to any relevant studies or reports so that residents can better understand the full impact of this proposal.

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Friday, March 27, 2026

From: JOHNNY SCHMENK
City: ALBANY
State: Kentucky
Zip: 42602

Comments:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed solar panel project in my community. While I understand the importance of renewable energy, I am troubled by the lack of transparency and the potential impacts this project may have on our local environment and way of life.

Contrary to what was previously communicated, the project is planned to be located near a lake less than three miles from our area. This raises serious concerns about environment impacts, including potential effects on water quality, wildlife, and the surrounding ecosystem. Our community has already experienced significant weather-related challenges, and there is concern that large-scale development of this kind could contribute to or worsen local environmental conditions.

Additionally, this project is planned directly across the road from land where my family and others have lived, worked, and hunted for generations. This area is not just property, it represents our heritage, or livelihood, and our connection to the land. The introduction of industrial-scale infrastructure in such close proximity will fundamentally change the character of our community.

I respectfully ask that decision makers take these concerns into careful consideration, provide clear and accurate information about the projects location and impact, and ensure that the voices of local residents are truly heard before moving forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

John E. Schmenk

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Friday, March 27, 2026

From: Janet Tanner
City: Bonaire
State: GA
Zip: 31005

Comments:
Case 2025-00177 Barrel head Solar, LLC

To the members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission:

March 26, 2025, was the first held meeting with the public and Barrel head Solar. This meeting took place at the Aspire Center, Monticello, Ky. Everyone present, was asked if they had been contacted by Barrel head Solar and everyone stated no. As my mothers representative, she has still not received a call nor notification from Barrel Head. We as a community feel as though this has been placed upon the community in a very underhand way. The hearing, February 17th was the first that only a few people had heard. Placing an article in the classifieds is very unjust to the community. Is there not to be appointed officials to represent the County when this goes to a hearing? Why did it continue without us having representation? While I appreciate the officials allowing me time to speak, I still remain in the true fact, that the people of Alpha (Wayne County) have been robbed of development information or the opportunity to have the appeals that should have been allotted. I am requesting as well as the community to have this process brought back to the beginning phase. Within the meeting we learned that this has been going on for 6 years without a word from any Barrel head associate or any public notification. We feel as though this has been to the good of the Barrel head company and serves as no service to the people of the community. This was not set forth by the people and we have had no representation. We therefore, request that we are allotted the time to have our specific questions answered.

While at this meeting, Ms. Trudy Graten was unable to answer the multitude of questions we had concerning the Solar project. We have not had ample time to have our questions answered nor due process nor proper notification. As of March 26, 2026, my mother, Leta Kay Shelton, has not received notice via mail or certified letter as well as the community members at the meeting last night.

On February 17, 2026, Ms. Trudy Graten stated (within the YouTube video: 2:12:09) uh, Ive left information with one of them in their Mailbox. Under Federal law 18 U.S.C. 1725, this is against the law and could be viewed as tampering with Government property. Also when questioned about attempting to contact additional land owners directly adjacent to the site, she

responded (YouTube 2:21:37) uh, I received those, uh, numbers via participating land owner and have left two or three voicemails with each landowner over a period of about 3 weeks trying to reach them about the project.. Wrong, my 87 year old mother continually has the phone right next to her. She nor I have ever received a phone call.

Another issue we have is that the studies were done in other states. They have not fully assessed the area in their proposal. With the wildlife of Bald eagles that land in that field as well as cranes, every year and the multitude of deer, this will harm our wildlife. With the proposed tall fences, with potential bob-wire, there will be plenty of dead deer as I have seen them travel from my mothers yard to the field across from her, via cameras. As it is known a deer can jump from 7-10 feet. If they make it across then we will deal with broken panels. Also this land, including my mothers property has a history of Indians being in that region many, many years ago. I know this from the history that my father provided me throughout my life and the evidence of arrowheads found upon our property. UK would travel those lakes and streams and come on our land to research and collect evidence of Indian artifacts in the surrounding caves we have near the stream and lake.

Another issue, we have sink holes due to the underground caves. While they say they have completed their studies, they do not know the land as the residents of that area. This is a potential harm of residents if the ground gives away. How do I know this, just this week, sinkholes were being treated on our property.

I would also like to address some other issues from the previous hearing of February 17, 2026. Within that meeting, it was stated it would employ approx. 184 people. People who do not live in our county and only 3-4 individuals would maintain 307 acres, as per Mr. Kingston. This does not bring any employment opportunities to our community. Another fact stated by Ms. Trudy Graten in the meeting last night was the individual or individuals maintaining the panels would be allowed to live only 1-2 hours away. In a small, rural area, this is not ample time for severe issues that would arise. Speaking of issues, I questioned the containment plan of any fire issues. They have not spoken to the EMA or fire chief about this. With 307 acres, we have a small volunteer fire department. While they do an excellent job, there is not enough man power or resources to contain an issue if this occurs.

As I know for a fact, that the area they are proposing to place these panels, have had many tornadoes go through that area. I have a concern as these panels do not have a very deep supportive structure of dislodging and flying into my mothers house. I am sure if this was one of your family members or living there, this would be a concern as well.

This will increase our taxes and not to mention our home owners insurance.

Also to my understanding, they have not contacted the Army Corp of Engineers. This is a concern to us, still about the run off from these panels as they cannot provide specifications on these panels or the MSDS material sheets.

It was also mentioned that there will possibly be a glare. This has still been undefined by them.

In closing, there are numerous questions that are still unanswered by myself and so many. We have obtained signatures from a petition at last nights meeting. These signatures of 48 people will be sent via mail since I am unable to attach to this comment.

Once again, Please allow the people of Wayne County to have justice prior to any decision being made.

Thank you,
Janet Tanner
106 S. Gala Ct.
Bonaire, Georgia 31005
[REDACTED]

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Received through Public Comments

Friday, March 27, 2026

From: Lonnie Gibson
City: Alpha
State: KY
Zip: 42603

Comments:

To those concerned,

I wish to inform you that as a resident in close proximity to this project, that I do not support the installation of solar panels on this site or any other sites in Wayne County. The meeting held on March 26th 2006 only confirmed one thing, and that is the solar energy will not provide anything for Wayne County. There are no guarantees that the panels are safe, and will not do harm to our local creeks, streams, and lakes that are very close to this project. Our property values will also decrease around the area. This is beautiful country that does not deserve this.

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Received through Public Comments

Friday, March 27, 2026

From: Maria Gibson-Waits
City: Alpha
State: KY
Zip: 42603

Comments:

To those concerned,

I wish to inform you that as a resident in close proximity to this project, that I do not support the installation of solar panels on this site or any other sites in Wayne County. The meeting held on March 26th 2006 only confirmed one thing, and that is the solar energy will not provide anything for Wayne County. There are no guarantees that the panels are safe, and will not do harm to our local creeks, streams, and lakes that are very close to this project. Our property values will also decrease around the area. This is beautiful country that does not deserve this.

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Received through Public Comments

Friday, March 27, 2026

From: Bruce Waits
City: Alpha
State: KY
Zip: 42603

Comments:

To those concerned,

I wish to inform you that as a resident in close proximity to this project, that I do not support the installation of solar panels on this site or any other sites in Wayne County. The meeting held on March 26th 2006 only confirmed one thing, and that is the solar energy will not provide anything for Wayne County. There are no guarantees that the panels are safe, and will not do harm to our local creeks, streams, and lakes that are very close to this project. Our property values will also decrease around the area. This is beautiful country that does not deserve this.

Service List for 2025-00177

* Trudie Grattan

Birch Creek Development, LLC
2650 Locust Street
Suite 100
St. Louis, MO 63103

* James W Gardner

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC
333 West Vine Street
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Lexington, KY 40507

* Rebecca C. Price

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155 East Main Street
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