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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

October 9, 2021

JOANN TAUL
212 B HARMONY WAY
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42701

KY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
211 SOWER BOULEVARD
FRANKFORT, KY 40602-0615

RE: THE RHUDES CREEK SOLAR PROJECT. CASE #2021-00127

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO THE ABOVE NAMED SITE AS A SOLAR FIELD WHICH WILL USE 1072 ACRES OF OUR PRIME FARMLAND IN HARDIN COUNTY, CECILIA, KY AREA. I ASK THAT A LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED RHUDES CREEK SOLAR PROJECT BE HELD IN THE CECILIA AREA.


LOSS OF OUR FARMLAND IS A MAJOR CONCERN OF MINE AS WELL AS OTHER RESIDENTS WHO LIVE AND HAVE HOMES AND FARMS IN THIS AREA. MY FAMILY FARM IS LOCATED IN THIS AREA AND WILL BE SURROUNDED BY SOLAR PANELS IF THIS PROJECT IS ALLOWED. WE BOUGHT OUR FARM IN 1960, ESTABLISHED A SUCCESSFUL DAIRY FARM, RAISED OUR FAMILY AND CONTINUE TO FARM HERE. MY SON AND HIS FAMILY STILL RESIDE ON THE FAMILY FARM. WE LOVE THE LAND AND THE VIEWS OF CROPS GROWING NOT ONLY ON OUR FARM BUT ON SURROUNDING FARMS. MANY OF THE LANDOWNERS HAVE SIGNED LEASES WITH OTHER SOLAR COMPANIES WAITING TO TAKE OVER THE FARMLAND SURROUNDING US. WE ARE HEART SICK TO THINK OF THE DEVALUATION OF OUR PROPERTY AND THE SCENERY WE HAVE ENJOYED OVER THE YEARS WILL BE DIMINISHED. WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE BY SURROUNDING SOLAR PANELS?

WE ARE IN THE MIGRATION OF THOUSANDS OF SANDHILL CRANES WHICH MIGRATE THROUGH CECILIA ANNUALLY. OUR FIELDS AND SURROUNDING FARMS ARE FULL OF THESE MAJESTIC BIRDS LANDING, FEEDING IN THE NEWLY HARVESTED FIELDS OF CORN AND SOYBEANS. WHY IS OUR KENTUCKY WILDLIFE SERVICES PERMITTING SUCH A TERRIBLE THING TO HAPPEN? OTHER BIRDS AND WILDLIFE WILL ALSO BE IN DANGER AS THEY CROSS FROM FARM TO FARM FOR THEIR WINTER FOOD SUPPLY.

SOLAR PANELS CONTAIN TOXIC MATERIALS THAT COULD LEACH INTO OUR WATER SUPPLY. WE HAVE MANY SINKHOLES IN THIS AREA. WHAT ABOUT THE UNDERGROUND STREAMS THAT EVENTUALLY FLOW INTO THE NOLIN RIVER, OUR MAIN HARDIN COUNTY WATER SOURCE. MANY RESIDENTS STILL DEPEND ON WELLS FOR THEIR WATER SOURCE. I FEAR FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF OUR RESIDENTS. FARMLAND TO FEED OUR CITIZENS IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN A SOLAR "FARM". I THINK OF OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS AND THE EFFECT ON THEIR LIVES.

THIS PROJECT NEEDS TO BE STOPPED AS IT IS A SERIOUS THREAT TO OUR LOCAL FARM RELATED BUSINESSES, CAUSING LOSS OF GOOD JOBS, CAUSING SOME BUSINESSES TO CLOSE. IS THIS FAIR TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS?

SINCERELY,


JOANN TAUL, OWNER

FARM LOCATION 3142 HARDINSBURG RD., CECILIA, KY 42724