

Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00177  
Response Wednesday, April 1, 2026

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, 2025-00177 in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at: [View Case Filings for: 2025-00177 \(ky.gov\)](#).

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Helen Catron  
City: Monticello  
State: Ky  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

My name is Helen Catron, and I am speaking in opposition to Case Number 2025-00177.

I am speaking from my heart, not just for myself, but for my family who are laid to rest in the buncum cemetery next to Fairview Church.

This land was given to my grandpa when his 7 year old son (my dad's brother) passed away. From that moment on, it became our family burial ground. My parents are buried there. My husband is buried there. And one day, it will be the place my children and grandchildren come to visit me! It breaks my heart knowing the peaceful feeling there will be no more!

That cemetery is not just a place. It is part of who we are. It holds our history, our grief, our love, and our memories.

I am not for this project.

I speak not only for myself, but for the family members buried there who would not be for it either. And I speak for the generations still to come, who deserve to visit that place and feel the same peace and connection that we have always known.

Placing solar panels so close to this sacred ground would change everything about it. The quiet. The view. The feeling of being able to sit with your loved ones in peace.

Some things should be left alone. Some places deserve to be respected.

This is one of them.

Please do not take the peace from the place where my family rests.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Cathey Atkinson  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am writing to oppose the Barrelhead Solar Project on Highway 1009. While I do not live in the immediate area, I have personal ties to Buncombe Cemetery (spelled "Buncan" on the project map), where several generations of my family are buried. This is a place of deep personal and historical significance.

I am concerned about the project's proximity to the cemetery and nearby properties. A development of this scale could disrupt the quiet, respectful nature of the site. I also urge careful review of whether the project meets the 1,000-foot setback requirements from property lines, as these protections are critical for preserving surrounding areas.

The mislabeling of the cemetery further raises concerns about the accuracy and care taken in planning.

I respectfully ask that this project be reconsidered or that stronger protections be put in place to preserve the dignity of this site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Cathey Atkinson

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Alexandra Piercy  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

The proposed Barrelhead Solar Project in Wayne County isn't just a line on a map or a set of statistics—it's a very real threat to the lives, histories, and memories of the families who have called this area home for generations. Several generations of my own family, and many others in the community, are buried in a small cemetery near the proposed site. The idea of industrial-scale solar panels being placed within 200 feet of that sacred ground is deeply troubling. It's not just about aesthetics or property lines—it's about respect for the people who came before us and the traditions that tie our families to this land. For those of us who have lived here for decades, this isn't abstract; it's personal. And with the project's proximity violating Kentucky's standard 1,000-foot setback from property lines, it raises serious questions about whether this development is even appropriate under the law (KY statute KRS 278.704).

The rural character of our county would also be forever changed. This is a place defined by open spaces, quiet roads, and the simple beauty of the natural landscape. Rows of solar panels, fencing, and industrial equipment would drastically alter that. Even with vegetative buffers, there's no hiding the scale of the project. For people who chose this area for its peaceful, rural life, that change would be unwelcome and stark.

Property values and quality of life are at stake too. Homes near large solar developments often struggle in the real estate market, and potential buyers may be wary of living near an industrial site. But beyond numbers and market trends, this is about the emotional cost—neighbors worrying about their family cemetery, children growing up with a fence and panels looming nearby, and the sense that the land they love is no longer theirs.

There are also serious environmental concerns. The project is in the sensitive Cumberland Plateau and Lake Cumberland watershed, an area where soil erosion and runoff are already issues. Clearing farmland for a solar array could make this worse, sending more sediment into streams that feed Lake Cumberland and affect local fishing and recreation. Wildlife habitats for deer, turkey, pollinators, and other species would be fragmented, and while sheep grazing under panels is sometimes proposed as a solution, it doesn't bring back the land's original productivity or fully protect wildlife and water flow.

Approving this project could also set a precedent, opening the door for more industrial-scale solar developments in Wayne County and beyond. What starts as a single project could gradually industrialize our rural communities, changing the landscape and economy in ways we can't yet predict.

Finally, there are better options. Brownfields, industrial zones, or previously disturbed land could host solar projects without taking farmland, disrupting neighborhoods, or encroaching on cemeteries. Clean energy is important, but it shouldn't come at the expense of families, history, or the very character of our county.

In short, the Barrelhead Solar Project would take more than just land—it would take a piece of our community's soul. It would disrupt farmland, alter our quiet rural life, intrude on family cemeteries, potentially lower property values, and set a troubling precedent for the future. Renewable energy is vital, but it must be done thoughtfully, in places where it doesn't harm the people who already call that land home. Until these concerns are fully addressed, the Barrelhead Solar Project should not move forward.

Best Regards,  
Alexandra Piercy

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Christy  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

I am a resident of Wayne County and have family in the area being considered for solar panels. Legal processes were not followed by this company to present this. The health concerns of those living nearby, in addition to destruction of farm land and destroying eco systems is of utmost concern!! I am against this proposed solar panel farm.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Connie Piercy  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Barrelhead Solar Plant in Wayne County, Kentucky, on Highway 1009. I only recently became aware of this project, and it is deeply concerning to learn that it has been in development for several years without broader awareness in the community. This project directly affects me both as a nearby resident and, more importantly, as someone with deep family ties to the adjacent cemetery. Generations of my family are buried in the cemetery bordering the proposed site, including my mother, father, brother, grandparents, and great-grandparents. It is my understanding that solar panels may be installed as close as 150–160 feet from these graves. This proximity raises serious concerns about preserving the peace, dignity, and integrity of this sacred ground.

One of my primary concerns is the impact of soil compaction and land disturbance associated with solar farm construction. Heavy equipment and grading can significantly compact the soil, which may alter local hydrology. In areas adjacent to cemeteries, this can lead to restricted drainage, surface ponding, increased runoff, and a higher risk of erosion. Such changes can negatively affect the cemetery grounds by inhibiting grass and tree growth, leading to poor vegetation health. Additionally, trapped surface water can cause uneven ground settling, which may result in grave subsidence, sinkage, or even collapse. These outcomes would be deeply distressing for families with loved ones buried there. Furthermore, while compacted soil limits vertical water movement, it can increase lateral surface flow. This raises concerns about the potential spread of decomposition byproducts and hazardous materials, including embalming fluids such as formaldehyde. Altered groundwater pathways caused by nearby development could concentrate these contaminants in unpredictable ways.

Potts Creek also lies downhill from the proposed solar site, and there is a real potential for groundwater contamination. Chemicals used in solar panel production, maintenance, or eventual disposal could leach into the soil and travel downhill, posing risks to the creek and the wider ecosystem. Protecting local waterways should be a priority, especially in areas with sensitive environmental and residential contexts. Beyond the cemetery and water concerns, there are broader environmental impacts. Construction and operation of large-scale solar facilities can disrupt local ecosystems, increase dust, alter natural runoff patterns, and impact

wildlife and livestock. There is also concern about potential harm to pollinators and surrounding vegetation.

I would also like to address claims that property values will not be affected. This is a rural area where quality of life is closely tied to natural beauty, open land, and activities like hunting and fishing. From a local perspective, it is difficult to believe that property values will remain unchanged. Many people would be hesitant to live near a large solar installation due to visual impact, glare, and overall changes to the landscape.

For all of these reasons, I strongly urge decision-makers to reconsider this project in its current form. At a minimum, strict adherence to setback requirements of 1,000 to 2,000 feet from a property boundary (Kentucky statute (KRS 278.704)) should be enforced to protect the dignity and stability of these sacred spaces. Additionally, careful evaluation of potential water contamination risks to Potts Creek must be conducted before any development is approved. This issue is not just about land use, it is about respect for those who have passed, the families who honor them, and the community that calls this area home.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Connie Piercy

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Amy  
City: Monticello  
State: Kentucky  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

I am a citizen of Wayne County, and just now learning of the supposed new solar farm. Everything we do can and will have an effect on our environment. I can't help but believe damaged solar panels will contaminate the soil and water. Not to mention wildlife. I can't imagine living right next to one either. I know it also will not benefit anyone here locally. Electric is not free, and will benefit some data center far away. Could you live next to a solar farm and enjoy everyday life?

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Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Cynthia Marcum Sanders  
City: Winchester  
State: Kentucky  
Zip: 40391

Comments:

These comments are to express my objection to the Barrelhead Solar, LLC construction of the approximate 54-Megawatt merchant electric solar generating facility in Wayne County Kentucky.

My family and I own property off of Jim Jones Road and Riley Marcum Road in Alpha KY. The new solar plant/farm is going to be disrupting to our familys safety and livelihood for the land that has been in our family for generations (since October 28,1892; Deed Book 2 June 1868). We have lived on this land, and continue to use the land to this day. I currently enjoy being on the land every opportunity I get. My siblings and I were given land by my parents Riley and Nora (Bates) Marcum so that we would have a piece of land that was a part of the original homestead. My son owns part of the original homestead land now and has been so excited to share this legacy with his children. If this solar farm is allowed to be constructed, this land will never be the same. And we will always be in fear of the damage it will cause us physically, mentally, financially and spiritually.

There is a waterfall that flows from above our land that gets its supply from the Potters Creek Spring (as I understand). The stream flows to the waterfall that passes through our families land that enters into Lake Cumberland. It is a major concern of ours that the runoff into the area creeks and watershed areas will be a danger to our family who uses the water from the waterfall and eventually others that access Lake Cumberland for food sources and recreation. This land has been passed down through generations and is at risk for not only water pollution, but sound, lights and other dangers that a solar farm of this massive construction includes. The fact that we only heard of this happening by accident is a warning sign in itself. If this was indeed good for Wayne County, then it should have been considered information that the public should have been freely informed of in the beginning of the discussion process. When there are hearings on changes in the zoning of areas, usually there is a billboard or large sign along the roads adjacent to where the changes will take place. This would have been an easy solution for notifying the public. However, I believe that that was the point entirely, the less people know the easier it is to slip in something not wanted and undermine the concerns of the public. The manner in which this proposed solar farm was entered upon under the radar so to speak tells us how it was done to miss getting attention before the new legislative bill was passed regarding the solar farm construction limitations and requirements.

I have no doubt that if I tried to sell my property there would not be buyers for the land for the price that it would have been valued at prior to the solar farm massive construction property. I

would not have known about this concern at all if it had not been for my cousin notifying me. She was not aware that I did not know anything about what was going on there. As I listened to the hearing online about the proposed solar farm, it was very difficult to follow along. There are so many questions about the safety of this project, that there were so many questions being ignored or skipped around. How can a decision this major be approved when there are so many specific aspects and details about the solar farm that are undecided in itself as of today. There is even a coverup on the actual companies that are involved. Barrelhead, and at least three other companies mentioned that make it almost impossible to track who would be responsible if there was an emergency situation. It just makes the whole project sound suspicious and scary.

Trying to compare whether this will have an impact to the value of our property in the manner that they were explaining is not truly an accurate evaluation because there is nothing this massive of this solar farm in an area like ours to compare it to.

The vegetation that is supposed to hide the decreased aesthetic appearance is not guaranteed that it will work. Online pictures of other farms show where the surrounding vegetation died and does not hide the panels at those areas. Wildlife will definitely be affected, there is no way it cannot have a negative affect on the environment and habitat.

Not only is this area farmland and homes, it is also close to recreational areas that will also be impacted. Few will want to stay in an house or cabin that is overshadowed by a huge solar farm. It makes me sick to think that my grandchildren will not be able to enjoy the area their great grandparents cherished and took care of for decades. My daddy was one of the men that built the building of Fairview Church of Christ there in Alpha. I remembering attending as a little girl and throughout my adult life. My parents and family members are buried in that cemetery. To have all of that beautiful farmland surrounding the peaceful little church covered in solar panels as far as our eyes can see is heartbreaking. Friends coming to visit our property there will be able to see the miles and miles of solar panels before they get to our little area of the forest where we can hear the water flowing from the falls to Lake Cumberland from the house. The potential danger for forest fires and debris from tornados and wind storms that are prominent in that area increases when construction of these solar panels are so widespread.

Three hundred plus acres of farmland to solar panels. WOW

Who is responsible when they break down? The waste from the unusable materials will have to be put somewhere, please do not allow a dump to be created in that area to supplement the trash it will create. (It makes me think of the windmills that were put up on the family farms in Indiana. Land owners were paid to allow them to be put up on their land. However, when they quit working, it cost almost as much for the land owner to have them removed as they received for the lease. Some still stand today not working because they are not fixable, and the owner cannot afford to have them removed.)

How will our electricity and water supply be affected by the solar farm using what is available to us? The conflict it will create within the internet and communications services will be more difficult for us residents to acquire. Why not build the solar farms in the areas that will be benefitting from the solar energy?

In the hearing they kept mentioning two adjacent property owners that had been notified, why were those of us that own land within a mile of the projected enormous solar farm not notified when the project was first purposed? There is no way an adequate analysis could have been researched as to the full scope of impact that it will create for that specific area. It is not to benefit the community as it was explained. Temporary employment for the area only, and no guarantee that the workers would be from that area. It is not worth the unseen dangers that this project creates.

How can we get access to the exact impact it will have on our land, it is not available, because no one will say, because no one truly knows.

I will say it again...If this solar farm is allowed to be constructed, this land will never be the same. And we will always be in fear of the damage it will cause us physically, mentally, financially and spiritually.

Please, I beg and plead, please do not allow this solar farm to be constructed along Road 1009 in Alpha/Monticello Kentucky. This is taking away legacies for our generations to live on our land free from overwhelming mega companies with millions of dollars to crowd out those of us that want a safe and peaceful area to live in. An heirloom of land that I have cherished for over 60 years, property for our children and generations to visit to enjoy and be proud of knowing and understanding the beauty of the land God has provided for us.

Thank you for your time in voting against the construction of this massive solar farm in the Alpha area of Wayne County Kentucky.

Cynthia Marcum Sanders

Land Owner, Riley Marcum Road off Jones Road, Alpha, Kentucky

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Hannah  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

This project is not only going to destroy our agriculture and tourism, it is ILLEGAL. Multiple codes have been violated and our community did not consent to this project. Our community WILL push back.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Tamara Lennex  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633-6815

Comments:

I feel this company did not follow proper SOPS in this project thus making it a potential hazard as well as an eye sore to this beautiful community.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Mae  
City: Monticello  
State: Ky  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

I do not pretend to know exactly what all this project is intended to do. I do know that residents and affected individuals were not notified in a timely manner. I sincerely hope you will not be allowed to carry this through. It will be a shame for this beautiful rural area to be desecrated. The little family Cemetery there holds the graves of some of my dearest family members. I would hope if there is any heart in anyone involved in this project, that there be no solar panels erected near it. My comments may not matter to you and that's ok. God knows our hearts and I pray for yours.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Bethany Barrier  
City: Alpha  
State: KY  
Zip: 42603

Comments:

I am writing in opposition of the solar panel farm. The land the proposed farm would be on is much better suited for actual farming such as crops or livestock. Not only would this take away land that can be used to grow or raise food, this also affects the families who live in the area. The families in this community take pride in where they live and do not want what will honestly be an eyesore to their community. In addition, the pollution that can come from placing these solar panels in the ground and the hardship that will come for the installation, maintenance and one day removal when the weather takes its toll is not worth the wellbeing of others.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Jeremy Stevens  
City: Alpha  
State: KY  
Zip: 42603

Comments:

I am writing to express my concern for the proposed 2025-00177 barrelhead solar project in Wayne County Kentucky. I feel this area is not suitable for a solar panel farm. I believe the health and safety concerns have not been considered and have been overshadowed by profitability for a few small entities. The entire farm consists of rolling terrain where run off goes directly into potts creek. Potts creek runs along the majority of this property, and runs directly into lake Cumberland in less than 1/4 mile. I feel there is real health and safety concerns for human, animal, and plant life with the construction of this solar farm!

Along with health and safety concerns neighbors suffer because their property value decreases, because the eye sores these solar panels are. Neighbors front or back porch view will never be the same making home not feel so much like home any more! How would you feel if these were constructed in your home area? Please consider our future when you vote on this! Thank you!

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Bonnie Neal  
City: MONTICELLO  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633-7609

Comments:

My name is Bonnie Neal, I live on Highway 1009, Monticello, KY. I am writing with concerns about case number: 2025-00177 and to ask you to please, listen to the voices of those who have built their lives in this community and all of Wayne County.

I attended the meeting at the Aspire Center about a solar farm projected to be built on 1009 in the Alpha community. Approximately 100 people attended, which surprised the presenters, the director said they did not expect this many people to show up. (There would have been a large group of people attending the Frankfort meeting if they had known.) During this meeting, many questions were asked. The recurring question that couldn't fully be answered was: why wasn't the community and especially, the adjoining landowners notified about this project since the company has had a contract since 2020? The presenter in charge admitted she did not do as well as she should have communicating with the surrounding landowners and local government. Makes one wonder about this project.

Many questions are still unanswered:

What is the risk of the groundwater, streams and lake being contaminated from runoffs?

What qualifications entitled this project be grandfathered in?

Can these solar panels be dangerous to our health?

Will these panels emit radiation?

We have been told this project will be closely monitored when in operation, but will this continue in years to come?

What will be the results of the increased temperatures around the solar farm?

Questions we do know the answers to:

Surrounding community members were not given a fair chance to voice their options and concerns about the project. Many did not know about the project until February.

Property values will decrease, who would want to buy land or live next to a solar panel farm?

Will this project benefit our small community? No, when to power hits the grid, there will be no control of where it goes. There will be no long-term employment for local people with this project, and very few temporary jobs.

Wildlife habitat will be destroyed. The beautiful bald eagles have just been spotted in the area.

The full extent of this project is not known.

Growing up in this community, my family and I lived next door to Leta Kaye Shelton and her late husband, Charles Shelton, for many years. Leta Kaye is deeply saddened and frankly sickened by the thought that the home where her daughter grew up—and where she planned to spend the rest of her life—could be overshadowed by solar panels instead of the countryside she has cherished. The main entrance to the project will be across the road in her front door. More than likely, she will constantly be able to hear the humming noise the panels make. Would you want this eyesore project next to your home?

I respectfully but urgently ask that you consider the burden this project would impose on the families, neighbors in the community, and the community itself.

Please listen to the voices of those who live and have lived for many years in this community and all of Wayne County.

I hope you will stand with our community and protect the rural character and integrity of our community.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Neal

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Shel  
City: Alpha  
State: Ky  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

This is completely unfair, no one surrounding this area was properly notified, no proper channels were visited to make this right and everyone who, now knows about this, would agree!

Its no secret as to why these companies prey on areas like these. A statement was once leaked, people in these types of communities, low income, poverty, uneducated people really have nothing to offer so why not put use to their land, theyre really no benefit to society anyway. We know what this type of company thinks of us, and we shouldnt have to stand for it. Were not asking for special privileges, but we do ask for fairness and for it to be lawful, which this particular case has been anything but. All these comments may be null and void to whomever is reading them, mostly because it doesnt affect them, but someday it may and theyll hope their comments count.

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Kayla Middaugh  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:  
To the Kentucky State Siting Board,

I am a citizen of Wayne County, Kentucky. I have been since 2015. Prior to living in Wayne County, I moved around my whole life. My father was in the military. I have seen many beautiful places, but none compare to Wayne County. The landscape is indescribable and so diverse. The landscape and natural beauty didn't just attract me, but many people who have moved to the area from out of state. Wayne County has a lot of visitors from out of state because of the lake and the natural beauty that surrounds it. This county relies a lot on tourism. The solar farm that is supposed to come to this county is right on the way to Carter Dock. Imagine being someone who is ready to relax and enjoy the lake but on the way seeing the eye sore that is a 300+ acre solar farm. This solar farm is supposed to go on some beautiful farm land. It will be a constant reminder to anyone on their way to the lake who is using Carter Dock.

I attended the neighborhood meeting for the proposed solar farm installation. I didn't expect many people there. When my husband and I pulled into the parking lot I was shocked to see that it was full. Then we walked into the room and there wasn't much seating. The representatives of Barrelhead Solar, LLC even stated that they were not prepared for so many people. Almost every single person in that room voiced their concerns and their disagreement toward the project. The people asked a lot of relevant questions. Questions that the representatives should have easily been able to answer, but they couldn't. During the meeting, the representatives of Barrelhead Solar, LLC informed us that this project started in 2020 and that they slipped cards with contact information into people's mailboxes. The people never received any contact. Not only did the people not receive any contact from Barrelhead Solar, placing mail into a mailbox that is not a postal worker or the owner of the mailbox is a Federal Crime (18 U.S.C. 1725 prohibits placing non-postage-paid items into any, letter box, a law stemming from 1934). Projects like this should be built on trust. It is important to have community support and trust. Barrelhead Solar, LLC has done everything to lose the trust of the people. They did not notify the citizens of this county. There wasnt even communication with local officials until later. The line of contact was never open or even there. They unknowingly violated a Federal Law, which you would think you should be familiar with Federal Laws with such a project. They couldn't answer basic questions such as: What kind of panels will be used? What materials are these panels made out of?

Not only is precious farm land being utilized, but the people of this county will benefit very little from this. IF anyone local is hired to help with construction, it will only be temporary. Someone asked about the damage if a tornado came through and the representatives of Barrelhead Solar, LLC tried to reassure us that it should be able to withstand hurricane level winds. But three weeks ago, a solar farm was damaged in Indiana from a tornado. We have been seeing an increase in high winds and tornadoes in this area. We are also concerned about leaching of toxic chemicals and heavy metals from damaged solar panels. Again, we have had a lot of heavy winds, tornados, and hail lately. So this is also a big concern considering we have a lake and creeks surrounding the property where the solar farm is proposed to be installed.

A lot of people here hunt and fish. It is a way to feed their families. We are also concerned about how this solar farm will affect wildlife. Solar farms tend to impact wildlife through habitat loss, fragmentation, and behavioral disruption. There will be a big fence that surrounds that solar farm. This could disrupt migration and/or travel patterns and this could reduce access to resources. We are also concerned about "Lake Effect" and collisions. Waterfowl could mistake the panels for the lake and cause injuries or death. Thermal impact can also incinerate birds.

I also want to highlight what Barrelhead Solar, LLC is proposing regarding distance from the solar farm and property lines. This project is proposing only 160 feet which does not meet protection standards. There are two churches and a cemetery that border the solar farm land. One of the churches is a Mennonite Church which also doubles as the local Mennonite school. The school children will then have to see the solar farm during their recess. There are also several Mennonite farms. This would heavily disrupt their way of life as well as everyone else in the area. From what I have read, in August 2025, the USDA has ceased funding for wind and solar projects located on prime farmland. This is to protect agricultural land.

In conclusion, there is a lot of loss of trust between locals and Barrelhead Solar, LLC. They have not been open or honest with us. It feels like they have tried to sneak this project in without anyone knowing. Lines of communication have not been open or clear or existent. The people who this solar farm impacts do not want this solar farm to happen. It will destroy the natural beauty, negatively impact wildlife, disrupt locals way of life, disrupt peace, and the people will benefit very little if anything at all. The project hasn't even physically started yet and there is already a violation of protection standards.

Thank you for reading my concerns on the matter.  
Kayla Middaugh

Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00177  
Response Wednesday, April 1, 2026

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, 2025-00177 in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at: [View Case Filings for: 2025-00177 \(ky.gov\)](#).

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Lacey Branscum  
City: Alpha  
State: Ky  
Zip: 42603

Comments:

Hi, my name is Lacey Branscum.

I live in the Alpha community and have just recently become aware per the March meeting held at the Aspire center in Wayne County about the proposed Barrelhead solar project. Case 2025-00177. I am also hearing that our officials had no known knowledge of this project nor the meetings pertaining to this project. I find it deeply disturbing that the people we have elected to serve and protect our area was withheld this crucial information since 2020. Considering our small town and the fact this has been kept a secret for that long makes me question several people. To be told by the same company who has been so deceitful to rest assured that this is safe and useful, is laughable. They themselves even made the statement at the meeting that these panels would not have any contributions to us directly. So if it came to pass, this would be all loss, high risk with absolutely no reward. I am terribly concerned for what my neighbors will have to endure living so close to these panels. I whole heartedly oppose this coming into our beautiful neighborhood. I am sincerely heartbroken at the mere thought of this beautiful land being destroyed all for the love of money which we know is the root of all evil. I myself drive and even ride my horses by there and visit family that is adjacent to this property. This particular area has always been one of my favorite places to ride and I cant stand the thought of it becoming an eyesore to say the least. We live in such a peaceful, beautiful, serene place as of now and I have always been so appreciative and thanked God for allowing me to be blessed in living here. The amount of what ifs that are attached to this makes me extremely nervous for our whole community. Our health and environment are the main reasons of concern. These panels seems to be popping up all over in other states and I fear for the uncertainty that later may start coming to light in connection to them. This makes me extremely against them being here. No guarantees can be given with anything in this life, but why must we take a chance by placing these so close to homes in our small community. They belong in a very secluded area that can be controlled and maintained with the upmost care. Our water ways and wildlife will without a doubt be affected by this as well. Tourism is a huge factor in our county due to our lake and how sad to think what helps our community thrive may be in jeopardy and cause hardships to our wonderful county. In no way would I normally tell someone what to do with their own property, but in this situation this affects us personally. It reads in the Bible in Mark 12:31 thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. I believe it would do some well to read this verse as well as Mark 8:36. I wish for those whom it concerns to try to

see this from our point of view, be empathetic of just how detrimental we believe this will be to our area. I am pleading to you to hear us out and stop this from becoming an everyday eye sore, as well as a real potential for serious health risks for our families, and wildlife in our community.

Thank you for your time.

Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00177  
Response Wednesday, April 1, 2026

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Latisha Byrd  
City: Monticello  
State: Ky  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

Public comments should carry the most weight from the people who actually live in and around the affected communities of Alpha and Highway 1009.

Many of the comments submitted in support of this project are coming from individuals who do not live here and will not be impacted by this decision. A number of those submissions appear to be the same copied message repeated by different names. That is not the voice of this community.

The true voice of this community comes from the families who live here, the people whose homes, land, and daily lives will be directly affected.

Those are the voices that should be heard the loudest.

Public Comments Received for Case Number: 2025-00177  
Response Wednesday, April 1, 2026

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Received through Public Comments

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

From: Latisha Byrd  
City: Monticello  
State: KY  
Zip: 42633

Comments:

To the Kentucky State Siting Board,

I am writing this not just as a resident, but as someone whose life is deeply rooted in this land in a way that cannot be replaced, relocated, or recreated.

I want you to truly picture this.

Imagine walking out onto your front porch in the morning. For years, all you've known is open land, rolling green pastures, quiet, and space to breathe. The kind of place where your children play, where your mind rests, where life feels steady.

Now imagine that same view replaced with rows of industrial solar panels stretching across the land.

No openness. No peace. Just metal, glass, and fencing where life once existed.

Now imagine the glare, because this project's own findings acknowledge it. A yellow reflective glare strong enough that you can't even sit on your own porch comfortably anymore. The place that once brought you peace now becomes somewhere you avoid.

That is not a small inconvenience. That is a complete loss of quality of life.

And for my family, it goes even deeper than that.

We have a family grave on this land.

This is sacred ground to us. It is where we go to grieve, to remember, and to feel close to those we've lost. It is supposed to be a place of peace, reflection, and connection.

Now imagine standing there to bury a loved one, and instead of looking out over quiet countryside, you are surrounded by an industrial solar facility.

Instead of peace, you feel closed in. Instead of comfort, you feel disruption. Instead of honoring your family in a setting that reflects their life, you are standing in the shadow of something that was placed there against the will of the people.

That cannot be undone. That cannot be justified with data or offset with promises.

This is not just land use. This is the emotional, cultural, and human impact of what is being proposed.

And beyond that, there are serious concerns about how this process has been handled.

Kentucky law, specifically KRS 278.700 through 278.716, was created to protect communities in situations exactly like this. It requires proper notification, public involvement, and local representation.

Yet many of the residents most directly affected were not properly notified. The requirement for meaningful local participation has not been fulfilled. Instead, we are left feeling like decisions are being made around us, not with us.

This project is also requesting deviations from setback requirements, protections that exist to give families space, safety, and a buffer from industrial development. Reducing those setbacks is not a minor adjustment. It is removing protections that were put in place for a reason.

At every level, legally, emotionally, and practically, this project raises concerns that cannot be ignored.

But the most important thing I want to say is this.

The people have spoken.

Not through generic copied letters from outside counties, but through real voices, neighbors, families, and people who have built their lives here.

We are the ones who will live with this every single day.

We are the ones who will look out our windows and see it.

We are the ones who will feel the loss of what this land once was.

The purpose of this board is not just to review applications. It is to protect the people those decisions affect.

And if that responsibility is taken seriously, then the outcome must reflect the voices of this community.

Because this is not just about a project.

This is about whether the people this land belongs to still matter.

If the law was written to protect the people, then let this decision prove that it still does.

## Service List for 2025-00177

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