

FILE

Case Number: 08-0666-EL-BGN
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

I'd like to let the OPSB know that I strongly believe that Champaign County is not an appropriate location for the proposed Everpower Renewables project. Champaign County is rural in character, but has a widely distributed population of nearly 40,000 people that would be deeply affected in every way by the many industrial aspects of this project. This project will undermine:

- **The health and safety of our community.** Residents living near turbines with setbacks *greater* than the 914-feet proposed for Champaign County report myriad health problems.
- **The local wildlife population**, specifically birds and the endangered Indiana bat.
- **Property values.** In other communities with turbines located near residences, people report greater difficulty in trying to sell their homes and property.
- **The agricultural character of our community.** Our landscape will be drastically altered by the installation of 70 giant turbines up to 492-feet in height, to which a few existing cell phone towers and grain elevators cannot compare. These turbines will involve an enormous number of access roads and power lines, forever changing the character of the region from agricultural to industrial.

This project will:

- **Not** create a significant number of jobs, especially in relation to its overwhelming presence in our community.
- **Not** lower our own electric bills. The energy generated will be sold elsewhere, without the people of Champaign County – except for a tiny percentage of leaseholders, many of whom don't even live in our community – receiving a single dollar from the profits created from the sale of our own wind.
- **Not** contribute to our local tax base in any meaningful way, as Everpower, along with other wind energy companies, is currently lobbying to lower the current utility tax rate.

Furthermore, a project of this scope in an area as populous as Champaign County with setbacks at only 914-feet is unprecedented. The people of Champaign County are not interested in being an experiment about the affects of siting an industrial project so close to a vibrant community, all for the benefit of multi-national corporations. Champaign County is not the place for this project. I'm asking the OPSB to refuse to grant a site permit to Everpower Renewables.

Signature: *Bert K. Sherman*

Printed Name: *Bert K. Sherman*

Phone #: *937-484-4057*

Address: *3960 Dowds Dr. Urbana, Ohio 43078*

Please mail ASAP to the address on the top of the page.

Comments

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