

DEC 28 2021

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sewer Boulevard
Frankfort, Ky 40602-0615

Re: Hardin Solar Project by Community Energy, Case # 2021-00312

This letter is to explain my opposition to this solar project in Hardin County. My name is James David Miller, I am a farmer and retired science teacher and was born in a farmhouse just northeast of this proposed project. I am very familiar with these leased farms and have spread lime and fertilizer on all of them. (My father and I had a custom fertilizer spreading service for many years for farmers in this area). I even rabbit hunted on the Langley and Greer fields when I was young. My father and I also owned a 425 acre livestock farm near the Allen Summers farms for many years.

There are several reasons this area is not suitable for a solar project, some of which are: the prime, productive farmland is some of the best in Hardin County, many times when the previous owner (Allen Baugh) farmed this area yields records for the county for yellow corn, soybean, and wheat yields were achieved and recorded. Many farmers used these yields for their goals on their own farms. Many years this farm was the largest certified wheat seed production farm in the state of Kentucky. Southern States Seed Division bought this seed and distributed it to their retail stores throughout the 5 state region.

About 600 acres of this "proposed" project lies in a valley and there are many homes which overlook this region. You can see about 3 miles in the north direction.(Very Beautiful) There are two new homes being built and I am sure the view and the proximity of being in this beautiful valley of farmland influenced the new owners for moving in this area. Prime farmland like this should stay in food, feed, and fuel (ethanol, soy diesel) production. Solar projects can use marginal land and roof tops of buildings, and abandoned parking lots, etc for solar. (I am for solar energy to add to our energy needs but not on this type of productive land).

Other negative effects of this project would be: the depreciation of neighbors homes and property values,; the large increase in surface runoff of water. It has been estimated that over 24 million gallons of additional water will run off of the flat, glasslike fixtures of the solar panels; the karst topography of the area, leached elements go directly into the water table.

The "unknown "of where the solar panels are to be made and what is in them. Different types and different companies manufacture panels with different

elements inside the panels, some are considered Toxic to humans. Many scientists have studied solar panels and stated that the lead and other toxic elements could pose a serious problem if leached into the soil and underground water wells or the source for Hardin County Water Supply, which could occur with cracked panels. (The water company intake is near this area. The deterioration of the soil nutrient levels over years of neglect is another negative effect. Soil goes through a process called land succession where the soil become acidic and prime nutrients leach out. All good farmers and soil scientists know this and usually annually test their soil and amend if needed. The Microorganisms in the roots of plants interact and help keep soil productive. The green plants, crops, and vegetables growing on the soil help capture carbon dioxide, cool and clean the air, and in turn give us oxygen. What a wonderful Green Renewable Energy Source.

There are many factors which need to be addressed before making your decisions. There are many Hardin County Residents that would like to request a public meeting here in our area. Some do not have high speed internet and are more comfortable in a public meeting.

Thank you



J. David Miller

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