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1	MCLEAN COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
2	PUBLIC HEARING
3	TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018
4	115 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
5	BLOOMINGTON, IL
6	
7	SPECIAL USE APPLICATION
8	CASE NUMBER SU-18-10
9	BREEZEWOOD SOLAR, LLC BY CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES
10	
11	ZONING BOARD
12	MR. DICK MR. KURTZ
13	MR. RURIZ MS. TURNER MS. TAYLOR
14	MS. CARLTON
15	MR. DEAN
16	
17	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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1	Page 2
2	MR. DICK: This is Case Number
3	SU-18-10, Application of Breezewood Solar, LLC by
4	Cypress Creek Renewables for special use to allow
5	a solar power generating facility in the
6	agriculture district on property on the northwest
7	quarter of Section 21, Township 23 North, Range 2
8	East of the third principal Meridian and located
9	in Bloomington Township immediately southwest of
10	the intersections of Margaret Street and the
11	Business U.S. Highway 51 Frontage Road.
12	Public notice of this hearing was
13	published in the Pantagraph on April 14, 2018, as
14	provided by law.
15	All the other required notifications
16	have been made and the Applicant has paid the
17	publication costs.
18	I have put in front of your spots a
19	copy of the site plan that is attached to the
20	Staff Report, but it's a little bit easier to see
21	and for your information. And the Applicant has
22	submitted an application that is actually very
23	thick, and we did not make copies for everybody,
24	but I will pass that at this time. And one of the

Page 3 1 exhibits, the final page of that exhibit, is a 2 copy of that site plan. 3 Probably as this hearing goes on, you 4 may want to look at different parts of it. I have 5 taken different parts of that book to incorporate into my Staff Report, and I think the Applicant will summarize other parts of that application. 7 8 As an attachment I have a copy of a 9 plat map showing where this property is located in 10 Bloomington Township. And I have a zoning map. And this zoning map isn't actually correct since 11 12 this property was actually just rezoned in March 13 and in Case Number ZA-18-01. So this property is 14 now in the Agriculture District. And that is 15 required as a special use in the Agricultural 16 District to have a solar farm. But since it is 17 now in the Agriculture District, we had to do a 18 land evaluation and site assessment because we are 19 taking land out of crop production. So, this is 20 incorporated into the Staff Report. But because 21 the property is so close to town, it has a decent 22 soil score, but because it is close to town it doesn't have a very high LESA score. But I will 23 24 pass that.

Page 4 1 And there is a communication from 2. IDNR as a communication number two, indicating 3 that there are no threatened or endangered species 4 on the property. I'll pass that. 5 And I have one larger site plan if you would like to take a look at this as well that I will pass as part of the application. 7 8 As you look at the photos, you can 9 see where this property is located. immediately west of U.S. Business 51 and north of 10 Interstate 74 and outlined in there. 11 12 This is School Road to the west and 13 to the east. And the access to the property is 14 just south of this -- there's two photos of 15 this -- to the south, the driveway, or the 16 Frontage Road that goes along U.S. Business 51 to 17 access the property. And way in the distance you 18 can see I74. And it's Business 51 that's to the 19 left here. 20 If you turn around, when you go back 21 the other way, this is to the north then, that 22 Frontage Road along Business 51. Then this is straight south to the end there. And you can see 23 24 the signage there for the turnoff to I74.

Page 5 1 This is Margaret Street and that 2 residential subdivision. 3 And again, moving the pen and we will 4 look at the subject property which is to the right here, and it's in grasses. Further to the 5 southwest, the larger property. 6 The surrounding zoning of this 7 8 property is R1 to the north. The single family residence district to the south is M1 restricted 9 10 manufacturing district across I74. And to the east is commercial district across Business U.S. 11 12 51. And to the west is R1 Single Family Residence 13 District. The surrounding land use are to the 14 15 north, single family residences; to the south, 16 commercial uses across I74; to the east, 17 commercial uses across Business 51; and to the 18 west, crop production. The land evaluation and site 19 20 assessment has a soil score of 87.19 points out of a maximum of 100 and a site assessment of 102 2.1 22 points out of a maximum of 200 points. This gives 23 it a total LESA review score of 189.19 points out

of a maximum of 300 points. A score of 219 points

Page 6 1 and below means that the property is of low value 2. for agricultural land production. 3 The analysis of the seven standards 4 of the zoning ordinance is as follows: 5 A, The proposed special use will not be detrimental to or endanger the health, safety, morals, comfort or welfare of the public. And 7 8 this standard is met. 9 The application proposes to establish 10 a 2-megawatt solar power generating facility on 11 this property that will meet all the County 12 setback requirements and use standards for a solar 13 power generated facility. 14 The application indicates that this 15 facility will contain rows of Photovoltaic cell 16 panels mounted on posts set in the ground. 17 These rows of panels are referred to 18 as solar arrays. Cypress Creek Renewables will 19 mount the solar arrays in one of two ways, on a 20 fixed tilt or on a tracking system, which allows 21 them to follow the sun throughout the day. 22 After site specifics and design 23 components are more fully developed for this solar 24 farm, Cypress Creek will determine which system is

Page 7 more appropriate for this site. 1 2. The solar arrays will be designed 3 with an antireflective coating. The basic 4 components of the solar energy facility include PV or Photovoltaic cells, inverters, combiner boxes, 5 transformers, wires and conductor cables, structural racking system for PV modules and 7 8 perimeter fencing. 9 Solar electricity production includes 10 the following five components: 11 One, electrical power generation. 12 Sunlight strikes the PV panel cells, which convert 13 photons of light into electrons, producing 14 low-voltage, direct current, or DC, electricity. 15 Two, Combination Box. The local --16 excuse me. The low-voltage, DC electricity is fed 17 through cables from each PV panel to a combiner 18 box. 19 Three, The Inverter. The 20 low-voltage, DC electricity is fed through cables 2.1 from the combiner box to an inverter, where it is converted to low-voltage, Alternating Current, or 22 23 AC, electricity.

Four, Transformer. The transformer

Page 8 1 steps up the low-voltage, AC electricity to the 2. appropriate voltage so that it can be fed into the 3 electrical transmission system. 4 And five, Utility Transmission. 5 Electricity is sent through the electrical transmission lines to utility distribution systems for delivery to ratepayers. 7 8 The Applicant indicates that solar 9 arrays will be a maximum 12 feet in height. 10 The Applicant submitted a communication from the Illinois Department of 11 12 Natural Resources which states the Illinois 13 Natural Heritage Database contains no record of 14 state listed threatened or endangered species, 15 Illinois Natural Area Inventory sites, dedicated 16 Illinois Nature Preserves or registered Land and 17 Water Reserves in the vicinity of the project, and 18 that the consultation is terminated. 19 A decommissioning plan was submitted 20 with the application indicating that the salvage 21 value meets or exceeds the cost of 22 decommissioning. The Applicant will need to 23 submit a revised decommissioning plan certifying 24 proposed decommissioning costs. This plan will

Page 9 1 need to provide financial assurance to the County 2. after year 12 of operation of the facility that 3 the site will be properly reclaimed. This financial assurance should be 4 5 similar to that as required of wind farms in the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement that wind farms have with the Illinois Department of 7 8 Agriculture. 9 The contact person for the Applicant 10 will need to be kept on file with the Department of Building and Zoning for issues and complaints. 11 12 There has been no communication 13 submitted from the Illinois Historic Preservation 14 Agency, IHPA. 15 B, The proposed special use will not 16 be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other 17 property in the immediate vicinity for purposes 18 already permitted or substantially diminish 19 property values in the immediate area. And this 20 standard is met. Nearby property that is currently in 2.1 crop production will continue to be desirable for 22 23 such use. Ground cover that encourages

pollination, recommended by the McLean County Soil

Page 10 1 and Water Conservation District will need to be The solar arrays will be designed with 2. installed. 3 an antireflective coating. 4 C, the proposed special use will not 5 impede the orderly development of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the District. this standard is met. Nearby property that is 7 8 currently in crop production or used as residences will continue to be desirable for such uses. 9 10 D, Adequate utilities, access roads, 11 drainage and/or other necessary facilities have 12 been or will be provided. This standard is met. 13 The property has approximately 500 feet of 14 frontage on the south side of Margaret Street and 550 feet on the west side of the Business U.S. 15 16 Highway 51 Frontage Road. Bloomington Township 17 Fire District will provide fire protection for the 18 subject property. Pre-development drainage 19 patterns will be retained as much as possible. 20 The Applicant will provide certified plans for 2.1 storm water detention/retention before a permit is 22 issued for the proposed solar power generating 23 facility. 24 The Applicant will need to have all

- 1 field tile damaged in the construction process
- 2 repaired by a competent contractor, with
- 3 experience in such repair, during the life of the
- 4 solar farm.
- 5 Adequate measures have been taken to
- 6 provide ingress and egress so designed as to
- 7 minimize traffic congestion in the public streets.
- 8 This standard is met. It appears that safe sight
- 9 distance can be provided at the proposed entrance.
- The establishment, maintenance and
- 11 operation of the special use will be in
- 12 conformance with the intent of the district in
- 13 which it is located. This standard is met.
- 14 The preamble states for the
- 15 Agriculture District that it is to provide for the
- 16 location and govern the establishment and
- 17 operation of land uses which are compatible with
- 18 agriculture and are of such nature that their
- 19 location away from residential, commercial and
- 20 industrial areas is most desirable.
- G, The proposed special use in all
- 22 other respects conforms to the applicable
- 23 regulations of the Agriculture District. And this
- 24 standard is met.

Page 12 1 In conclusion, Staff recommends that 2. this application meets all of the standards set forth in Article VIII, Section 350-56 which is 3 4 Standards for Special Use Permits, provided the following stipulations: 5 One, the Applicant needs to provide 7 certified plans for storm water detention/retention before a permit is issued for 9 the proposed solar powered generating facility. 10 Two, The solar arrays will be installed with anti-reflective coating. 11 12 Three, ground cover that encourages 13 pollination that is recommended by the McLean 14 County Soil and Water Conservation District needs to be installed. 15 16 Four, the Applicant needs to submit a 17 revised decommissioning plan certifying proposed 18 decommissioning costs that provides financial 19 assurance to the County after year 12 of the 20 operation of the facility. And this financial 21 assurance needs to be similar to what is required 22 of wind farms in the Agricultural Mitigation 23 Agreement that wind farms have with the Illinois 24 Department of Agriculture.

Page 13 1 Five, A contact person for the 2. Applicant will need to be kept on file with the 3 Department of Building and Zoning for issues of 4 compliance. 5 Six, the Applicant shall have all 6 field tile damaged in the construction process repaired by a competent contractor with experience 7 8 in such repair during the life of the solar farm. 9 Seven, the Applicant needs to complete consultation with the Illinois Historic 10 11 Preservation Agency before construction can begin. 12 And eight, Development shall follow 13 the plans and documents submitted with the 14 application and with zoning regulations, including Article VI, Section 350-43.00(3) (Use Standards of 15 a solar power regenerating facility.) 16 17 That concludes my report. 18 MS. TURNER: Would you guys like to 19 be sworn in or affirmed? 20 MS. GRECO: Sworn in. 21 (Mr. Cooper, Mr. Novack Ms. Greco sworn in.) 22 MR. NOVACK: If you will all give 23 your names and addresses one at a time. 24 MR. COOPER: Jason Cooper. I am a

- 1 Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of
- 2 Illinois. 1001 Warrenville Road, Lisle,
- 3 Illinois.
- 4 MR. NOVACK: Scott Novack. I am
- 5 Senior Developer for Cypress Creek Renewables.
- 6 18 South Michigan, Chicago, Illinois, 60603.
- 7 MR. DICK: Could you spell the last
- 8 name?
- 9 MR. NOVACK: N-O-V-A-C-K.
- 10 MS. GRECO: Kelly Greco. I am an
- 11 attorney at Polsinelli. Address is 150 North
- 12 Riverside Plaza, Suite 3000, Chicago, Illinois.
- 13 MR. DICK: Could you spell your last
- 14 name, please?
- MS. GRECO: Sure, G-R-E-C-O.
- 16 MR. DICK: Could you repeat your
- 17 address one more time?
- 18 MS. GRECO: 150 North Riverside
- 19 Plaza, Suite 3000. That's Chicago, Illinois.
- 20 MS. TURNER: Okay. It looks like
- 21 you have something you would like to present to
- 22 us, so you can go ahead and do that.
- MR. NOVACK: I think Kelly will
- 24 introduce the project first and then I will take

Page 15 over, if that's okay with you. 1 2. MS. TURNER: That's fine. 3 MR. NOVACK: Thanks. 4 MS. GRECO: Just by way of 5 introduction, my name again is Kelly Greco. an attorney at Polsinelli. We represent Cypress 6 Creek Renewables in this project. 7 8 Behind me hiding is Dave Streicker. 9 He's my colleague at Polsinelli and also co-counsel on this case. 10 To my right is Scott Novack. 11 12 going to go through the presentation that's loaded 13 and give you guys some background on Cypress 14 Creek, on the solar farm development and on the 15 site in particular. And then we also have Jason 16 Cooper, who is an engineer at Kimley Horn. 17 will be able to answer any technical questions you 18 might have about the project. And we also have 19 our landowner here if anybody has any questions. 20 We appreciate the Staff Report and 21 the findings. The Staff Report confirms that we 22 are in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance 23 overall and the Solar Specific Ordinance that was 24 passed by McLean County.

Page 16 1 We have read the Staff Report in 2. detail and we have no problems with the 3 stipulations that are set forth in the Staff 4 Report. 5 The site might look familiar to 6 everybody since we were before the Board in March with rezoning. So, we rezoned the property from 7 8 R1 Commercial to A1 specifically so we could be 9 here tonight and request the Special Use Permit 10 for the solar farm development. 11 As Mr. Dick has wonderfully provided 12 the summary of, we are proposing a 2-megawatt 13 community solar farm on an approximately 20-acre 14 tract of land in Bloomington Township. 15 We are excited to be here in McLean 16 County. We think we will be good stewards of the 17 land and also good neighbors. And if it's okay 18 with the Board, at this time I will turn it over 19 to Scott. 20 MS. TURNER: That's fine. 21 MR. NOVACK: Thank you, Kelly. 22 So, given that Mr. Dick's summary was 23 very detailed and the fact that Cypress and me

personally has been before this group a few times,

- 1 I am happy to go into as much detail as you guys
- 2 would like. You will notice the presentation is
- 3 very similar to what was presented before, because
- 4 this proposed solar farm is very similar to the
- 5 previous ones.
- There are specific, obviously,
- 7 locations that pertain just to this project.
- 8 Can I ask, Mrs. Turner, would you
- 9 like me to go through as if it was the first time?
- 10 I know there might be people in the audience who
- 11 have not heard it.
- 12 MS. TURNER: I think in deference to
- 13 their time, they have stayed here all night to
- 14 hear it, so go ahead and make sure that it is so
- 15 they can understand what it is.
- MR. NOVACK: Certainly. I am happy
- 17 to do that.
- Bear with me. Okay.
- 19 So for starters I want to introduce
- 20 myself and the company. I mentioned I am Scott
- 21 Novack, Senior Developer for Cypress Creek. I sit
- 22 in Illinois. I'm up in northern Illinois, just
- 23 north of Chicago, but I really cover the whole
- 24 state from an on the ground perspective.

Page 18 1 Cypress Creek is a national company. 2 We were founded about three years ago, almost four 3 now, with the idea of really replicating what some 4 of our founders were doing in other markets nationally as far as understanding how to develop 5 community and utility scale solar projects. We have a number of operational solar 7 8 plants at the moment. 9 I should back up. 10 Cypress Creek is a developer, builder 11 and owner/operator of commercial and utility scale 12 solar power plants. We have about 150 operational 13 plants at the moment scattered across the country. 14 The next slide will kind of give an indication of 15 where they are located. 16 We have a development pipeline that 17 is about five times the size of our existing 18 portfolio. So, we have a tremendous amount of 19 activity going on at the moment. 20 So, like I was mentioning, this kind 21 of gives an indication where we are active across 22 the country. And it is pretty much everywhere, as you can see. The yellow shaded states are where 23

we have completed projects. And we also have

- 1 development in those states as well. The blue
- 2 states represent areas in which we have not yet
- 3 completed projects but do have ongoing development
- 4 activities, such as in Illinois, as you see.
- 5 Stepping back a little bit more,
- 6 solar in general, very much a growing industry.
- 7 It's even growing amongst its peers in power
- 8 generation.
- 9 Last year, 2017, 30 percent of all
- 10 new electric generating capacity came from solar.
- 11 That's second only to natural gas.
- So, even amongst its renewable peers
- 13 it is growing at a rapid pace.
- 14 There is a lot that's kind of fueling
- 15 the growth. I won't go through each of these
- 16 individually. But costs really plummeting, for
- 17 lack of a better term -- that's the most
- 18 appropriate term -- have really allowed for the
- 19 spreading of solar across the country. Not just
- in areas previously known for 300 days of sunshine
- 21 such as California, Nevada. But since 2010 prices
- 22 have come down over 70 percent. And what that's
- 23 done is really injected the industry with life
- 24 where the economics just pencil out in many

Page 20 1 places. 2. The State of Illinois noticed that. 3 They are one of many states that has noticed that 4 recently. What happened was at the end of 2016 5 Governor Rauner signed the Future Energy Jobs Act 6 And what that Act did was took a 7 into law. 8 previously determined goal of an RPS, which stands 9 for Renewable Portfolio Standard, of 25 percent by 10 the year of 2025, and took that goal and really solidified it, in that it paved a way to make it 11 12 happen. 13 So, there is essentially a mandate 14 now that 25 percent of the power that the 15 utilities are distributing on their networks comes from renewable sources, including solar. 16 There is a few different kind of 17 18 mechanisms that will basically enable that to 19 happen.

20 One of them is this term or concept 21 called community solar. And we at Cypress are big 22 fans of community solar for a number of reasons.

23 Community solar farms are solar

24 facilities in which local residents and businesses

- 1 can actually subscribe to a solar farm. And in
- 2 that instance it gives a great opportunity for a
- 3 number of different people to kind of reap the
- 4 benefits. Essentially cheaper electricity.
- 5 And what's nice is when we are in a
- 6 different territory -- right now we are in Ameren,
- 7 and really the regulations are such that
- 8 subscribers to a facility located in Ameren
- 9 territory have to come from Ameren territory. The
- 10 same is true for ComEd on the north part of the
- 11 state.
- So, we are really excited about
- 13 McLean County and giving residents an opportunity
- 14 to participate in the renewables that's going on
- 15 here in the state.
- 16 On the super high level -- I always
- 17 like to make this clear. We are here discussing
- 18 Breezewood Solar. And all of the previous
- 19 projects we have proposed here in the county and
- 20 the projects that will follow here and in the rest
- 21 of the state will be solar Photovoltaic. Mr. Dick
- 22 did a wonderful job explaining what that is. It's
- 23 important to find out what it isn't. And that's
- 24 sometimes referred to as solar thermal or

Page 22 concentrated solar, which is an elaborate array of

- 2 mirrors that basically redirect sunlight to a
- 3 central location, which is a totally opposite goal
- 4 of what solar PV is.
- 5 So, solar PV is designed to soak in
- 6 as much sunlight as possible. And there a few
- 7 different ways we accomplish that. One of which
- 8 is with an antireflective coating on each module.
- 9 But I wanted to highlight that difference, because
- 10 there is a lot of kind of complexities that are
- 11 associated with solar thermal when it comes to
- 12 issues with wildlife and some other issues that
- don't apply to solar PV.
- So, I would like to really talk about
- 15 that at the front end.
- 16 And then, furthermore, for solar PV
- there is really two main ways that you mount the
- 18 solar PV module. There is fixed tilt, which are
- 19 modules at a 45ish degree angle facing south that
- 20 are stacked. They don't move throughout the day.
- 21 Conversely, single access tracking is a situation
- 22 where the modules themselves rotate throughout the
- 23 entire course of the day at a really slow pace.
- 24 The idea is in the morning they are

- 1 facing east, the modules are, and noontime,
- 2 2:00 p.m. when the sun is overhead, they are flat.
- 3 Kind of like if my computer was a module, this
- 4 would be noon because the sun's overhead. And
- 5 then in afternoon it shifts more to the west.
- The idea is just to soak up more
- 7 sunshine or create more yield from the site.
- 8 It's estimated that all of our sites
- 9 here -- you know, again -- not again, this is the
- 10 first time I mentioned this, but I have mentioned
- 11 it before, these are not final engineered sites.
- 12 That happens later on. This is the zoning
- 13 process. When final engineering happens, that's
- 14 when we select our exact modules, our exact
- 15 mounting mechanisms. However, we are estimating
- 16 that all of our sites will contain single access
- 17 tracking, so I am comfortable saying that.
- 18 At this point we will kind of take a
- 19 quick look at a few pictures to give you an idea
- 20 of the scale we are talking about.
- Our application, what Mr. Dick
- 22 mentioned, is that under no condition would any of
- 23 our -- the elements of our solar farm be above
- 24 12 feet. In reality it is closer to 7 to 8 feet,

- 1 the tops of the modules. There are sometimes
- 2 differences in the way the land is laid out, soil
- 3 conditions and the topography that could maybe
- 4 affect that. But in general, 7 to 8 feet is
- 5 really what you will see, both to the top of the
- 6 modules and other equipment that's on the site
- 7 that I will get to in a second.
- 8 This picture also does a good job
- 9 showing how the modules are supported.
- 10 That's a steel post there. And if
- 11 you will go to the next slide, this is another
- 12 shot underneath a row of modules that shows what's
- 13 under the modules and what's not.
- 14 Specifically, there is no concrete
- 15 underneath these modules. They sit on steel posts
- 16 driven into the ground. And there is wiring that
- 17 runs underneath the modules that then goes to a
- 18 combiner box, which basically ties the entire row
- 19 together. And then from there, the wire and
- 20 conductor cables are fed underground to the
- 21 inverter and transformer, which I will show you in
- 22 a second. I thought it was the next slide, but it
- 23 will be in a second.
- 24 This is a tracking. These modules

- 1 sit on training racks. And this is around midday,
- 2 like I was describing earlier. So, you will see
- 3 they are flat with sun overhead.
- 4 Another picture to scale back a
- 5 little bit shows a few more components. There is
- 6 a perimeter fencing there on the left, an access
- 7 road, and kind of gives an idea of the spacing
- 8 between the roads.
- 9 This is the equipment I was talking
- 10 about earlier. So, the inverter and transformer
- 11 pair. Each pair sits on the approximate, you
- 12 know, about a one car garage worth of concrete.
- 13 Four inch concrete slab on grade. So very, very
- 14 limited concrete on a solar farm.
- 15 A 2-megawatt solar farm such as this
- 16 one will have generally two sets of that
- 17 equipment. So, basically, two car garage worth of
- 18 concrete.
- 19 Go back real quick, if you don't
- 20 mind. I want to quickly point out solar farms are
- 21 pretty basic as far as the equipment that's
- 22 contained. We talked about each and every thing
- 23 that's listed on this already in the short
- 24 presentation.

Page 26 1 This picture on the left shows the 2. steel posts being inserted at the ground, being 3 driven. You can see the equipment is not very 4 large. 5 On the right, that's an image showing a site that's had its racking system installed. It's just waiting for modules. So, it kind of 7 8 gives a good idea of kind of scaled back on the spacing and what the site looks like before 9 modules are installed. 10 Ag impact was a topic of great 11 12 importance for us. I mean, it is everywhere, no 13 doubt, but it certainly is in Illinois, and from a number of levels. 14 15 I want to point out what I mentioned 16 earlier, which is due to the limited concrete, we 17 are really not changing the permeable nature of 18 the site at all. And understanding that field 19 tiles exist, and understanding that field tiles 20 exist that may have been installed 50 to 100 years 21 ago, we recognize that we don't want to come in and just wreak havoc and cause flooding on our 22 property, potentially on neighboring properties, 23 24 so we take the existing tile very seriously.

- 1 will do a drain tile survey on the front end
- 2 before final design happens, before the site is
- 3 engineered, so we understand where tiles are. We
- 4 will design around where we can and we will repair
- 5 and replace tiles that are either accidentally hit
- 6 during the construction process or can't be
- 7 avoided.
- 8 Of course, main tiles that connect --
- 9 either have drainage jurisdiction or just connect
- 10 offsite, those would be certainly designed around
- 11 in every condition.
- We cover crop, so we plant native
- 13 grasses that are slow growth.
- 14 And also important to point out some
- 15 benefits to letting the land lay foul and not
- 16 toiling each spring and having a little bit
- 17 eroding each year. So, capping it with local
- 18 cover crop has been shown to show some advantages,
- 19 which is nice as well.
- 20 A few pictures of completed solar
- 21 farms. We don't have any in Illinois. And that
- 22 is not unique to us. There is just a small
- 23 handful of existing solar farms. That will
- 24 change, of course, with this new round of

- 1 development that's occurring.
- 2 However, we do have some completed
- 3 and operational solar farms across the border in
- 4 Indiana to the east. I have pictures of two such
- 5 farms that sit in the Terre Haute area. So, west
- 6 central Indiana. They are both 5-megawatt on
- 7 45 acres. So, they are more than double what we
- 8 are talking about today, but I still thought they
- 9 would give a good idea generally what they look
- 10 like both from the ground level on the right and
- 11 from the air on the left.
- 12 The next slide shows a separate solar
- 13 form. Same size and scale, just a different
- 14 shape.
- 15 Again 5 megawatts over 45 acres. So,
- 16 more than double the 2 megawatts that we are
- 17 talking about today.
- I want to point out really important
- 19 that there is no safety risk to the community
- 20 whatsoever. And that is all along, every step of
- 21 the way in the process. That begins with
- 22 engineering where we have licensed engineers that
- 23 are creating, you know, civil, structural and
- 24 electrical designs.

Page 29 1 It's important to point out that 2. solar farms need to go through the same permitting 3 process that any other development would go 4 through. So, there is oversight every step of the Erosion, storm water and sediment control, 5 we need a storm water permit, we need a plan for 7 erosion, both during construction and permanently. 8 The systems are all designed to National Electric Code, or NEC. We also use local 9 10 and national building codes, and local building authorities. 11 12 And then on the safety side, once 13 complete, we have a perimeter fence that again is 14 National Electric Code requirement. But that's 15 something we could do anyhow. We just want to 16 keep our investment secure. 17 Oftentimes in other markets we have 18 like 1 foot of barbed wire on top of a 6-foot 19 chain link fence. We just received a lot of kind 20 of negative feedback from the community in various parts of the state, and so we have just basically 21 22 been removing that from our proposal and instead going a foot higher to a 7-foot tall chain link 23 24 fence that doesn't have any barbed wire at all.

Page 30 We maintain vegetation. We do weed 1 2. control and we do mowing a few times a year during 3 the growing season as the site -- make sure we 4 understand more what that exact cadence will be, but we want to keep a neat site. And these are monitored remotely. So, we don't have anybody -- nobody is sitting at 7 8 the site permanently. These are monitored 9 remotely. And we can tell by the performance if 10 there is something wrong, something going on that looks out of the norm. And in that situation we 11 12 send in a local electrical engineer to basically 13 investigate, inspect and perform any repairs as 14 needed. The other site visits are for the 15 16 vegetative maintenance that I talked about 17 earlier, mowing and weed control. 18 It's estimated that site visits are 19 in the neighborhood of five to nine -- maybe once 20 a month tops, but it's unlikely it would even be 2.1 that much. 22 Another point of benefit to the low impact of a solar farm is lack of traffic. Solar 23

farms are extremely quiet. Really, the only

- 1 equipment that makes any noise to speak of is that
- 2 inverter transformer I talked about. And that
- 3 comes from a cooling fan in the inverter
- 4 generally. But outside of 150 feet you really
- 5 can't even hear the inverters at all.
- The circle within the circle on the
- 7 lower right-hand corner of the slide we are
- 8 looking at represents a 150-foot radius. And we
- 9 centrally located that equipment so it's nowhere
- 10 near the property line, and it will always be
- 11 further than 150 feet away from the property line.
- 12 So, there is really no noise outside of the
- 13 property boundary. That's during the day.
- 14 Then at night there is just, you
- 15 know, there is no noise at all. The system is
- 16 completely down.
- 17 Electromagnetic fields are another
- 18 sometimes an area of concern with people who
- 19 aren't super educated on solar farms.
- It's first important to point out
- 21 that really everything in nature -- I mean, there
- 22 is so many devices and appliances and overhead
- 23 power lines and cell phones and things that
- 24 produce what we call EMF. There is nothing on the

Page 32 1 solar farm that produces it at unsafe levels. The 2. strongest source is again that inverter and 3 transformer equipment. But even there you can 4 stand right next to it, as that gentleman is doing, as I have done numerous times, and there is 5 no safety concerns there. 6 Further, outside of 150 feet from 7 that equipment as well, again, that same radius as 8 9 outlined, you can't detect anything above the 10 earth's magnetic field. Many benefits of local solar. 11 12 from the renewable angle, if you wanted to 13 participate before, community solar has now 14 arrived, or is slowly arriving in Illinois, or I 15 should say pretty soon quickly arriving in 16 Illinois. The only way to participate in solar is 17 really to install actual modules on your roof. 18 And people have done that, and I think that's a great thing to do, but that's not right for 19 20 everyone. Right? You need to have a south facing 21 roof. The roof has to be, you know, in good 22 condition structurally so it can handle the 23 additional weight.

What community solar does is gives

Page 33 people an opportunity to be a part of it without

- 2 investing any money, just signing up and receiving
- 3 reduced electricity costs. But also just knowing
- 4 that you are a part of, you know, basically
- 5 reducing fossil fuels and slowly trying to remove
- 6 ourselves from the reliance of fossil fuels to
- 7 create electricity.
- 8 They are quiet, virtually
- 9 self-sufficient. We talked about earlier, they
- 10 are very low profile. Everything is essentially
- in a 7 to 8 feet range. So, no noise that's
- 12 coming outside of the property line. And there is
- 13 a nice economic growth component, both during the
- 14 construction phase and then during the long-term.
- During the construction phase we have
- 16 about -- I'll actually show the numbers in a
- 17 second here on the next slide. There is 25 local
- 18 construction jobs estimated at a site this size.
- 19 But there is also an ongoing benefit which comes
- 20 in the form of property tax revenue.
- 21 Right now they are assessed as
- 22 farmland, regardless of its zoning, if it is
- 23 residential zone, ag zone, commercial zone. These
- 24 properties in Illinois are assessed based on their

- 1 use. So, the use is going to change. It will be
- 2 a solar farm. Springfield right now is
- 3 determining exactly how it will be assessed, but
- 4 it will be just like wind, in that it will be
- 5 essentially a uniform way to assess these things.
- 6 That's based on the power output, the capacity.
- 7 So there is a per megawatt basis.
- Right now there is no scenario --
- 9 once the bills are determined, there is a -- there
- 10 will be one bill that dictates how this is done.
- 11 And there is no scenario where it will be less
- 12 than in the neighborhood of \$10,000 in year one
- 13 per 2 megawatt site. And that's compared to a
- 14 couple of hundred dollars as it's -- I don't have
- 15 the exact number with me, but certainly less than
- 16 \$1,000.
- 17 There is no impact to the environment
- 18 here. Safe for wildlife and birds.
- 19 And then there is no emission. Solar
- 20 modules are zero emission. No fluids, no
- 21 chemical, no potential for leaking anything into
- 22 the air or the environment.
- So, now, that was kind of the
- 24 background, which always tends to go a little

- 1 slower than I want, even if I am trying to skip
- 2 through it, so I apologize.
- We are here today to talk about
- 4 Breezewood Solar, as Mr. Dick appropriately
- 5 pointed out everything about this site from the
- 6 location to the size of the facility. But I will
- 7 just quickly in some pictures show you guys what
- 8 we are talking about.
- 9 So, on the left -- I'll back up. We
- 10 are at approximately 322 Robert Street outside of
- 11 the City of Bloomington, but with a Bloomington
- 12 postal code. It is the northwest corner of
- 13 Business 51, or Main Street, and I74.
- So, it's about a 25-acre site. The
- 15 solar area that you see in the image to the right
- 16 is approximately 15 acres. So, the 25 includes
- 17 the setback from the property line, which is
- 18 pretty significant. On the western edge that's
- 19 200 feet. Same with the northern edge.
- 20 Further, we proposed a vegetative
- 21 buffer between the residences north of Margaret
- 22 Street and our site. So, there is a 200 feet
- 23 buffer. Part of that 200 feet is two rows of
- 24 evergreen trees that's sitting closest to the

- 1 northern property line. It's easier to make out
- 2 on the bigger screen. It is that kind of little
- 3 rectangular line on the north part of our site.
- 4 Some of the numbers, I hit on one of
- 5 them earlier, which is the local job support
- 6 during construction estimated at 25. A site this
- 7 size is enough for about 320 homes per year.
- 8 That's based on the estimate output, which is
- 9 3.9 million kilowatt hours.
- 10 The estimated investment is the
- 11 3.9 million, of which 2.3 should be invested here
- 12 locally.
- I want to point out municipal
- 14 services required, that is a none. So, solar
- 15 farms are passive neighbors. They don't require
- 16 any additional county services. No water needed,
- 17 which is a great differentiator between other
- 18 power generating sources. Something I like to
- 19 talk about.
- 20 Our interconnecting utility is
- 21 Ameren. There is a 12.5 KV distribution line that
- 22 runs parallel with Business 51, which is what we,
- 23 where we will be interconnecting. So, essentially
- 24 where we will be plugging into the grid.

Page 37 1 That's all the prepared words. Τ 2 have this team beside me here that Kelly 3 introduced, and we are happy to take your 4 questions. 5 MS. TURNER: Does the Board have 6 questions? MR. KURTZ: Do you have plans to 7 8 improve that Frontage Road, or is it going to be 9 okay the way it is for your purposes? 10 MR. COOPER: That's part of the 11 procurement engineering process. We will take a 12 look at that road closely. It will definitely, 13 just looking at it from the photos and street 14 view, that it is going to need to be improved at 15 least for the construction traffic up to -- at 16 least compacted gravel entrance coming through 17 But then as for the cracked section at there. 18 the end, we will take a closer look at that during design and make sure it is adequate to 19 20 support the construction traffic, because that's 21 going to be the big concern where the heavy loads 22 are. So, yes, that will definitely be looked at 23 closely during design. 24

Page 38 1 Thank you. MR. KURTZ: 2. MR. DEAN: What's the project life 3 cycle? 4 MR. NOVACK: Between 20 and 40 5 Forty being on the long side and the years. hopeful side. 6 7 That's with the same MR. KURTZ: 8 equipment or -- and there is a possibility that if it's economically feasible that site could be 9 10 upgraded and run longer? MR. NOVACK: Right. 11 The estimated 12 useful life of the panels is anywhere 25 years 13 and up. And that comes from existing PV modules 14 that are still running well that were installed, 15 you know, in the eighties, in some cases in the 16 seventies. The inverter and transformer 17 equipment will need to be refreshed undoubtedly 18 if it goes beyond that first 15, 20 year period. 19 But there is no -- that's kind of built into our 20 modeling. And what happens is that equipment 21 gets refurbished and reused in a second life and 22 we bring new equipment on. 23 In a scenario where we would want to 24 bring new modules out, that could happen. Ιt

- 1 certainly wouldn't be during the first term. We
- 2 are limited to 2 megawatts of capacity. We can't
- 3 exceed that.
- 4 So oftentimes we get the question,
- 5 well, what if there is new technology that comes
- 6 out that is much more efficient? And that would
- 7 be great, but we are limited by what we can put
- 8 out. So, if that changes -- and, of course, we
- 9 would never expand the footprint of the facility
- 10 because we are bound by the Special Use, the
- 11 limits of that.
- But in the scenario where there is
- 13 other panels and the other ones are no longer
- 14 being as efficient as they were before, we could
- 15 come in with new modules or panels.
- MS. TURNER: So, that's interesting.
- 17 You are limited as to the number of megawatts you
- 18 can have as output from this project. And is
- 19 that because of your contract with Ameren or --
- 20 MR. NOVACK: It will be ultimately
- 21 because of our contract with Ameren. Right now
- 22 there is a limit set by the Illinois Power Agency
- 23 for Community Solar. So, anything larger than
- 24 2 megawatts wouldn't be considered community

- 1 solar. Your question is a good one, because when
- 2 we go to actually execute our Interconnection
- 3 Agreement with Ameren, it will be bound to that
- 4 2-megawatt and it can't be larger.
- 5 MS. TURNER: It's the community
- 6 solar thing that really limits you. I remember
- 7 now.
- 8 How long does it take to construct?
- 9 MR. NOVACK: Twelve to 16 weeks is
- 10 our estimate on a site this size.
- 11 MR. KURTZ: The community solar --
- 12 because I was gone in January when you must have
- 13 explained that part of it. You sign up and then
- 14 you don't necessarily get the solar energy but
- 15 you get the credits for the less expensive
- 16 electricity, is that it?
- 17 MR. NOVACK: That's exactly right.
- 18 Because anybody from the Ameren territory can
- 19 subscribe to Breezewood Solar if it's up and
- 20 running.
- Now, of course, if somebody, you
- 22 know, from Peoria, or I don't know, some other
- 23 area signs up, obviously, there is no way to take
- 24 the electrons that are generated here and just zap

- 1 them over to Peoria. But what happens is the
- 2 credits -- well, you actually hit it on the head.
- 3 All right. So, by subscribing you are saying that
- 4 I am purchasing the equivalent amount of
- 5 electricity that is being generated on this site
- 6 for my house. But a step further is, you know,
- 7 that it's being generated local to your utility
- 8 territory and not being generated in Texas or
- 9 Iowa.
- 10 MS. TAYLOR: How did they decide who
- 11 has the opportunity to sign up? I mean, if it is
- 12 limited to 321 homes --
- MR. NOVACK: Great question. There
- 14 is a couple of regulations as far as who -- not
- 15 who but -- well, yes, who. And we have
- 16 established it has to be in the Ameren territory,
- 17 but as far as the numbers go. So, I'll give you
- 18 an example of one. No more than 40 percent of
- 19 the capacity can be taken up by one user. So we
- 20 couldn't go to, you know, the City of Bloomington
- 21 and say, you know, if they use 3.9 million
- 22 kilowatt hours a year, we can't say sign up for
- 23 this farm and we are done.
- 24 The Illinois Power Agency and other

- 1 states are doing this too. They want to give a
- 2 lot of people an opportunity to join.
- 3 So, the developer is responsible for
- 4 gaining subscribers. And our philosophy on the
- 5 subscription side -- and it's too early for us to
- 6 actually start getting subscribers because of
- 7 where we are at in the process, but our philosophy
- 8 is to try to kind of go inside out. Like try to
- 9 get local businesses and local residents. When I
- 10 say local, like in the community. And then if we
- 11 need more numbers, you know, then we kind of
- 12 expand to other population centers in the
- 13 territory.
- We hope to give an opportunity for
- 15 anybody who wants to subscribe. That's what we
- 16 would love to do, to give an opportunity to
- 17 subscribe.
- 18 MS. TAYLOR: This is located fairly
- 19 close to the city. So, are there city utilities
- 20 that run through this that we have to be
- 21 concerned about, sewer, water, existing lines?
- MR. COOPER: We will have a survey
- done and all of that done as part of the design,
- 24 but in our preliminary look at it there is no

22

23

area?

Page 43 utilities that are running where we are going to 1 2. be putting the solar panels or pods. 3 MS. TAYLOR: And you will not be 4 building any facilities there that would need any of those? 5 MR. COOPER: Correct. 7 MR. DICK: Just for your information, there is a sewer line that does go 8 across there from that -- the subdivision there 9 across I74 that will be going underneath this 10 11 solar farm. So, you will spot that at some 12 point. But it would cause a significant problem 13 if you made a hole in it. 14 MR. COOPER: Noted. 15 MS. TAYLOR: Just back for a second to what I think Michael asked about the roads, I 16 17 noticed on this LESA report that the roads were 18 rated the worst of the five conditions that were 19 listed here. And they gave you the maximum 20 points which counts against you. 21 I just -- how is that going to affect

MR. COOPER: So, as I mentioned

you if the roads are really that poor in that

- 1 before, we will -- it is really just the
- 2 roadways, and I will be honest, the LESA score, I
- 3 am not 100 percent understanding where they
- 4 assessed the roadway in that. But really the
- 5 roadway, we are right off a main interstate.
- 6 Business 51 is a good quality road. The only
- 7 road that I can see being an issue is the one
- 8 that we spoke of, the entrance gravel. And it
- 9 looks like the old frontage road used to be
- 10 concrete. We will be repairing that road up to
- 11 the necessary standards to get the equipment in
- 12 there during construction. So whether that be
- 13 putting down gravel -- we will have a report that
- 14 will give us a better understanding of the soils.
- 15 And we may need to put pavement down there as
- 16 well.
- 17 MS. TAYLOR: You will come in kind
- 18 of very close to -- what did you say, which
- 19 route?
- MR. COOPER: The gravel roadway
- 21 closest to Main Street here. In the photo --
- MS. TAYLOR: So, you will come in
- 23 from Main Street basically?
- MR. COOPER: Yes, yes. We will come

- 1 in here and then turn into here and right down
- 2 the side.
- 3 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.
- 4 MR. COOPER: We are not anticipating
- 5 coming into the residential area.
- 6 MS. TURNER: I have one final. You
- 7 guys are close to a residential area. Have you
- 8 built these close? And I asked the question
- 9 earlier, but does it cause an attractive
- 10 nuisance? Curiosity often is more than anything
- 11 what causes issues.
- MR. NOVACK: Right. And we have.
- 13 To answer your question, we have built solar
- 14 farms that are in proximity to residential such
- 15 as this site in other states, and we also have
- 16 projects in the works in the state with similar
- 17 conditions.
- 18 We have looked at and studied the
- 19 effects, or I should say lack of effect, of solar
- 20 farm on neighboring property values. And I want
- 21 to say 134 feet was the closest property that was
- 22 evaluated as a comp to show that there was no
- 23 impact in the value 134 feet away from --
- 24 actually, that was a house to the actual modules

Page 46 1 itself. 2 And in this case, the 200 foot 3 setback is kind of a start of the array. 4 MS. TURNER: What about vandalism? 5 That is more what I meant, vandalism or just kids wanting to get inside the fence to see what's going on in there. 7 8 MR. NOVACK: That's I am sure part 9 of the reason why the NEC does require a chain 10 link fence of some height. You know, the lack of barbed wire could potentially be less of an 11 12 impediment. The thing is every time I have 13 discussed this with people, you know, what we fall back on this is what we have seen, because 14 15 we operate a lot of solar farms -- they are just 16 not very fun to vandalize because you can't see. 17 Like, you know, it would be like if a tree falls 18 in the middle of the woods and nobody is there to 19 hear it, that type of thing. 20 MS. TURNER: Anybody else have any 21 more questions? 22 Staff have any questions? 23 Does anyone in the audience have any 24 questions for these witnesses?

Page 47 1 You can come up. 2. My name is Pam PAM AUGSTIN: 3 Augstin, A-U-G-S-T-I-N. 4 My address is 101 Margaret Street, 5 and that's Bloomington, 61704. MS. TURNER: This is for questions. 6 7 PAM AUGSTIN: Yes. I have a few 8 questions and comments. 9 I am all for it. Let me tell you, I am all for it. Don't get me wrong. I just have 10 11 some questions. 12 The frontage road that you are 13 talking about, that was built when they made 51 14 four lanes. They put all -- two lanes of traffic 15 right there. So, that's how close it was to my 16 I have lived in that house off and on for 17 61 years. So, I have been there a long time. 18 That's why I am saying you are going to have to 19 really do a lot of upgrades.

20 If you are planning on entering that

21 frontage road off of Brigham School, that's close.

22 And especially during the school year, you have

23 got buses there -- it's like you pull in and turn

24 immediately. So that's going to have a lot of

- 1 problems. I just want you to know that. Okay.
- 2 Because anybody -- even we, when we
- 3 pull off 51 and try to turn down that road, it's
- 4 hard. So, might want to think about that.
- 5 You might want to think about putting
- 6 the barbed wire up too, only because --
- 7 MS. TURNER: I definitely want your
- 8 comments, but if we could go to the questions
- 9 right now and then --
- 10 PAM AUGSTIN: Okay. Well, the
- 11 traffic was my thing.
- MS. TURNER: Okay.
- 13 PAM AUGSTIN: I didn't know if you
- 14 were going to access off of Robert or Margaret
- 15 Street. That was another thing. So, we didn't
- 16 know what kind of traffic to expect.
- 17 You said 12 to 16 weeks. When are
- 18 you starting, do you know yet?
- 19 MR. NOVACK: It's too early to know
- 20 with certainty.
- 21 PAM AUGSTIN: Okay.
- MR. NOVACK: But not -- you know, it
- 23 will be longer than 12 months from now I would
- 24 say.

Page 49 1 PAM AUGSTIN: Next year sometime? 2 MR. NOVACK: Yes. PAM AUGSTIN: And then -- never 3 4 mind, I already answered that question from you 5 quys. Like I said, my own thing with the barbed wire, because the kids across the street 7 will do anything, just so you know. I'm serious. 8 9 They do anything in that field now. So, that's my 10 questions. 11 MS. TURNER: Great. Thank you very 12 much. 13 PAM AUGSTIN: Thank you. 14 MS. TURNER: Anybody else have 15 questions for these witnesses? 16 ANNA ZIEGLER: Anna Ziegler, 17 Z-I-E-G-L-E-R, 2242 West King Drive, Bloomington, 18 Illinois. I am here on behalf of McLean County 19 Farm Bureau. 20 So, this is solar farm number four 2.1 for this company and this Board to evaluate. 22 we appreciate the references to decommissioning, 23 erosion control and the tile repair. Those are 24 all things we have discussed before.

Page 50 1 I wanted to ask if your plans for 2 post-construction include restoration of the land 3 for compaction and --4 MR. COOPER: Yes. So it's my 5 understanding we will be accounting for that as part of our original design and when we analyze the storm water runoff. And in my experience 7 8 that will be and they will be scarified back. Once it's done, the top 12 to 18 inches after 9 decommission will be scarified to make sure that 10 11 any compaction that was done as part of the 12 construction or maintenance will be put back to 13 as close the original infiltration rates as 14 possible. 15 ANNA ZIEGLER: For your ground 16 cover, will that be certified seeds free of noxious seeds? 17 18 MR. COOPER: Yes. 19 ANNA ZIEGLER: Previously we 20 discussed an Aq Nuisance Disclaimer of some sort 21 to protect adjacent farmers. So, is that part of 22 the plan of this project as well? 23 MR. COOPER: Yes. 24 ANNA ZIEGLER: Thank you very much.

	Page 51					
1	MR. COOPER: Thank you.					
2	MS. TURNER: Anyone else have					
3	questions for these witnesses?					
4	Do you have anybody else that will					
5	testify on your side of things?					
6	MS. GRECO: No.					
7	MS. TURNER: Anyone else in the					
8	audience who would like to testify?					
9	Would you like to be sworn or					
10	affirmed?					
11	LARRY DURBIN: Sworn in would be					
12	fine.					
13	(Witness sworn.)					
14	MS. TURNER: Will you give us your					
15	name and address?					
16	LARRY DURBIN: Larry Durbin, 13603					
17	North 2300 East Road, Bloomington, Illinois.					
18	MR. NOVACK: Go ahead.					
19	MR. DICK: Could you give your					
20	address, again, please?					
21	LARRY DURBIN: Yes. 13603 North					
22	2300 East, Bloomington.					
23	MS. TURNER: Okay. Go ahead.					

- 1 say that the farm field that we are talking about
- 2 has been in the family for a couple generations.
- 3 And let's see, it will be three generations, I
- 4 guess. And it's always been farmed. And back in
- 5 the sixties, I believe '63 or '64, they come up
- 6 with the zoning rules and regulations and so
- 7 forth and it was zoned residential and commercial
- 8 in front, but that's never happened there. It's
- 9 always been farmed.
- 10 We -- that used to be 80 acres there,
- 11 and Interstate 74 cut through there and left
- 12 18 acres on the south side of 74 and 31 on the
- 13 north side.
- 14 And the south side we have finally
- 15 sold 20 some years ago probably and it's been
- 16 developed. But the north side we never could --
- 17 never could do anything.
- Now, part of the problem is the
- 19 entrance to the property. IDOT 20 years ago said
- 20 that we could have a right in and a right out. So
- 21 if they wanted to put a temporary entrance there
- 22 from Route 51, they probably could for truck
- 23 traffic if need be.
- But anyway, it's just my wife and her

- 1 sister -- or her sister owned the property, and we
- 2 have been farming it all of the time. And so five
- 3 years ago we converted over to no till and cover
- 4 crops. And so that's -- I'm glad to hear it is
- 5 going to be planted in crops that -- around the
- 6 solar deals so that it will protect the soil from
- 7 erosion and so forth, because it has a little bit
- 8 of a slope. It's not highly erodable, but it is
- 9 part of that soil and water conservation people,
- 10 but it has some slope to it.
- 11 So, I think it would be a good fit
- 12 and it -- it would probably make a little more
- income for us, because it is marginal farm ground.
- 14 It's not -- it's got a lot of clay and so forth
- 15 there. So, that's about it.
- 16 If anybody has any questions, I will
- 17 be glad to answer.
- MS. TURNER: Does the Board have any
- 19 questions?
- None.
- 21 Anyone in the audience have any
- 22 questions?
- Okay. I think you are good to go.
- 24 Thanks a lot for coming up.

1	Page 54 LARRY DURBIN: Thank you.					
2	MS. TURNER: Anyone else like to					
3	testify?					
4	(Witness sworn.)					
5	MICHAEL MATEJKA: Michael Matejka,					
6	M-A-T-E-J-K-A, 800 North School Street in Normal.					
7	And I just want to commend this					
8	project along with wind and other projects going					
9	on as we move forward to the 21st century as an					
10	energy center for downstate Illinois, but just					
11	would like to reaffirm that the highest quality					
12	impact for people in McLean County is to employ					
13	local people, and very much encouraging this firm					
14	to use local trades and use local people to					
15	construct this project and make sure that there is					
16	an excellent return for the local citizens, which					
17	puts local money in the local stores and into the					
18	local taxing bodies.					
19	Thank you.					
20	MS. TURNER: Thank you.					
21	Does the Board have any questions?					
22	Anyone in the audience have any					
23	questions for Mr. Matejka?					
24	I have been forgetting to ask you					

Page 55 guys, sorry, if you had any questions. 1 2 Thank you. 3 MICHAEL MATEJKA: Thank you. 4 MR. NOVACK: Does anybody else 5 have -- would anyone else like to testify? Okay, I'm seeing none. 6 7 Would you guys like to make a closing 8 statement? 9 MS. GRECO: Scott would like me -- I 10 don't get this opportunity often -- to point out his typo on the slide. That this is not Sass 11 12 Solar, it's Breezewood Solar. 13 MR. NOVACK: The numbers are the 14 same. 15 MS. GRECO: I just want to say in 16 closing that we really appreciate McLean County's 17 attention to this matter from the original rezoning, to the staff report, to everybody's 18 time tonight. I know it's gotten to be sort of a 19 20 late night. So, we definitely appreciate it. 21 MS. TURNER: We are getting kind of 22 used to this. 23 Does anyone else who testified have a 24 closing statement that they would like to make?

Page 56 1 Okay. 2 On seeing that, we will close this 3 portion of the hearing. 4 Is there anything as a Board that we 5 need to discuss on this case? MR. KURTZ: Go through the standards. 7 8 MS. TURNER: We will go through the 9 standards. A, B, C, D, E, F, G. And what about 10 any of the stipulations, any questions on those or anything we need to discuss? 11 12 Michael, you weren't here before when 13 we went through all of these for the last one. 14 Phil was nice enough to put all of those in there 15 for us this time. 16 MR. KURTZ: I was thinking about the 17 Farm Bureau's concerns, I think they are all 18 addressed here. 19 MS. TURNER: Okay. 20 MR. KURTZ: I move that we recommend 21 approval of Case SU-18-10 with all of the 22 recommended stipulations. 23 24 MS. CARLTON: I'll second that.

1	Page 57 MS. TURNER: We will do a roll call
2	vote.
3	MR. DICK: It was seconded by
4	Carlton. Okay.
5	Kurtz?
6	MR. KURTZ: Yes.
7	MR. DICK: Dean?
8	MR. DEAN: Yes.
9	MR. DICK: Carlton?
10	MS. CARLTON: Yes.
11	MR. DICK: Taylor?
12	MS. TAYLOR: Yes.
13	MR. DICK: Turner?
14	MS. TURNER: Yes.
15	MR. DICK: This goes to the County
16	Board on the third Tuesday of the month.
17	MR. NOVACK: Thank you very much.
18	MS. TURNER: Thank you. With that,
19	we are adjourned.
20	
21	(Arbitration adjourned.)
22	
23	
24	

1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	Page	58
2			
3	I, LORRAINE McCREIGHT, an Illinois		
4	Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify		
5	that the foregoing transcript of McLean County		
6	Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing was duly		
7	taken by me to the best of my ability, and		
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