

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Opposition Testimony
Senate Bill 52
Arthur Schoultheis

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to be here today to provide testimony on Senate Bill 52. My name is Arthur Schoultheis and I am a lifelong citizen of Highland county, where I have resided on my farm in Highland for 35 years.

My wife's testimony tells you more about our farm and who we are, so I will not repeat that—however I think it is important to reiterate the property rights concerns with Senate Bill 52—why I am opposed—and why you should be also.

People have concerns about everything. The same people who oppose solar and say they want to project agriculture, also will be the first to raise concerns of manure smells and trucks on the roads. Many of these folks do not farm ground and do not understand our business or land management. The current Ohio Power Siting Board process is long and expensive. I implore you to read an application. These projects do require significant public input.

This is our farm. We work for this. We have taken the risks and losses—not our neighbors.

Solar make a good neighbor. It doesn't stink. It doesn't make noise.

Senate Bill 52 gives BOTH my neighbors and the Township Trustees the ability to tell me what I can and can't do with my land.

I ask you to oppose Senate Bill 52. Thank you.