Case No. 2023-00263

Thank you for your comments on the application of Banjo Creek Solar 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, 2023-00263, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2023-00263</u> (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: S&S McEndree Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2024 11:37 AM To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov> Subject: Public comment in reference to Case #2023-00263



Public comment in reference to Case #2023-00263 Banjo Creek, Graves County, Kentucky

39 Times!!! That is how many times Jonathan Flemings said, "I don't know, I think, I believe, I don't remember, not familiar with a report conducted/funded on behalf of GreenGo Energy, I do not know the details, and gave evasive answers (not answering the question posed to him). These non answers were given during an evidentiary hearing before the Kentucky Public Service Commission Siting Board on January 23, 2024, case #2023-00263. When I watched the hearing live, I was surprised at how many times Mr. Flemings did not know information about the project he is managing. I then rewatched the hearing and noted how many times Mr. Flemings answered in the above described way. He testified for approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes. In that amount of time he said, "I don't know, I think, I believe, I don't remember, not familiar with a report conducted/funded on behalf of GreenGo Energy, I do not know the details, and gave evasive answers (not answering the question posed to him).

39 times! Yes, 39 times!! All of this from the person who is the solar project manager and developer?? This does not inspire confidence in this company.

At timestamp 1:07:16 during the hearing (case #2023-00263), Mr. Flemings was asked by Deputy Secretary Lyons about solar panels being destroyed by hail storms and if any toxins would leach into the soil. Mr. Flemings' response was to talk about the panels being insured. Non-answer to question. At timestamp 1:08:32 during the hearing (case #2023-00263), Deputy Secretary Lyons asks a question about solar panels being in a flood plain. Deputy Secretary Lyons said he was quite surprised the solar company was going to build in a floodplain. Deputy Secretary Lyons asked, "What kind of damage might we expect if a panel or an array of panels were inundated by flood waters?" Mr. Flemings' answer again was about insurance NOT the safety of the people surrounded by the solar project.

Deputy Secretary Lyons asks about studies and reports that will need to be completed before construction. Deputy Secretary Lyons said,(1:05:01 timestamp of hearing video), "I saw in a response to a data request from the siting board it looked like that (studies & reports) was targeted for second quarter of 2025 which makes me question the timing a little bit. That's rather long way down the road. Typically in most of our siting board cases all this information is before us before we ever make a decision. Whether that's consultation with Fish & Wildlife or State Nature Preserves through the Kentucky Biological assessment tool phase ones. I heard you mention a little bit earlier and I did read in documentation that there was going to be buildings that are demolished during the process and other issues surrounding environmental concerns which obviously is my forte and on the board. So I'm a little concerned that we're so far down the line before we even know what some of those answers are."

I completely agree with Deputy Secretary Lyons. It sounds like we have a "cart before the horse" issue. What is their hurry?!!! Who's to say that GreenGo Energy, Banjo Creek, LLC, Glennmont CEF IV Solar, or TransAlta will abide by the decisions of the Siting Board? What seems to be the rush on the part of GreenGo Energy, Banjo Creek, LLC, Glennmont CEF IV Solar, or TransAlta? Are issues being

hidden from the Siting Board?

At 1:27:52 (timestamp of hearing video case #2023-00263), Vice Chairman Hatton interrupts Judge Executive Perry to say, "I'm sorry Mr. Perry, this is just a time we're we're the objective fact finders. We're just to ask questions at this time." **Fact Finders**. Interesting choice of words and I would agree. So what facts were learned through this hearing? One glaring fact is that Mr. Flemings does not seem to know very much about the project he is managing. I came to this conclusion because 39 times he said, "I don't know, I think, I believe, I don't remember, not familiar with a report conducted/funded on behalf of GreenGo Energy, I do not know the details, and gave evasive answers (not answering the question posed to him)."

I completely agree with Vice Chairman Hatton that the Siting Board is in place to find the facts. If this board leads with facts in mind, then there is only one answer to the question of a construction permit for this solar company. That answer should be "NO".

Siting Board members, please do not let the "green" agenda of our governor sway your decision. Stand up for what you know to be right and true. Residents of highway 564, 339, and Beech Grove Road are counting on you to make a factual decision. Not a decision that is being pushed by federal or state governments or the TVA. Think about the citizens of the Commonwealth and not corporations that are not even based in the United States.

Do what is right!! Submitted by:Sandy McEndree Retired Kentucky Teacher 10642 State Route 564 South Farmington, Ky 42040