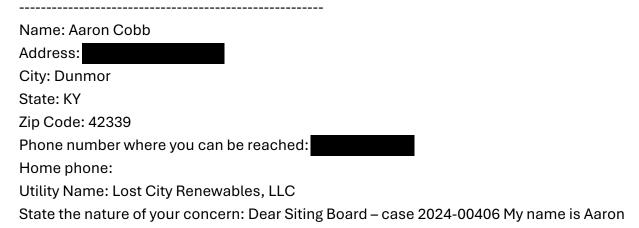
Thank you for your comments on the application of Lost City Renewables LLC. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2024-00406 in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00406 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 1:36 PM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

From: KY Public Service Commission <<u>pscfilings@ky.gov</u>>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 1:33 PM
To: PSC Consumer Inquiry <<u>PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</u>>
Subject: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by () on Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 1:33 PM



Cobb, and I am writing asking for a meeting in Muhlenberg County with area residents over the proposed Lost City Renewables, LLC solar project. I am also asking that the siting board uphold the 1,000-foot minimum setback requirement and grant no variance to the setback. I would like to remind the siting board that our legislation has spoken on the matter and, according to KRS 278.704-2, there is a required 1000-foot minimum setback: ".....beginning with applications for site compatibility certificates filed on or after January 1, 2015, the proposed structure or facility to be actually used for solar or wind generation shall be required to be at least one thousand (1,000) feet from the property boundary of any adjoining property owner and two thousand (2,000) feet from any residential neighborhood, school, hospital, or nursing home facility." This setback not only helps protect our property from the fire potential arising from the solar site, but it also helps protect our viewshed. Additionally, it helps aid in the unfair taking of our property values, although there will still be a reduction in our property value regardless of the setback just from the viewshed being altered so drastically. Hopefully, those wanting to sell to escape the look and feel of living next to a prison-like complex will not lose as much of their home value and actually be able to sell. After all, who would want to buy a home in a rural country setting with a 7 foot tall chain-link fence and 1 foot of barbed wire at the top, just a meager 150 feet from your back door? There are multiple other issues I have discussed in my previous letter. In closing, I want to strongly encourage the siting board to uphold the 1,000 foot required setback that the legislation has set forth. I understand the company will ask for a variance from the requirement, and I ask you to deny the variance and help minimize the unfair taking of our property values. I also ask you to help protect our viewshed and give those wanting to escape this industrial solar complex the opportunity to more easily sell their homes. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter! Sincerely, Aaron Cobb, Dunmor resident Have you contacted the utility about the problem: Yes

Thank you for your comments on the application of Lost City Renewables 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, 2024-00406 in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00406 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: PSC Consumer Inquiry <PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 7:29 AM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

From: KY Public Service Commission <<u>pscfilings@ky.gov</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 4:57 PM
To: PSC Consumer Inquiry <<u>PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov</u>>
Subject: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by

on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 4:56 PM

Name: Shannon Duffy Address: City: Benton State: ky Zip Code: 42025 Phone number where you can be reached: Home phone: Utility Name: wkrec State the nature of your concern: I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concern and opposition to the proposed cell phone tower placement near my property. As a resident of this area, I believe that such a development could have significant negative impacts on our community. Firstly, the construction of a cell phone tower so close to residential areas could potentially lower property values, which is a major concern for me and my neighbors. Additionally, there are health and safety concerns associated with the electromagnetic radiation emitted by these towers. While the research on this topic may be inconclusive, the possibility of adverse health effects cannot be ignored. Moreover, the aesthetic impact of a towering structure in our otherwise serene environment would be quite detrimental. Our community takes pride in its natural beauty, and a cell phone tower would undoubtedly disrupt the visual appeal of our surroundings. I kindly request that you consider these points and advocate against the placement of the cell phone tower near my property. I believe that there are alternative locations that could be explored, which would not pose the same risks or concerns to our community. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your support and look forward to hearing from you soon. Best regards, Shannon Duffy

Benton KY 42025

Have you contacted the utility about the problem: No

Thank you for your comments on the application of Lost City Renewables 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, 2024-00406 in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2024-00406 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2025 4:31 PM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00406 - Lost City Renewables LLC

Public Comments for Case 2024-00406 submitted by Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 4:31 PM

on

Name: Amy Cobb Address: City: Dunmor State: KY Zip Code: 42339 Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Comments: Case #2024-00406 February 16, 2025 Dear Public Service Commission Board, The communities of Dunmor and Penrod are the gateway of the southern portion of Muhlenberg County. For folks driving along the heavily traveled stretch of Highway 431 in the area, it is the small towns of Dunmor and Penrod that first welcome visitors to our county, and likewise, these towns are the last they will see as they drive farther south across county lines. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit Dunmor or Penrod, you may be wondering what makes these communities so special. All across Kentucky, it is becoming increasingly rare to find rural towns that have escaped the march of progress. In both Dunmor and Penrod, our rural integrity, treasured by many for generations, has remained intact—so far. Family farms and gardens and dense hardwood forests teeming with wildlife dot the landscape, weaving a rural tapestry that is the very thread of our state and of our country. On any given night, with no industrial light pollution, the Milky Way is clearly visible overhead. And in the warmer months, fireflies that seem nearly as numerous as the clusters of stars themselves dance in the field to a summer symphony of crickets chirping and bullfrogs harumphing. There are no traffic lights in Dunmor or Penrod. Here, we've traded the convenience of suburbia for solitude as we must travel around 30 minutes in one direction for medical services, shopping centers, and chain restaurant dining options. But now, our rural way of life is being threatened by a force the likes of which we have never encountered before—a 1,425-acre solar industrial complex. Please understand, I am pro-green when it comes to caring for our planet. I am conscious of and make efforts to use earth-friendly products, both inside my family's home and in the applications used on our farm. However, the proposed solar industrial complex is NOT green; it is the opposite of earth friendly. Forcing people and animals to live adjacent to such industrial energy complexes is experimental, wasteful, and reckless. The solar developer said in a meeting that approximately 1,000 acres of forests will be dozed over. This will destroy the habitat of countless animals, including the bald eagle, which has been spotted near the parcel of land slated for this energy site. Furthermore, the developer said the plan is to flatten the existing hills on the property. Once the topography is manipulated, the homes and properties of adjacent landowners may be facing the disruption of their land due to potential water runoff. In addition to this, the Mud River and Green River waterways may be negatively impacted as some of the creeks near the proposed site do eventually run into both rivers. In fact, during the flooding event that just took place on 2/15/2025, much of the area of the proposed project site was underwater. If you would like, video footage and photos of the flooded site can be provided to you. All that said, if the area is currently flooding with the trees and soil undisturbed, what impacts will occur with 1,000 acres of trees being removed and the soil compacted? Other concerns I have include the increased fire risks associated with an industrial site of this magnitude. There are documented cases across the country where solar arrays have caught fire and were left to burn uncontrollably while local citizens were forced to shelter in place. While we do have an excellent team of volunteer firefighters, we do not have full-time emergency crews in the immediate vicinity. In fact, in the event the unthinkable happened and a fire was to break out, it is approximately a 30-minute drive from Greenville or Central City for a crew to reach Dunmor and Penrod to offer assistance. And since we do live in a rural community, many of us have livestock—cows, horses, goats, chickens, etc. If we are forced to shelter inside our homes for several days, how are we expected to feed, water, and care for our livestock? How would our animals' health be impacted long-term by the decreased air quality resulting from such a fire? And in that same vein, why would a company invest millions of dollars into a project for it to be situated in an area where, in the event of a fire or other emergency, there would be a large lag in response time as there are no full-time

emergency services available in the immediate area? It seems that it would be more logical to place an industrial site of this scope in closer proximity to other industrial sites, where aid from fire and emergency crews would be readily available. At the very least, for the health, safety, and protection of local residents, as well as the company's investments, it seems that, at a minimum, a 1,000-foot setback from any property line should be a requirement. Also, Dunmor and Penrod are situated within a few miles of Lake Malone State Park, which brings thousands of visitors every year to our region for outdoor recreation, such as hiking, boating, and fishing, as well as to explore the Big Twigs, which has added in making the park a tourist destination. Many of the guests at Lake Malone come to our area to escape the sights and sounds of the city. How disappointing for them to come here for camping and outdoor recreation opportunities only to pass through miles of these industrial solar panels surrounded by prison-like fencing. Finally, the landowner of the site has verbiage in his lease with the solar company that acknowledges he may lose the "quiet enjoyment" of his property, property that the landowner does not even reside on. The lease notes the landowner could even be compensated if that were the case. If there is a possibility that he would lose his quiet enjoyment, won't we be losing ours, as well? I believe neighboring landowners' property values are at risk of decreasing. Many of the landowners have lived here in the area for decades, their family's roots running as deep as those of the hardwoods on the horizon. Other families have purchased land in Dunmor and Penrod in hopes of their children growing up while enjoying a rural lifestyle. Still others are planning to retire here. However, our solitude and quiet enjoyment will be forever lost if an industrial solar complex is permitted access to our communities. Also important to note is that the company has NOT completed any solar project to date. In closing, please know that I absolutely support effective green energy solutions in areas that are NOT forested, NOT agricultural, and certainly NOT residential. Muhlenberg County has thousands of acres of strip-mined land that would make a viable host for large industrial solar complexes, such as the one currently being proposed. That said, the communities of Dunmor and Penrod are the exact opposite of an ideal solar complex site, as they are miles away from full-time crews in the event of an emergency, as well as being in an area that is heavily forested, is agricultural, and certainly is the home of many families. Please reject this solar company's efforts to disrupt our neighborhood, and please help us to preserve the integrity of our rural landscape and lifestyle in the Dunmor and Penrod communities. At the very least, I implore you to ensure the solar company abides by the KRS 278.704-2 requirement to adhere to a distance of 1,000 feet from the solar project to adjacent property lines and 2,000 feet from neighborhoods. To discuss the concerns of Dunmor and Penrod community members with the PSC, I respectfully request a formal meeting to take place in Muhlenberg County. Thank you for your time and serious consideration of this matter. All best, Amy Cobb, Dunmor resident

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Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: KY Public Service Commission Public Comments <psc.comment@ky.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2025 4:56 PM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Subject: Public Comments for Case: 2024-00406 - Lost City Renewables LLC

Public Comments for Case 2024-00406 submitted by on Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 4:55 PM

Name: Kassidy Cobb Address: City: Dunmor State: KY Zip Code: 42239 Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

Comments: February 16, 2025 Case Number: 2024-00406 Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission: I request the PSC to please host a meeting in Muhlenberg County to discuss the proposed solar project in the communities of Dunmor and Penrod, including an evidentiary hearing about the ecological impacts, safety (like flooding issues, as the property is already flooded even with topsoil/trees still present), and property values. As a Dunmor resident—and as someone who would only be in their late fifties during the decommissioning phase 35 years from now—I would be here during the entire project's lifetime. I would also be dealing with the day-to-day of the installation, whereas the project developers won't even be here for the installation, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed site. I had previously written a letter concerning the proposed solar energy site in Dunmor and Penrod in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. At the time, I mentioned the company's lack of correspondence with area residents. Unfortunately, this issue has not improved. I-along with other Dunmor/Penrod citizens -have tried reaching out to the company both via phone calls and emails. However, such efforts are continuously met with no response. Regardless of the time of day or the day of the week a call is made, only an automated response is received over the phone and any call back requests are ignored. What is more, on October 29, 2024, when a community-wide meeting was held at a church in Penrod (with only two weeks advance notice of said meeting), the developer, Sean Joshi, promised to hold another meeting with concerned residents. The entire meeting was recorded, so Joshi's agreement to a meeting is documented. Over the following weeks and months, individuals tried asking the company about a follow-up meeting, but each time a former elected official that the company hired from Muhlenberg County as a liaison vaguely told us they are "looking" into it." Of course, three months is a more than adequate amount of time to plan and host a meeting. Simply put, this company is both unprofessional and irreputable. They have never previously completed a project and have been unable to answer our most basic questions. In fact, none of our questions have been seriously answered, but rather have been evaded or answered in unspecific generalities. It is most concerning that an out-of-state and out-of-country company could ever be allowed to disrupt 1,000 acres of forested lands in residential areas, especially when said company has refused to be transparent with local citizens. Quite frankly, even Lost City Renewables' application to the PSC includes information that is both baseless and egregious. The company's inability to properly and accurately convey even simple information is most shocking and should be grounds for complete refusal of said application. Commonwealth residents who live in agricultural and forested areas deserve for their way of life to be preserved, not completely and negatively altered. Some of these alterations that Lost City Renewables proposes would be immediate, like the destruction and devastation of 1,000 acres of forested lands. Other impacts, such as flooding and decreases in property value, would take a bit longer to be apparent, yet nevertheless, they would occur. For example, one of the company's proposed entrance points to the property is on a rural one-lane road, where two regular-sized vehicles already have difficulty navigating the road safely when meeting. How unsafe-indeed, incredibly dangerous-is it for large vehicles and numerous vehicles to be navigating this road nearly every day, for hours each day? Additionally, one of the local magistrates visited an operational solar facility and told an area resident that the sound is akin to an HVAC system operating. Why, when there are areas of the county where a massive solar complex would have limited impacts on citizens, should Dunmor/Penrod residents be subjected to hearing the sounds of an HVAC system that runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week? I would also like to note that a solar complex of 1,425 acres would be similar to 1,425

acres of air conditioners running, per this magistrate, which is incredibly cruel to subject residents to listen to and live beside. Yet another concern is the fire risks that industrial solar complexes create, as these so-called solar "farms" are actually energy facilities. Quite recently, in New York and California, there have been fires at solar sites, fires that have been difficult to contain and/or resulted in residents being instructed to shelter in place. Dunmor has a small volunteer fire department, which I've been told has under 10 volunteers. While these volunteers' willingness to sacrifice their safety and very lives is admirable, it is simply ridiculous to believe that such a small crew of volunteer firefighters would have the capabilities to combat an electrical fire on 1,425 acres of land, for multiple reasons. One reason is that the manpower is not sufficient, nor is the equipment at the small fire department viable to combat a large-scale fire. Additionally, with such a small volunteer force, the response time would not be prompt enough to protect area residents from a fast-moving, large-scale, or hard-to-contain fire. If individuals have an operational solar site situated just a few hundred feet from their homes—as the company is proposing—it is preposterous to believe that a volunteer crew with limited equipment could react quickly enough to save someone's house. I have serious doubts that the reaction response would be fast enough to protect someone's life, unfortunately. So why should Dunmor/Penrod residents have their homes, lives, and livelihood at stake because a solar company decided to unfairly and unjustly target these neighborhoods? These issues are far from exhaustive, as impacts to property values is also a serious threat to area landowners. Although the company claims that no impacts will exist, such a statement seems to be based on either no real data or faulty, manipulated data. In real-world examples, one individual reached out to me because they were looking at buying land in the Dunmor/Penrod area, but only if the solar facility site was not permitted. What is more, I have spoken with current residents of Dunmor/Penrod who are either actively working to sell their home or are interested in selling, should this project go through. These individuals serve as first-hand accounts about the site's impact to property values. Admittedly, the fact that individuals are already uninterested in buying in the area before the project is even in the installation or operation phase is concerning and also raises warning flags about the project's negative impacts to neighboring properties. As a young Muhlenberg Countian and Kentucky resident, I am not against green energy solutions. On the contrary, if I truly believed this project had the best interests of all Muhlenberg Countians—humans and wildlife—in mind, I would be a proponent of this proposal. However, that is unfortunately not the case, as such a project will disperse wildlife by destroying their habitats, as well as force multiple residents to live inside of a disruptive and potentially dangerous industrial solar complex. Not to mention, it seems careless to subjugate the residents of Dunmor and Penrod to reside alongside an electric generating facility when large-scale solar's impacts to people's long-term health is simply not yet known. In light of all of these

issues, I strongly encourage the Kentucky PSC to deny this project. As a degreed historian (B.S. in History, '24; M.A. in History '26), I often have the opportunity to study past societies. Sometimes, I find ways that they practiced good stewardship, making positive choices that individuals of today still benefit from. Yet—all too often—I see the other side of history. I study the unpleasant parts of the past, in which the choices that previous peoples made reverberated throughout history because of its countless negative impacts. I, as I'm sure every member of the PSC can agree with, want to be a part of a generation that puts Commonwealth residents and their needs first, rather than an out-of-state and out-of-country company. I desire to be a member of a generation where people's health and happiness always means more than financial gains ever could. I hope to be in a generation where we pass down to the future a pristine, unaltered Kentucky landscape, just like we pass down stories of days spent on Kentucky's lakes, trails, and forests. May we all make choices that help us be remembered in the future...for all of the right reasons. Thank you for your time and careful consideration. Best, Kassidy Cobb

*James W Gardner Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC 333 West Vine Street Suite 1400 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507

*Rebecca C. Price Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney 155 East Main Street Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507

*Sean Joshi Developer Lost City Renewables Solar LLC 412 W. 15th Street Floor 15 New York, NEW YORK 10011

*M. Todd Osterloh Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC 333 West Vine Street Suite 1400 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507