

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Public Comments for Case: 2021-00414 - Blue Moon Energy, LLC
Date: Monday, July 11, 2022 12:56:00 PM

Case No. 2021-00414

Thank you for your comments on the application of Blue Moon Energy, LLC. 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, 2021-00414, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2021-00414 \(ky.gov\)](https://www.ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

[REDACTED]

Name: Katie Hemlock

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Comments: I will start out with saying that 25 years ago, my husband and I took a long time finding the place where we wanted to live and eventually retire. The reason we chose to live here was for the scenic countryside, wildlife, and rural community that makes up the beauty of Harrison County, and the area we selected was zoned for just that. After learning of the project, we drove around the area of where the panels would be, and I thought of all the people who invested in their homes and situated them in such a way to enjoy the spectacular views of either sunrises, sunsets, greenery, wildlife, or whatever else was important to them. All of this will be altered by 650 acres of solar panels being placed in these areas with six-foot fences surrounding them. I understand that there will be setbacks with trees planted; however, the wildlife will still be displaced, and the landscape will be dramatically different. As I continued to learn more about how things evolved, I became somewhat bitter and angry about the process. While we were being mildly inconvenienced as the electric company installed new poles and lines on our property in order to "transmit more electricity", at the same time, people surrounding us were signing confidential leases for installation of solar panels. Since it affects everyone in the area, I think it would have been more appropriate to inform the community of the plans at the same time these contracts were being made; however, the adjacent landowners weren't informed until four years later. I'm sure that some people would have done some things differently with their

property back in 2017 had they known. I know I would have. Even though an open Board of Adjustments meeting was conducted in October 2021, the decision to proceed with this had already been made and had been years in the making. Moving past my anger, I decide to learn as much as I can. What I have read is that solar panels are relatively safe unless they are damaged since they contain toxins such as cadmium, lead, and other metals. I believe that over the course of time there is likely to be damage for various reasons. The weather in Kentucky alone could damage them with ice storms, hail, tornados, wind, and the like. It also appears these are being located where water runs into the Licking River, which is Harrison County resident's drinking water. I am uncertain how the panels are being mounted, but if galvanized steel is being used, I read that as time goes on, they corrode and rust, releasing cadmium and lead as well. I know that Recurrent Energy states there is little to no risk of toxins being released, but I've lived long enough to have experienced when someone is selling a safe product, it doesn't always turn out to be the case. I do know that the solar panels themselves are considered hazardous waste at the time of decommissioning. Understanding that solar energy is the way of the future and will move forward, I hope that consideration will be given to all the residents in a community. Perhaps big solar farms are best suited in industrial parks rather than weaving in and out of established homes and farms. I also ask, and I'm hopeful that this is already happening, that thorough longitudinal studies be reviewed for safety before proceeding. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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