From: PSC Public Comment

To:

Subject: RE: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00337 - Wood Duck Solar LLC

**Date:** Wednesday, March 5, 2025 8:34:00 AM

Case No. 2024-00337

Thank you for your comments on the application of Wood Duck 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, 2024-00337, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00337 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

**From:** KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025 10:14 PM

**To:** PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00337 - Wood Duck Solar LLC

Public Comments for Case 2024-00337 submitted by

on Tuesday,

February 25, 2025 at 10:13 PM

-----

Name: Paula Pedigo

Address:

City: Smiths Grove

State: KY

Zip Code: 42171

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Comments: Wood Duck Solar, Inc. has failed to advertise and provide notification to the community regarding the "information sessions" for this project. They did not advertise the meeting in the local newspaper, the 2 local tv stations, posters in prominent gathering spots, or on social media. Additionally, the meetings did not provide any handouts of information relating to the maps, types of panels, or the social, environmental or economic impact with which you could converse. They did have copies of support letters you could sign. (copy available). They didn't even have a solar panel on display. There has NOT been any public hearings or any setting in which dissention was noted or adequately addressed. The company has continually refused to answer questions to members of the community and the local newspaper. (emails and recordings available).

As recently as today. Wood Duck has tried to buy their way into our local community with a couple of donations to local charities, but it doesn't come close to compensating for the hundreds of trees which will be destroyed, displacing local habitats. As of this date, their website for this project still list the December 18, 2023 meeting and wasn't even updated for the informational meeting in January 2025. (picture available). They didn't even advertise on their own website. Additionally, this is just one LLC and the owner of this company has MANY, making it extremely difficult to find information on the "company." It's hard to find happy and satisfied lease customers. (There are at least 3 different bird LLCs on the PSC website currently with the owner's name.) It must be noted that if the LLC dissolves, people who are expecting lease money are out of luck. Done deal. Additionally, the company filed a "Notice of Intent" in November 2024 that contains a statement which does not accurately reflect the project's description. It states the project will cover 2,300 acres and provides ONE address. This is a scattered site project stringing through four of our communities involving 27 tracts of land. It involves 12-15 property owners and @80 adjoining property owners who were never given an opportunity to comment, only being told at the "informational sessions" that it was a "done deal." These are beautiful communities with prime agricultural land that this project will destroy. This company has failed to disclose that each track of land will have at least a six-foot fence with gates and signage. Their posters at the information sessions only showed beautiful open fields. No fences in sight. These solar compounds are sandwiched between residential houses and beautiful farms; next door to homes with children and farms with livestock and crops. This entire project was approved by our local planning commission in error refusing to consider the end use of commercial property. Commercial Solar Installations do not belong in residential areas using prime agricultural land. The public did not know about this project until it was a "done deal" and even the project manager in writing, this week, said it is a "done deal" refusing to offer the PSC as an opportunity for comment. (email available). The landowners have signed documents which are NOT recorded and contain a 19 sentence confidentiality clause. Yet, this document is binding per the recorded Memorandum of Solar Grounds. The company has all rights to the leased property, can sell the portfolio and states it will participate in Leasehold Financing. Additionally, the company has made conflicting statements on the financing of the project and have failed to disclose anything about the investors. A financial impact report by Paul Coomes clearly references that the project will use IRB and PILOT bond options making the COUNTY the holder of the loans at some point, yet they have never admitted this to anyone that I know. (Other filings by LLCs owned by the parent company on the PSC website indicate they will seek IRBs and PILOTS at a later date). The taxpayers of this community have not been given an opportunity to review the specifics of the investors, the investor's portfolio or any numbers with supporting details. One version of their decommissioning plan states they

will obtain their panels from Canadian Solar which are supplied by China. The owner of the LLC has other projects before the PSC using different names. No one has been able to determine the financial assets of this company or their abilities to meet the loan servicing debt (lease payments for 20-40 years, plus the construction debt and taxes) they are proposing to encumber. I have yet to find which government agency will review each of the financial plans and portfolio for each of the proposed projects and ensure the taxpayers that the company can deliver on what it has promised to all of these projects. It's hard to believe anything to be true when there hasn't been good faith efforts to include the community and the project managers refuse to provide information, legal documents are inaccurate and landowners are given contracts to sign, but they are not visible to the public. Two sets of records. Two sets of rules. No transparency.

-----

\*Gregory T Dutton Frost Brown Todd, LLC 400 West Market Street 32nd Floor Louisville, KENTUCKY 40202-3363

\*Kathryn A Eckert Frost Brown Todd, LLC 400 West Market Street 32nd Floor Louisville, KENTUCKY 40202-3363

\*Pierce T. Stevenson Frost, Brown, Todd, LLC 250 West Main Street Suite 2800 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507