From: **PSC Public Comment**

To: Eric Snyder

Subject: RE: Public Comment, Case Number 2024-00337 Wednesday, October 1, 2025 9:31:00 AM Date:

Attachments: image001.png

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 View Case Filings for: 2024-00337 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Eric Snyder **Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2025 1:29 PM

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

Subject: Public Comment, Case Number 2024-00337

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9/30/25

To the members of the PSC:

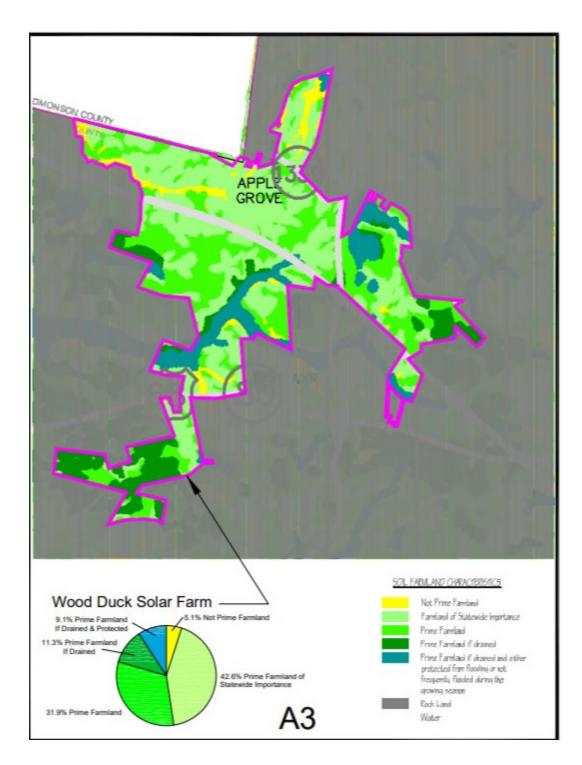
My name is Eric Snyder, and I live on , in Barren County Kentucky. I am writing to give my reasons why I believe that the Wood Duck Solar project (Case Number 2024-00337) is not a proper fit for its proposed site in Barren County.

1. This location will create an adverse economic impact on our county. This project surrounds the Cumberland Parkway (designated as a "Kentucky scenic byway"), which serves as the main thoroughfare to and from Barren County from Nashville, Bowling

Green and Louisville. This will be the first thing that visitors see as they head into our county. Rather than bucolic rolling hills and farmland that Barren County is known for, visitors will be greeted with a sea of industrial solar panels, as their welcome sign. Barren County has been struggling with poverty for decades after factories pulled out of the area. Tourism (per KY Dept of Tourism and US Bureau of Economic Analysis statistics) in Barren County generates \$121 million dollars a year and generates 9.7 million in local and state taxes per year. This project, at its proposed location along the "scenic byway" entrance into our county, jeopardizes this.

- 2. Wood Duck has very little, if any, economic benefit for our region. I'm sure that it's (at least initially) a boon for the property owners, who have leased their property to Geenex, this facility is intended to generate revenue for an out of state LLC. The company brought union workers down from Louisville during one of the public meetings to advocate for the "jobs" that the construction phase would create. But that's not a local benefit. Neither our local power company, Farmer's RECC, or its parent electricity cooperative, EKPC have indicated a need for this power. They own their electricity-generating facilities, and do not purchase power from merchant generators. This is a speculative operation, by out of state (and possibly in the future out of the country) owners, that is not here to invest in our local well-being, but rather, here to take advantage of our region's cheap farmland.
- 3. And speaking of farmland, I've overlaid the Wood Duck boundary onto the Barren County map of Farmland Characteristics, which is published in the 2024 Comprehensive Plan as Map 9.11. Using CAD to determine the areas and percentages for each farmland category, I've come up with the following:
 - a. 5.1% of the proposed project will be on land considered "Not Prime Farmland"
 - b. 9.1% of the proposed project will be on land considered "PRIME FARMLAND if Drained & Protected"
 - c. 11.3% of the proposed project will be on land considered "PRIME FARMLAND if Drained"
 - d. 31.9% of the proposed project will be on land considered "PRIME FARMLAND"
 - e. 42.6% of the proposed project will be on land considered "PRIME FARMLAND OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE"

In summary, only 5% of the project is located on land not considered prime for farming. But 95 percent is located on prime farmland: 20% is located on prime farmland, if it can be drained, and 74.5% is located on some of the best farmland in the state.



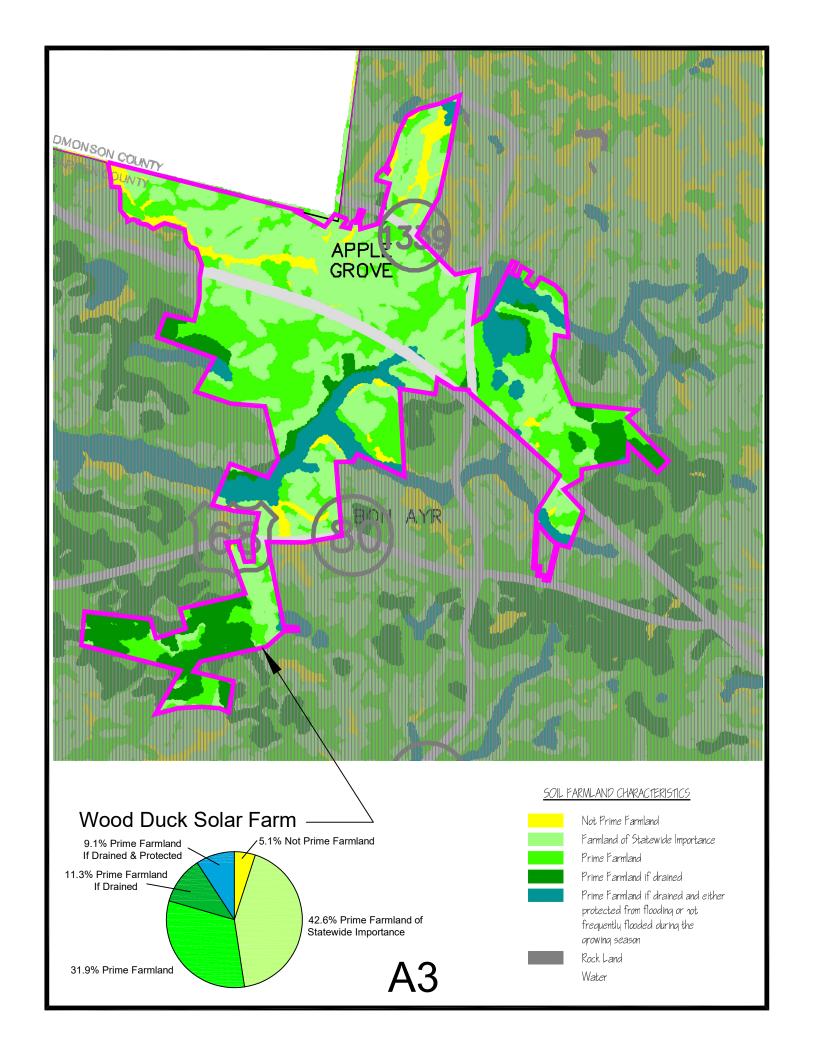
4. I share many of the neighbor's concerns about broken panels, and runoff. In addition to the high likelyhood of danage due to hail and tornados common to this area, and the potential for scattering debris around nearby properties, the majority of the runoff for this site flows into two systems: To the north of the Cumberland Parkway, surface water flows into Gardner Creek. And to the south, surface water flows into Little Sinking Creek. Both of these creeks

then flow north, crossing I-65, and empty into the underground karst system that this region is known for. There, it is assumed to be transferred through an underground conduit system that flows into Mammoth Cave National Park, the largest cave system in the world, and we still don't know the exact extent of the cave system. Mammoth Cave NP is a treasure for Kentucky, and we must protect it. In 2024, according to park statistics, there were 3/4 of a million visitors to the park, with an economic benefit of \$72 million in nearby communities. The tourism supported 800 local jobs. This FAR exceeds even the rosiest of economic forecasts for Wood Duck. Instead, it disrupts the scenic beauty between the park and Barren County, and it risks environmental harm to the area and the park itself.

So I strongly urge you to either deny this project, or require alternative siting: somewhere that needs the energy, isn't idea for farming, and isn't in the back yard of one of Kentucky's greatest treasures, the world's largest cave system in the world.

Sincerely,

Eric Snyder



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