

September 15, 2008

To:

Ohio Power Siting Board; Public Utilities Commission of Ohio; Ohio House of Representatives Public Utilities Committee; Ohio House of Representatives Alternative Energy Committee; Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Re: Wind Turbine Siting Regulations for the State of Ohio

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that siting for industrial wind machines planned in Logan County now rests in State hands, having been removed from local control by recent legislation. Our concerns – regarding safety, health issues, noise, shadow flicker, and property rights – have been all but utterly ignored to date by local and state officials.

We support the development of alternative energy sources. We could support the construction of industrial wind machines – regardless of the inefficient nature and high cost of wind power, and even though wind energy could never satisfy Ohio's energy needs – if wind machines were properly sited in, for example, all farm areas where they would do no harm. The area where I live in Logan County is not such an area – our area is highly populated. Our home sits nearby/adjacent to and surrounded by land now leased for turbine construction. Several of these properties are owned by individuals, or a corporation, who do not reside here, but who have been given a large say in zoning on wind turbines. My family soon may be sitting in the middle of a wind factory, i.e., "farm." Do we, non-participating property owners, retain any property rights equal to those of wind lease holders? We would like to see set backs not from dwellings, but from property lines so that we can build on, split, sell or remain safe on all parts of our land.

We hold legitimate concerns about adverse impact of noise and shadow flicker effect. Why can't studies be done prior to construction to absolutely ensure no such problems will occur? Surely you are aware of well-documented problems in other areas, for example in Maine, where the wind industry wrongly assured residents there would be no noise. Why can't studies be completed by independent experts – not employees of the wind industry – prior to any approved construction? Why can't set backs be great enough to ensure not that numerous machines can be built, but that residents will not suffer noise or shadow flicker impact? Shouldn't the quality-of-life of residents here hold the same importance as building wind machines? What about adverse health impact? Have you seen the studies of Dr. Nina Pierpont? What if we become ill? Who will reimburse us? Where will we live if we cannot then sell our house? What about ice throw? The set backs of 750' now in place are ridiculously short. What about the roadways? Have you seen the winding narrow roads in this area? Do we have to endure road widening and construction for this project as well? At whose cost? And who will pay for those road repairs? Will the OPSB

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regulations include an arbitration process (other than typical legal recourse) for local governments and citizens alike who find problems afterward, that they were promised in advance, would not occur?

What about the power grid? Is the grid capable of handling the interconnection to wind? Will there be a huge substation built here as well? At whose cost? Will the OPSB regulations require public disclosure of the contracts wind companies have with lease holders?

Industrial wind construction does not belong in populated areas – such as where we now live. If the State decides it does, perhaps then adjacent non-participating property owners should be reimbursed the value of our homes. If wind turbines truly do not affect property values as our county auditor assures us (but why would anyone want to purchase our home when its very value, its setting, will be gone?), would it be so unreasonable as to require the wind industry to buy out non-participating adjacent property owners such as myself?

When addressing wind siting for this area, please try to put yourself in our place. We deserve legislation that adequately serves us, taxpayers and voters, and protects us as well as it will for wind companies and those farmers and large landowners making profit from the deal. We are tired of being told we have to "take it in the cheek" (statement from Ohio Farm Bureau) for Ohio. We ask for setbacks that protect homeowners first – not wind companies.

Sincerely,

Keith and Sue Nason  
6476 County Rd. 2  
Zanesfield OH 43360