

BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application)
of Buckeye Wind LLC for a Certificate)
to Install Numerous Electricity)
Generating Wind Turbines in)
Champaign County to be Collected at)
an Electric Substation in)
Union Township,)
Champaign County, Ohio)

Case No. 08-666-EL-BGN

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REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF LEON R. CYR

On Behalf of

Buckeye Wind LLC

Q.1. Please state your name and the address of your farm.

A.1. My name is Leon R. Cyr and I reside at 4032 East 100 North Road, Fowler, Indiana, a farm located in Benton County, Indiana. Benton County is on the Indiana and Illinois state line about 100 miles south of Chicago.

Q.2. Please state your occupation.

A.2. Currently, I serve as a Benton County Commissioner. I was elected as one of three County Commissioners a year ago and was selected by the other two Commissioners to act as the President of the Commissioners. I am also a retired farmer.

Q.3. On whose behalf are you offering testimony?

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Technician SF Date Processed 11/25/09

A.3. I have been asked by the Applicant, Buckeye Wind LLC, to testify on my personal experience with wind turbines as a land owner who lives by three turbines and as a local official who has had to address wind farm issues.

Q.4. Please describe the wind turbines on your property.

A.4. I was approached by British Petroleum (BP) in concert with Dominion Resources and American Electric Power to lease my land for a wind farm they were planning in 2006. Under the lease, BP has the right to locate the towers at the best wind harvesting locations; in exchange BP has the responsibility to repair all damages such as field tile, fences, water courses and crop loss due to compaction. In addition, I receive a royalty on the power that is produced.

Q.5. Please describe the turbines on your land.

A.5. The three turbines are Vestas 1.65 MW turbines with a blade height of 375 feet. The closest turbine is approximately 1,000 feet from my house, the next closest is 3,000 feet and the third is 3,500 feet from the house. In addition, to the west of my house, a wind turbine is sited approximately 2,000 feet from my house on a neighbor's property. The turbines have been operational on my property for about a year.

Q.6. Please describe the sounds that the wind turbines on your land produce.

A.6. If you are outside and the wind is blowing at high speed, from behind the turbine towards where you are standing you can hear a "wooshing" sound comparable in sound level to that made when a car drives by our house at a high rate of speed. If you are upwind from the turbine there is no sound. Finally, in low wind you cannot hear the turbines when they turn. I have attached as exhibit A pictures of my house and the three turbines.

Q.7. Have you ever heard a pounding sound or a sound like shoes in a dryer coming from the wind turbines?

A.7. No.

Q.8. Can you hear the wind turbines when you are in your house?

A.8. No.

Q.9. Can you hear the wind turbines in your house when the windows are open?

A.9. No.

Q.10. Have you had any difficulty sleeping because of the wind turbines?

A.10. No.

Q.11. Have you experienced pressure or palpitations in your chest? If so do you attribute those to the wind turbines?

A.11. No.

Q.12. Have you experienced shadow flicker from your three turbines? If so please describe the experience?

A.12. I do get a shadow flicker from the turbine that is closest to my house. That turbine is located on the south side of the house and it will produce a flicker for a limited amount of time during the late fall and early winter when the sun is at an angle that puts the rays behind the blades.

Q.13. Have you reviewed the DVD titled UNU Exhibit 30? If so, do you believe the noise and shadow flicker represented on the DVD are reflective of the noise levels and shadow flicker you have experienced at your home?

A.13. I have had a chance to look at the DVD. The shadow flicker seems more intense than what we get on a very sunny day. As for the sound, that is hard to tell because it

depends on where you set the volume level on the DVD player. When I left the volume control at the setting I normally use the "wooshing" sound was louder than what I hear on the farm on those days when I hear it.

Q.14. Have you or your neighbors experienced any ice throws from the turbines?

A.14. No.

Q.15. How far is your closest neighbor's house to your three wind turbines?

A.15. The closest turbine is about 1,000 feet from my neighbor's house.

Q.16. Has that neighbor or any other of your neighbors complained to you about the noise wind turbines make? If so please describe their complaints?

A.16. No complaints.

Q.17. Does the neighbor closest to you also host wind turbines?

A.17. No.

Q.18. As a County Commissioner, what complaints have you had about wind turbines during this past year?

A.18. I have received several complaints concerning the damage done to the county roads by the heavy equipment used in erecting the towers. The wind producers are in the process of repaving the asphalt roads and leveling and re-graveling the gravel roads.

As a County Commissioner I have not received any formal or informal complaints about the noise or flicker.

Q.19. What impact have the three turbines had on your ability to farm your land?

A.19. Since the blades are at least 100 feet above the ground, all farm equipment can easily pass under the blade. Thus, the only ground taken out of agriculture when a wind turbine is added is the base and the service road. The base on the turbines on my farm are

about 50 feet in diameter. As for the service road, we are permitted to drive the farm equipment over the service road so just the 10 to 15 foot graveled area of the road is taken out production.

Q.20. Does this conclude your testimony?

A.20. Yes, it does.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was served upon the following parties of record via e-mail on this 25th day of November, 2009.

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