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Kentucky Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard , Frankfort, Ky. 40602

Re; Rhudes Creek Solar Project, Case # 2021-00127

There are some serious issues with this particular site for a large scale solar project. One of the issues is the close proximity of several homes adjacent to the South Black Branch Road and Hansborough roads. Many of these homes have water wells that they used for their water supply. The solar site sits on 1072 acres of farmland which is dotted with Karst Geology (Sinkholes). Any contaminants getting into these sinkholes will run down into the water table within minutes. It is also common that (thinly covered) sinkholes can fall in without any advance notice. I have not found any studies where dye tests were done to determine if the underground water table connects directly to the White Mills Springs which is one of the sources for Hardin County Water District No. 2.

Another issue is the solar panels themselves. The E.P.A. classifies these panels as hazardous materials because of the elements in the polymers use on the back and front backing materials. A recent study in Europe found six elements as highly toxic and six more as moderate toxic for humans.(“ “Chemical composition determination of impurities and effect on the toxicity degree of solar panel components, 2020) Also if there were a fire the aluminum fumes are highly toxic. The Cecilia volunteer fire department is not capable of fighting a solar panel electrical fire with toxic fumes .The panels are very close together and a fire would spread quickly. Since many of the home are close to the panels, the safety of those individuals would be compromised.

Another issue and one that I am most familiar with, is the loss of prime farmland. This area is one of the most productive in our county .The U.S.D.A. defines prime farmland as: Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and will sustain high yields of these. That is this land .The Hardin County Planning and Development Commission considers this as mostly prime land as well.. We have a tendency to take our farmland for granite. Kentucky loses 16000 acres a

year according to Senator Paul Hornback and that was before the “solar invasion”. In our country we lose 2000 acres each day. By the year 2050 we will need 70% more food than we have today. 1072 acres is a lot of land and will produce a lot of food .Using the average yield, if planted in yellow corn, it would make 6,068,592 lbs of corn sweetner or 5,740,560 lbs. of starch. If planted in soybeans, it would make 573,520 gallons of soybean oil with 254,125 lbs. of soybean meal left over for livestock feed.

These green plants also will take in Carbon, clean and cool the air, and in return give us Oxygen to breath. One acre of yellow corn in July will take in 36000 lbs. of carbon. Rain will soak in these crops, preventing erosion and surface water runoff, what a wonderful “Green Energy”. Ethanol and Biodiesel are fuels that are also made from soybeans and corn .If planted in Wheat-----3,151,680 loaves of white bread.....WOW. Solar Projects do not need to be on Prime Farmland.

Thank you

J. David Miller 