

June 20, 2022

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Kentucky State Sitting Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Sitting

P.O. Box 615

211 Sower Boulevard

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-0615

Regard: First Public Hearing Comments

Case Number 2021-00235

Please find the following as written comments following the first public hearing held on the above referenced case number in Logan County. We truly thank the Kentucky Public Service Commission for its professionalism and the opportunity to hear the tax paying citizens of Logan County regarding this very dangerous proposed project to this state. Without the Kentucky Public Service Commission, the cries of people in Logan County would have been silenced. Local public officials should have called a public meeting when ask to do so. Local officials have refused time and time again to have a public meeting of this matter. Even today, the narrative in Logan County is that this was a meeting called by Russellville Solar and the Kentucky Public Service Commission was invited to check this box in the process and rubber stamp this already done deal.

It took a lot of courage for the citizens of Logan County to come and speak on June 15. So many people are afraid to speak publicly in Logan County because of the retaliation of other community members. As you are aware, Logan County officials were at the meeting but remained in the hallways not entering the public meeting room to speak or be seen on camera. It should be strongly noted that everyone at the public hearing in Logan County spoke AGAINST this proposed project. NOT ONE PERSON from Logan County supported this dangerous proposed project in Logan County. The Kentucky Public Service Commission should infer from this that NO ONE in Logan County is for this proposed project.

This project is unique and unlike any other proposed solar project that the Kentucky Public Service Commission has reviewed. There is nothing positive in this proposed dangerous project beneficial to Logan County or Kentucky whatsoever. This country has state lines and county lines for a reason. This decision of the Kentucky Public Service Commission is about the tax paying people of Logan County and the tax paying people of Kentucky not the foreign entities in Radnor, Pennsylvania, or Nashville, Tennessee. The tax paying citizens have clearly said NO to this project in our county and in our state. It is the duty of the Kentucky Public Service Commission to protect these citizens and the citizens that do not have a voice. Many permit applications are denied in Kentucky every day. From rock quarries to asphalt plants and from landfills to concrete plants, many applications are simply not the best fit for that

community. This proposed project is one of those cases. This location is not the match for this project. Everything will go wrong with this project in this prime farmland location. It is the proper thing to do for the Kentucky Public Service Commission to deny this application. All the evidence submitted by Russellville Solar prove that this is a bad location for such a proposed project. It is completely acceptable by the citizens of Logan County and the citizens of Kentucky for the Kentucky Public Service Commission to DENY this application for construction.

Many people have said that it was the local farmers at the public hearing that was speaking AGAINST this proposed project. In fact, the farmers of Logan County were in the fields of Logan County that evening working to feed their families, Logan County, the people of the United States of America, and the people of the world. If the hard-working farming community of Logan County could have taken off work to attend this public meeting, you would have needed a stadium for this hearing. NO ONE at this public meeting in Logan County spoke for this project. NO ONE in Logan County wants this dangerous project to come to Logan County.

The narrative in Logan County today is that this project is a done deal. This meeting was only to check the boxes of a deal already made. Logan County has already paved roadways for this project that have never been paved in the history of Logan County. Logan County has passed tax exempt bonds against the loud objections of the tax paying citizens of Logan County. It is hard to understand with the constant narrative from Russellville Solar, public officials, and the local media how the integrity of this KRS regulatory process has not been compromised. In a legal trial a mistrial would be declared.

This is a generational project with no benefits whatsoever for Logan County. If this dangerous project is allowed to proceed, this defense of the farmland in Kentucky will continue for the next 40 years from generation to generation in the regulatory arena, in the legal arena, and in the political arena. Citizens in Logan County are fighting for this right to make a living today and for the rights of their children tomorrow and for the right of their children in the future. The decision to allow a corporation from Radnor, Pennsylvania, to destroy a thriving generational successful community in Logan County, Kentucky, just because they want to is WRONG.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission must also weigh what the United States government is requesting. The Tennessee Valley Authority does not need this weak solar power. Moreover, the United States government for the first time in history is allowing farmers to take marginal farmland out of storage and begin producing grain crops immediately. Why would the Kentucky Public Service Commission allow prime Pembroke farmland to be taken out of production in Logan County for no reason? That is absurd. Many local officials do not even know that the farmland proposed by this project is in full crop production at this very moment. Hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain are currently successfully growing on the site of this proposed dangerous project. How could anyone take this food out of someone's mouth?

This proposed project is completely unique from any other solar project the Kentucky Public Service Commission has reviewed and has grave consequences for the future of Logan County and Kentucky. We respectfully and sincerely ask the Kentucky Public Service Commission to DENY this application to construct in Logan County, Kentucky.

Respectfully Submitted,

Minerva A. Westray-Trustee

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Vick Family Trust