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PUCO

Offices in: Dayton Columbus

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June 27, 2008

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 E. Broad St., 13th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3713

RE: Buckeye Wind LLC, Nos. 08-665-EL-BGN, 08-666-EL-BGN

Dear Sir or Madam:

I represent Robert and Diane McConnell, 4880 E US Highway 36, and Julia F. Johnson, 4891 E US Highway 36, who are residents of Union Township, Champaign County, within the area of the proposed Buckeye Wind LLC wind generation facility.

My clients attended a public information session on June 10, 2008, hosted by Buckeye Wind and Everpower Renewables, to offer information on the need, design, construction, and environmental information for the proposed turbines and substations. Because Buckeye Wind's counsel notified PUCO of this public information session, we assume that the purpose of the information session was to satisfy the requirements of O.A.C. § 4906-5-08(A). As you know, that rule requires an applicant for power siting certification to conduct at least one public information meeting prior to submitting the certificate application to the Power Siting Board. The information meeting must "address the need for the project, the project schedule, the design of the facility, and other pertinent data."

The information provided by the developers at the June 10 public meeting was vague and inadequate for purposes of providing the public with useful information about the proposed Buckeye Wind project. For example:

<u>Project design</u>: Information on the design of the project was speculative and incomplete. Although the developers stated that the project, as a whole, would consist of 120-130 wind turbines, the project map provided at the June 10 meeting showed only 78 turbines. Furthermore, the map did not purport to show specific locations for those turbines that were identified. Instead, according to a subsequent June 19 email from Everpower (enclosed), the map was intended only to "provide a general idea of the project and how it might be

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configured within the project area." According to the June 19 email, "Additional turbines will be added as further studies are completed and more information is collected. As we approach the final turbine layout with all turbine locations, that configuration will be shared with the community."

The public meeting provided no information on project site alternatives or site selection considerations or criteria utilized by the developers. Furthermore, the project map did not identify the existence or location of a southern substation, although a subsequent email from Everpower dated June 19 (enclosed) indicated that the southern substation would be located "east of Mutual-Catawba Road."

<u>Project schedule</u>: According to O.A.C. § 4906-5-08(A), the public information meeting must specifically address the project schedule. No project-specific schedule was provided at the June 10 public meeting. Although the developers distributed the Ohio Power Siting Board's generic siting process flowchart (enclosed), that flowchart relates to the general timing of the Board's certification proceedings, and is not specific to the Buckeye Wind project.

Environmental effects: Information on environmental effects was similarly deficient. Although the developers acknowledged at the meeting that ten noise tests had been conducted in the project area, no specific information was provided on the methodology, location, or results of the tests. A wildlife consultant for the developers indicated that two of the tests were conducted at different elevations on an anemometer tower, but she could provide no specifics concerning testing methodology or results. In a June 16 email from Everpower to Jim and Anita Bartlett (local residents who attended the public meeting) regarding the noise testing, Everpower stated:

We are still in the process of gathering information for our application to the Ohio Power Siting Board. Our studies are not yet finalized, so I am unable to provide the results of the studies at this time. . . . Once we have completed the studies and the application has been filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board, there will be opportunity for additional input and I or someone from Everpower would be more than happy to give you a call or meet with you to discuss the issues.

Everpower has announced its intention to apply to the Power Siting Board for certification of one or both of these projects in the next few weeks. I want to bring to your attention the deficiencies in the public information meeting as the Board begins formal review of this matter. The developers of this project should not be permitted to bypass their regulatory obligations to the public by providing sketchy and incomplete information to the public in the early stages of the Power Siting proceedings. Before the

Power Siting Board accepts the application(s) for this project, we request that the Board direct the developers to conduct a more thorough public information session meeting the requirements of O.A.C. § 4906-5-08(A).

Should you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please call me at (937) 226-9000.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Walker

CAW/daw Enclosures

cc: Julia F. Johnson

Robert and Diane McConnell

Howard Petricoff Stuart M. Siegfried ---- Original Message -----

From: Michael Speerschneider

To: 'Mike Pullins'; 'Diane'

Cc: 'Kevin Sheen'

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 3:54 PM

Subject: RE: turbine map

Diane.

The map presented at the public information meeting was intended to provide a general idea of the project and how it might be configured within the project area.

Additional turbines will be added as further studies are completed and more information is collected. As we approach the final turbine layout with all turbine locations, that configuration will be shared with the community. As the project progresses, the community will have access to this and other information through a variety of resources.

I will be more than happy to share with you a more detailed map of the initial turbine locations once the proposed turbine locations are finalized in a few weeks.

Thanks, Mike

From: Mike Pullins [mailto:mpullins@everpower.com]

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2008 12:02 PM

To: 'Diane'

Cc: 'Michael Speerschneider'; 'Kevin Sheen'

Subject: RE: turbine map

Diane,

I am copying your request to the New York office for reply as I do not have the capability of fulfilling your request.

Thank you for attending the open house.

Mike Pullins Everpower Renewables From: Dlane [mailto:dem@ctcn.net]
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2008 9:41 AM

To: Mike Pullins **Subject:** turbine map

Hi Mike,

I had some questions about the turbine map presented at the public meeting by Everpower. I personally found it difficult to read since it had no easily seen roads or houses on it. Also there was mention that there would be a total of 120-130 turbines and only 78 were shown. I would like to request a more complete map perhaps superimposed on a platt map so that it is more easily read. When might this be available and are you planning on showing a more complete map at a public meeting at a later time.

Thankyou, Diane McConnell

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG.

Version: 8.0.100 / Virus Database: 270.3.0/1505 - Release Date: 6/16/2008 7:20 AM

---- Original Message ----

From: Michael Speerschneider

To: 'Julie Johnson'
Cc: 'Mike Pullins'

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 3:48 PM Subject: RE: Buckeye Wind Project

Hello Julie,

The project will have two points of interconnection, and so each point of interconnection will be treated as a separate docket number and, for purposes of the OPSB process, two separate projects.

There is no dividing "line" between the projects. The difference will be based on whether the turbine is connected to the northern line or the southern line. The exact configuration of the collection system is not yet finalized.

The public information meeting was for both docket numbers.

The preliminary design indicates that the substation for the southern point of interconnect will be east of Mutual-Catawba Road.

I am not sure which property/turbine you are referring to, but we will be able to be more specific regarding the location of turbines and proximity to property lines and structures once the final proposed configuration is completed. I believe your properties are in the southern docket number.

Thank you for your questions,

Mike Speerschneider EverPower Renewables 484-593-0362 (office)

From: Julie Johnson [mailto:juliejohnson@ctcn.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 17, 2008 4:12 PM

To: mspeer@everpower.com Subject: Buckeye Wind Project

Mike - I have another question (or questions) arising from the Public Information Meeting and the more I think about it, the more confused I get. The notice in the paper said the project would have a northern and a southern portion. The Northern portion is PSB Docket 08-665-EL-BGN and will connect to a substation in Salem Township. The Southern portion is PSB Docket 08-666-EL-BGN. If they have two different docket numbers, are they two separate projects? Where is the dividing line between the North and the South? Was the Public Information Meeting for the North since it was at Triad? Will there be another meeting for the South? I recall you did not know where the point of interconnection would be on the Southern project but you thought it might be on Pisgah Road. Would that be east or west of Mutual-Catawba Road?

The map presented at the meeting was difficult for me to read. There appear to be two turbines proposed for very close to my property - one of which looks like it is on my property line. Do you have a planning figure you are using for the setbacks? Am I in PSB Docket 08-665-EL-BGN or in PSB Docket 08-666-EL-BGN?

Thank you for responding to this question.

Julie

---- Original Message ----

From: Michael Speerschneider

To: <u>Jim & Anita Bartlett</u>

Cc: 'Mike Pullins'
Sent: Thursday June 19

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 3:44 PM Subject: RE: Thank you and questions

Mrs. Bartlett,

Thank you for your questions and for your continued interest in the project.

I understand your concern and want to assure you that EverPower is working with highly qualified and experienced experts to build a project that is beneficial to the community. We are still in the process of gathering information for our application to the Ohio Power Siting Board. Our studies are not yet finalized, so I am unable to provide the results of the studies at this time.

Once we have completed the studies and the application has been filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board, there will be opportunity for additional input and I or someone from EverPower would be more than happy to give you a call or meet with you to discuss the issues.

Thank you, Michael Speerschneider EverPower Renewables mspeer@everpower.com

From: Jim & Anita Bartlett [mailto:bartifact@ctcn.net]

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2008 5:41 PM

To: mspeer@everpower.com **Subject:** Thank you and questions

To Mr. Speerschneider at Everpower,

Thank you for the opportunity to review your plan for Champaign and Logan counties at the Public Information Meeting.

You might recall that I sat in on most of the Champaign County Wind Study Meetings where you represented Everpower. I continue to be quite interested in several aspects of your development and turbine effects, especially noise.

I was interested to hear at the Public Information Meeting, June 10 at Triad High School, that noise studies have been conducted by Everpower, but I was disappointed that there was no information from these studies available at the meeting other than the statement that studies have been conducted using the anemometer towers.

Could you provide me with information from those studies and answers to the following specific questions I have? What specific noise was being measured? What times of the day were sounds being recorded?

Of what duration were the recorded samplings?

At what altitude(s) were the sound measuring instruments located?

If the sound testing is completed or ongoing, why was no information made available at the Public Information Meeting? The public was there, but where was the information?

Will the public be given data on the background sound levels?

Will a sound engineer be available at the next Public Meeting to explain the levels and impacts to interested parties?

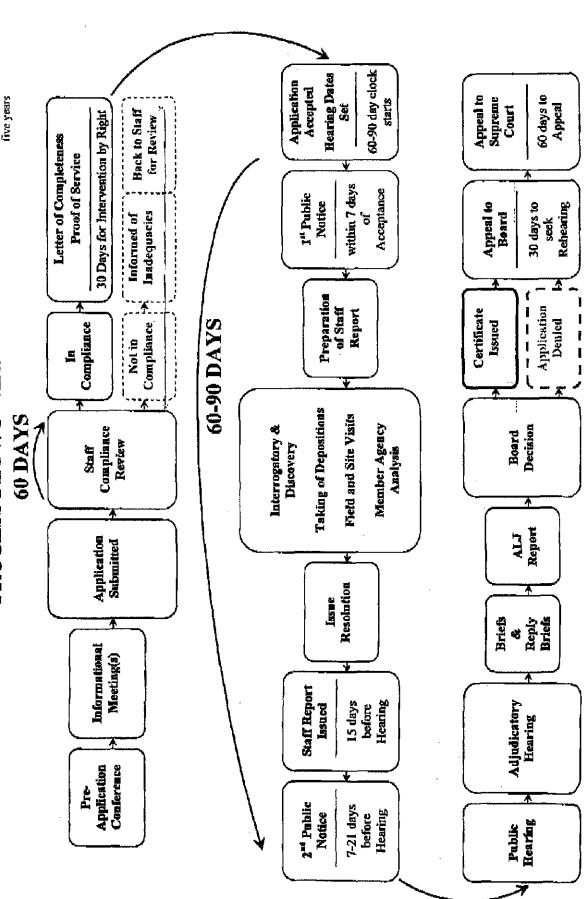
I would appreciate any additional information you could provide to me. Several of Everpower's wind turbines appear to be planned for near my home, and my husband, our neighbors and I are very concerned.

During the Wind Study Group moderated by Mr. Selvaggio, I heard Everpower agree to measuring background sound before construction of turbines and maintaining that decibel level plus 5 decibels as the limit to which residents would be exposed when wind turbines were in operation. We trust that this is still the case and would like you to confirm that commitment.

Many thanks, in advance, for responding to my request.

Anita Bartlett 6044 E US Highway 36 Cable, OH 43009 OHIO POWER SITING STATUTE
PROCESS FLOWCHART*

* This is a working DRAFT
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