

## **PROPONENT TESTIMONY**

Sub. SB 52

Kyle Ordway (Defiance County)

May 19, 2021

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Committee. My name is Kyle Ordway and I reside in Defiance County. I am in support of Sub. Senate Bill 52 and would like to share my reasons why I support the passage of this bill.

My name is Kyle Ordway and I am a resident of Defiance County. Ever since a young age the outdoors have fascinated me. Growing up I was an avid hunter, raised livestock through 4-H, and helped my grandfather farm. I learned to respect the land at a young age and continue to enjoy living in an area so rich in wildlife and natural resources.

This being said, the proposed Cepheus energy project by 7X energy raises major concerns for me. How will the proposed solar fields affect the local wildlife around properties on which I hunt? I feel they will take away food sources driving game elsewhere destroying local ecosystems.

Wildlife aside, the proposed project will take away precious farmland away for the next 30 years. According to [modernfarmer.com](http://modernfarmer.com), the US is losing 175 acres of farmland per hour due to development projects like these. This is an alarming number to me and I believe this project has no business in Defiance county. A Cepheus project representative called the proposed area a "no mans land". The same land that is flourishing with wildlife and agriculture that I have learned to love. This company resides miles away in Texas and obviously has no respect for our land or the residents

that reside here. This is why I support SB52 so that local government and citizens can decide what is best for their local communities.