

**PROPONENT TESTIMONY - HB 118**

**Kyle & Allyshia Kuhbander**

**Allen County**

**House Public Utilities Committee**

**March 9, 2021**

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Member Smith and members of the Committee. I am Kyle Kuhbander with my wife Allyshia and reside in Allen County. We support HB 118 and would like to address the Birch Solar Industrial Complex.

We are both avid archery hunters for the wild turkey and whitetail deer that call our surrounding area their home. Over the years we've paid for the privilege to hunt in the State of Ohio via annual hunting and fishing licenses plus the cost of game tags. We finally after years of having permission to hunt others land, saved enough money to purchase property with our home on it.

Almost exclusively for the right to hunt our own property via landowner tags and we wanted a place to raise our family. Enough room to run and chase toddlers through mud puddles. Play baseball and ride bikes all day until you're taken back by the vibrant country sunset. Ever since we bought our house in 2018 we sit at our dining room table and can watch the whitetail deer every morning enter onto our property. We watch them as they graze on our walnut in our front yard. As they frolic and spar through our woods and in the evening run back and forth from our woods to our neighbor's woods.

Lightsource BP has contacted me stating my property will have a 10' tall fence surrounding it which will have a massive impact on the free movement of the wildlife greatly limiting their path to and from my property. We purchased our property to raise our family and show our children how to live off of the land. We will not be able to do that with the land we purchased when Lightsource BP unapologetically strips us of that right.

Where I am concerned is this isn't only my community. This is my home. The way my property sits I will be literally surrounded on all four sides at least 1/4mile into a solar field. Who wants to live encapsulated by miles of an industrial power park? So not only does it affect my family physically; their health being affected by the chemical runoff flooding and puddling in our yard and leaching into our well. The cancerous frequency these inverters emit. Mentally; being completely isolated behind 8' chain link fence and 10' tree line. It's like living inside a prison. Safety; during construction the dust clouds the construction crew make has known to make neighboring residents in need of medical attention.

If Emergency Services such as the Police or Fire would be needed, my quarter mile long driveway is cut off from said danger. My family won't be able to escape or get the medical attention they need. What if a tornado uproots one of these and throws it across my driveway, even if we make it past all the shards of glass produced and being

sliced like razors through my house. Even if my family survives, which we probably won't. My family still won't be able to escape. Financially; paying our mortgage to live secluded behind chain link fence and 10 foot tall shrubbery.

Let me rephrase, paying our mortgage to live in a prison. Also, being surprised and burdened with this unexpected loss it will take us decades to recover from this. It's not just some "land out in the boonies". These are our homes. Where we intended to raise our children. Thousands of innocent families in our community will be burdened with this crisis. These solar fields are known to be in non populated areas. Why bring it to our populated area.

As our property sits we have 4 sides of impact. 4 sides of direct impact. Not across the street. All around my house, right along my property line. Not 300 ft back from my property line but 300 foot from the center of my house. There are 2 inverters along my property line as well as one across from my living room. Plus an access road that rests up against my back yard. This project is so callous to our community they can't ease off my property line more than 50 foot? The screening that they will provide will take 15 years to mature. How the land rolls these panels will still be visible.

How is it legal or even morally right for them to do what they are doing to us? Please think of my family. Please think of my young son being raised around this cancerous by-product. Our tile will be crushed. Our property will flood. Our well will be polluted. Think of my family's health and safety. Think of our community, their families, their health and safety.

Kyle & Allyshia Kuhbander  
4161 S Kemp Rd.  
Cridersville, Ohio 45806  
567.825.7812