

RECEIVED

APR 3 2026

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Ashley Reynolds
672 Jackson Pike
Harrodsburg, KY 40330
[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Ashley Reynolds, and I am writing to formally request review and intervention regarding the solar project approved in Mercer County adjacent to my residence and farm.

I recently purchased a farm in Mercer County with the intention of living a quiet rural lifestyle while raising cattle and horses. I invested nearly \$1.5 million into this property after conducting extensive due diligence prior to closing. At the time of purchase, I specifically investigated whether there were any large utility or energy projects planned on the adjoining property. I was informed that solar setbacks from residences were approximately 1,500 feet and there was no indication that a solar project would be constructed immediately adjacent to my home.

Unfortunately, shortly after closing, I discovered that a large solar facility had been approved and that solar arrays are now planned to be located approximately 180 feet from my residence. I was never notified during the approval process that a project of this magnitude would be placed directly beside my home. In fact, the first indication I had that anything was happening was when I was awakened by heavy equipment tearing down a barn very close to my bedroom window.

Had I been properly notified or aware that an industrial-scale solar facility would be constructed only 180 feet from my home, I would never have purchased this property.

In an attempt to address these concerns locally, I met with Mercer County Judge Executive Sarah Steele and Greyson Evans, Director of Industrial Development. During that meeting, I was told that there was "nothing they could do" regarding the approval or placement of the solar project.

Additionally, Judge Executive Steele stated that she had been "made to sign" the letter submitted to the Commission indicating that Mercer County was withdrawing its opposition and agreeing to allow deviations from the originally proposed setbacks. This statement raised additional concerns for me regarding how this project progressed through the approval process.

I have also been informed that KU/LG&E is proposing approximately 200 feet of tree line buffering as mitigation along portions of the project. However, the property boundary I share with this project is approximately 5,000 feet in length. This limited buffering appears insufficient to meaningfully screen or mitigate the visual, environmental, and quality-of-life impacts associated with a project of this scale located so close to my home.

In recent days, I have had multiple neighboring property owners reach out to me expressing that they were never aware that a solar project of this scale would be placed adjacent to my farm or within our immediate area. Several have stated they were told the adjoining property

would not be used for solar arrays. This raises serious concerns about whether the broader community was adequately informed.

Furthermore, in reviewing PSC documents, I found that a letter dated March 25, 2025 states that residents within 2,000 feet of the project were notified. Based on my conversations with neighboring property owners, this appears to be inaccurate, as multiple residents—including myself—did not receive any such notification by mail regarding a project that is now under construction.

Construction activity has already begun, and the roads in the area are being impacted by heavy equipment traffic. Attached, you will find photographs taken from my front porch, primary bedroom and bathroom windows, backyard, and upstairs bedrooms. These images are provided so the Commission can clearly see how close the project boundary is to my home and the proximity of the proposed solar arrays to my residence.

I want the Commission to fully understand just how close this project is to my property, especially considering that setback deviations were granted based on documentation provided by Mercer County and KU/LG&E.

I am deeply concerned that members of this community had no meaningful opportunity to be informed, to provide input, or to have a voice in a project that will directly impact our daily lives. This has been an emotional and ongoing strain on myself, my family, and my neighbors.

Additionally, I have experienced a lack of communication from local elected officials despite repeated attempts to seek guidance and resolution. I have not been provided with a clear point of contact for KU/LG&E. Given this lack of response, I am now seeking assistance at the state level. I have also had a conversation with Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell regarding these concerns.

Several aspects of this situation are deeply concerning:

- Lack of notification to affected neighboring property owners
- Solar arrays being placed extremely close to a residence (approximately 180 feet)
- Inadequate buffering, including only approximately 200 feet of tree line mitigation along a shared boundary of roughly 5,000 feet
- Potential impacts on property value and quiet rural enjoyment of the property
- Construction impacts, including road damage from heavy equipment
- Concerns regarding construction noise and disruption, including impacts to household members working non-traditional hours
- Potential impacts to livestock and farm operations
- Visual and reflective impacts from panels that may rotate toward my home
- Possible impacts to groundwater, wetlands, sinkholes, flood-prone areas, and drainage during construction
- Wildlife and habitat concerns in the surrounding area

I am also concerned that property ownership adjacent to my farm appears to have changed during the timeframe around my closing, which raises serious questions about whether nearby land acquisitions related to the project were properly disclosed to surrounding landowners.

I respectfully request the Commission review the approval process and consider the following:

1. Whether proper notice was provided to adjacent property owners
2. Whether the statement that residents within 2,000 feet were notified is accurate

3. Whether setbacks of only approximately 180 feet from a residence are appropriate for a project of this scale
4. Whether additional mitigation requirements should be imposed to protect neighboring properties, including adequate buffering along the full shared boundary
5. Whether approval should be reconsidered given the proximity to my home and farm operations

I also respectfully request that this be considered a formal complaint and that the Commission open a case to review this matter.

This project is not being built hundreds or even thousands of feet away from my residence. It is being constructed essentially in my backyard on property that was represented as rural farmland when I made the decision to purchase my home.

My family invested our savings into this property with the expectation of peace, safety, and rural quality of life. The sudden realization that an industrial energy facility will operate only 180 feet from our home has been devastating.

I welcome the Commission to visit my property and the project site so that you may see firsthand the proximity and impact of this development.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Ashley Reynolds

Mercer County Property Owner





Front Porch
Photo

Property Line
Fence



Photo from front
Bedroom
Window

Property
Line fence



→ Property line
fence

Photo from Primary
Bedroom window

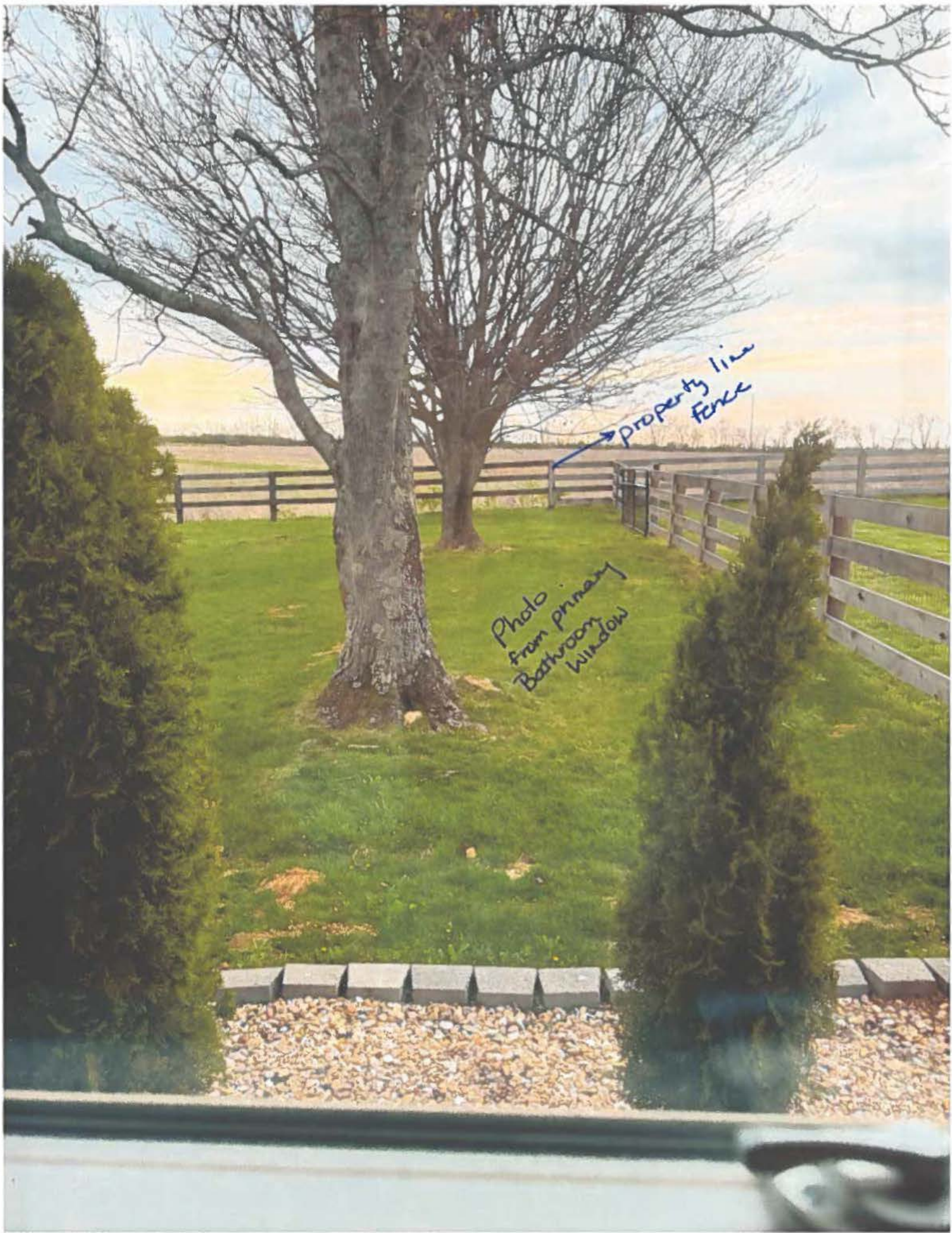


Photo
from primary
Bathroom
window

property line
fence



Property line
fence

Photo from
Backyard View