

To Whom This May Concern:

I am in support of Bill SB52.

My husband and I purchased our home Sept, 2020. Our decision to purchase this home was as an investment into our retirement. We absolutely love the area. It is peaceful. It is a community that takes pride in their homes, schools and each other. We sit out on our back deck and hear the birds singing, both morning and evening. After a long day, it is the best part of the day. Our way to relax, unwind.

We had no idea that Birch Solar and Amazon was in the process of attempting to take over the Township. Yes, take over. We would have walked away from buying our home and looked for another place to call home. I can't imagine how hard it will be to sit outside and relax with the amount of increased construction traffic, dust and all the other "behind the scenes" activities that will be involved. It will render our outside sanctuary useless. It will cause my 83 year old father, with copd and lives with us, to not be able to enjoy being outside either. He will not be able to breathe with all the dust, etc that will be put in the air. His health is not good and this will take away any enjoyment he has left. We will not be able to open our windows to enjoy the fresh air living outside of town allows us to do.

The installation of alternative energy resources such as the solar panels and the turbines greatly affect more than just the land they take over. I know that the environmental damages that will be done has been discussed at great lengths. I won't get into that. What I do want to touch on is what it will do to us, the residents.

We live at the "mile" buffer line. Not exactly sure why we are considered to be a "nonadjacent" resident. We most assuredly will be affected by this. First of all, the financial burden put on us by the increase in property taxes. There are hundreds, thousands, of acres that are being used for this particular project. A project that we have little say in but will shoulder the brunt of. PILOT is NOT a good way to go. It can be spun to sound like a great benefit, but it isn't to those of us who are "on the outside". The land being leased would be tax free. Someone, and they don't care as long as it is not them, will have to make up the difference. The schools will be affected also. A lot of school funding will be lost. That will result in either schools losing their quality of education, or loss of athletics, music or arts programs. Those extracurricular programs are so vital to children growing and learning how to be a team and work together for a common goal. If the schools face a financial shortage of funds, they will have no choice but to go to the residents in the form of requesting the passage of levies. Which will result in another hit to our property taxes, putting even more burden on our shoulders.

Our property value will be greatly affected also. When a realtor prepares to list a home, they use comparisons from area homes that have sold, to determine the "asking price". Well, those comps are taken from within a 1 to 2 mile radius of your home. So, "buffer" line is no more than a way to draw some type of "financial liability" boundry for Birch Solar, or any other alternative energy group pushing their way into a community. I just do not see people willing to buy a

home that is surrounded by these massive panels. If they do, it will be of great loss to the seller. More than likely, they will walk away and search for another, more suitable home with a nice view. This will be reflected in any comparable used to price our home in the future.

There are more viable places to install alternative energy panels and turbines. Using viable farmland within communities is NOT being responsible. Especially when there will be no benefit to the community.

We are asking that we are given the right to decide what affects our quality of life, our emotional well-being and that of our community's children. That we have say in what is done is implemented in a responsible manner. To give voice to the entire community and not left up to a few individuals. To give us the right to know the "truths" about what is being planned and not spun or fabricated truths.

Thank you for your time,

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