

FILE

PUCO EXHIBIT FILING

Date of Hearing: 7/8/10
Case No. 09-1064-EL-BGN
PUCO Case Caption: Imo Heartland Wind, LLC

PUCO

2010 JUL 23 PM 1:06

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

List of exhibits being filed:

- Sign-in sheets
- Written testimony.

Reporter's Signature: Maria Di Paolo Jones
Date Submitted: 7/12/10

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician SB Date Processed 7/23/10

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

- - -

In the Matter of the :
Application of Heartland :
Wind, LLC for a :
Certificate to Site a :
Wind-Powered Electric : Case No. 09-1066-EL-BGN
Generation Facility in :
the Counties of Van Wert :
and Paulding, Ohio. :

- - -

PROCEEDINGS

before Mr. Jay Agranoff and Mr. L. Douglas Jennings,
Administrative Law Judges, at Lincolnview Local
Schools, 15945 Middle Point Road, Van Wert, Ohio at
5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, 2010.

- - -

PUBLIC HEARING

- - -

ARMSTRONG & OKEY, INC.
222 East Town Street, 2nd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481
Fax - (614) 224-5724

- - -

Public Hearing

Case Number: 09-1066--EL-BGN
Heartland Wind / Blue Creek Wind Farm LLC
Van Wert & Paulding Counties

Date: July 8, 2010 / 5:00 PM

Location: Lincolnview School
15945 Middle Point Road, Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Name (Please Print):

Address:

G. Kent McMillen

838 Prospect Ave.

VAN WERT OH 45891
7426 Fensby Wisener Rd
Conroy, OH 45832

Mrs. Schaffner

16525 Wetzel Rd
VAN WERT, OHIO 45891

ELANE SILER

916 E. ERVIN RD.
VAN WERT, OH 45891

George Silen

11

Steve Pusk

1032 Elm St. - Rd
Swift Ohio

BRETT HEFFNER

3429 STEIN ROAD
SHELBY OHIO 44075

Public Hearing

Case Number: 09-1066--EL-BGN
Heartland Wind / Blue Creek Wind Farm LLC
Van Wert & Paulding Counties

Date: July 8, 2010 / 5:00 PM

Location: Lincolnview School
15945 Middle Point Road, Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Name (Please Print):

Address:

✓ PHIL MCCLURE

12106 GREENVILLE ROAD
VAN WERT, OH 45891

✓ TONY LANGHAM
Paulding Co.
Econ. Dev.

101 E. PERRY ST.
PAULDING, OH 45879

✓ JAMES E. WIECHART

938 METCALISS AVE
DELPHOS OHIO

✓ JEFF THOMAS

6588 DONLOCK RD.
CONVOY, OH. 45832

✓ Nancy Bowen

10621 Greenville Rd.
Van Wert OH. 45891

✓ Tulsa J. Parsons

14185 Wetzel Rd
Van Wert, OH 45891

✓ JOHN BAUER

8633 CONVOY RD
CONVOY, OH 45382

✓ Bob Barker

5208 John York
Van Wert OH.

Public Hearing

Case Number: 09-1066--EL-BGN
Heartland Wind / Blue Creek Wind Farm LLC
Van Wert & Paulding Counties

Date: July 8, 2010 / 5:00 PM

Location: Lincolnview School
15945 Middle Point Road, Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Name (Please Print):

Address:

Jennifer Smith
409 N Main St
Antwerp OH 45812
115 E Professional Dr
Van Wert, OH
8403 Fensby Wisener Rd
Conway OH 45832

3 additional witnesses

Testimony to the OPSB July 8, 2010

Good afternoon, I am Wayne L. Warren. My wife Lyn and I live at 7426 Feasby Wisener Road, Union Township, Convoy, OH 45832. We have lived in that location for 6 years having moved to this rural, spacious, agricultural area ON PURPOSE. We traveled around the eastern part of the US during my 40 year career as a civil servant. Our last post was in Washington, DC. where I worked for 30 years and we raised our family in a suburb – named Dumfries. This town, located on the Potomac River, south of DC was named after Dumfries, Scotland, the home of one of the founding residents. At an early time Dumfries harbor was second only to New York. The tonnage of tobacco was both its life's blood and future failure. After only a short time the poor farming practices silted in the harbor and its future was gone. I relate this story as it is a lesson of short-term greed vs long-term sustainability and quality-of-life, which may come to apply to Van Wert and Paulding Counties and their future.

As a personal disclaimer, I bring the following concerns not only as a resident and potential loser in this initial proposal to establish a 570 turbine industrial site this rural community, but also as an environmentalist, a taxpayer, and active citizen.

To further cite my concerns I must reveal that I am now retired, my wife and I, as I said, moved here on purpose, from our home of 30 years in Virginia to this place of security and calm, with life-style and values more closely aligned with our own, and most important to us: unobstructed views to the North, East, South and West. To see the sun rise and set, the storm clouds gather and go either North or toward the South of the "30 ridge". To experience the seasons, to be closer to the rhythms of the earth, the planting, growing, harvesting and resting cycles of an agricultural society.

I also bring a portion of professional expertise to this testimony. During my career, I was honored to have served as Director of Environmental Programs for the Veterans Health Administration. I did so with pride of accomplishment and have the environmental awards to certify as much – but one of the biggest challenges I had to face was those politically affiliated industries, who lobbied the Department of Veterans Affairs and my office, unceasingly, to adopt their latest technology schemes in the name of "good environmentalism". When we were presented with concepts which were based on sound science, logic and process we not only embraced these

concepts but introduced them to policy and enactment. If it was not a good concept we told them why and sent them packing, not wasting government resources on half-truths or bowing to political influence. One doesn't do this for a career and not be able to sort out the ultimate truths of a proposal. Therefore, after much personal investigation I am of the opinion that this wind generation proposal contains more "cons" than "pros" and a lack of science, logic and process. I realize the Ohio Power Siting Board and the Administrative Law Judge's Review requires more than my personal opinion. Therefore, I state that the proposed industry has not fully met the listed criteria for project evaluation. The following points deal specifically with the criteria and the short-comings of the proposal. Available time prevents me from detailing all elements of the fantasy of wind-power but I will focus on the cited **purpose** of this project which is to provide, and I quote, "... **reliably-priced, low-cost electricity.**" and Criteria 6. "**That the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity ...**" However, I and other local residents filed a petition of complaint to the Docket for this case on June 22, 2010 disputing that the stated purpose and criteria has been met.

To this first point, wind generated power is **not reliably priced** – Fact: Wind power is not reliably generated, it's optimum output generally does not match peak generation needs therefore its contribution to the power grid is not only unnecessary but it creates inefficiencies in base-load generators which actually serves to increase emissions, and operating costs for those essential providers.

Secondly, wind generated power is not **low-cost electricity** – Fact: When all costs are considered it is the most expensive power generated. Laws requiring its mandatory purchase will only serve to raise prices to all of us – the consumers.

Third, wind generated power will **not serve the public interest** – The "challenges" of integrating such a random, intermittent, volatile and unreliable power source into electric grids has been acknowledged by the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (known herein after as FERC) January 21, 2010. His statement announced a **Notice of Inquiry**. In other words the federal regulatory body is aware of the shortage of science, logic and process surrounding wind-generation claims. This proceeding will lead to greater official and media candor about the

challenges of integrating the output of “wind farms” into electric grids. I include the URL for the Reference:

<http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2010/012110/E-4.pdf>

Therefore, what **will serve the Best Interest of the Public** would be for the Siting Board to delay approval of this facility project until these issues have been resolved at the Federal Level. To this end – I must remind the Board that their purpose is to approve the siting of the facility not the economic advantages provided the company through taxpayer subsidies.

Fourth, wind power does **not serve the public’s convenience** – Fact: To believe that proximity (within line-of-sight) to a wind turbine does not directly and negatively correlate to the value (the selling price - not the taxable rate) of a residence would be laughable if not so devastating to property owners. The truth is anyone living within line-of-sight of any of these 570 generators will be negatively affected. And not just from a monetary standpoint. References are included to support this reality.

<http://www.wind-watch.org/documents/do-wind-turbines-affect-property-values/>

<http://www.wind-watch.org/documents/life-with-a-wind-turbine-1300-feet-away-the-wirtz-family/>

<http://www.wind-watch.org/documents/impact-of-wind-turbines-on-market-value-of-texas-rural-land/>

Environmental concerns and health concerns are fully discussed in the aforementioned Petition to the Siting Board and if time permits I can reiterate some of those now, if not, they are included as Attachment 1.

It should be noted, for the record, that even FERC acknowledges, and I quote: **“Furthermore, “wind farms” are not welcome near residential areas, even if wind conditions may be adequate, because of the large size of the wind turbines (400+ feet or more than 40 stories tall), because of their noise and other nuisance impacts.”** I include the URL for reference:

<http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2010/012110/E-4.pdf>

As I stated before, the Board’s withholding approval of this facility project until these issues have been resolved will preserve the concept that the OPSB defends and supports the concept of Public Convenience when there is demonstrated need.

The final Criteria, is “necessity” Fact: Wind generated power is not a necessity – I quote from the June 23 Staff report which **“... recommends**

that the Board find that 4906.10(A)(1) is not applicable to this electric generating facility project.” I believe this means that demonstrating need is not applicable to the stated purpose. If that is the case why is “necessity” specifically included in the criteria? This unilateral recommendation raises the question as to the completeness and accuracy of scope of the stated criteria produced by the OPSB. **Need is at the crux of this project.** Fact: There exists in the Ohio electric market a surplus of generated power. Usage is down 6% over the last two years. Most of Ohio’s power comes from coal. **NO, I repeat NO** coal-fired generators will be eliminated by these wind turbines, no gas-fired peak-load generators (such as the Convoy Unit) will be replaced by these wind turbines. The only requirement is that “renewable energy will be utilized – wind is not specified as the sole source.

In conclusion, I reiterate my request that this project be delayed until the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission renders its findings concerning the stated Notice of Inquiry. That proceeding will lead to national official and media candor about the challenges of integrating the output of “wind farms” into electric grids and the facts about its true cost/benefit.

I thank you for this opportunity to reinforce the submitted petition of June 22 and to make my findings a matter of record and information to the public.

ATTACHMENT 1

Environmental: Jon Boone a Maryland Environmentalist, Scientist, Writer: "For those eager to believe that massively tall and lighted wind turbines won't kill migrating birds of prey, song birds, and bats, contradictory information exists in Bridget Stutchbury's newly published book, *Silence of the Songbirds*, in which she details her concerns about this issue, citing, among other instances, the infamous wind facility in California at Altamont Pass that kills thousands of birds annually. In recent testimony before Congress, Dr. Michael Fry of the American Bird Conservancy concluded that by the year 2030 as many as 1.8 million birds annually could be killed by wind turbines. Chandler Robbins, the dean of American Ornithologists and a former colleague of Roger Tory Peterson, joined me as intervenor in a MDPSC wind hearing because he was concerned that building a network of large turbines in Western Maryland, where millions of birds migrate twice annually, would result in the slaughter of thousands of birds, some species of which have dangerously low population levels."

Source: Jon Boone: <http://www.wind-watch.org/documents/wp-content/uploads/boonej-abillofgoods.pdf>

Additional information on bird and bat depreciation is available at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/windfarm-turbines-deadly-for-birds-bats/article1598597/>

I must comment at this point about the national reaction to the current environmental damage to the Gulf Region and the concern about the loss of wildlife and specifically, birds. Hundreds of birds have been affected with great outpouring of offers to help with labor and money to assist in the cleaning and release of this wildlife (which usually fails). However, there appears to great indifference at the loss of thousands and thousands of the same species by the blade of a wind-turbine. Shortsighted, misguided, a lack of public disclosure? I think all of the above.

Health: Eric Rosenbloom a Vermont Writer and Science Editor

"The noise from the turbines on West Virginia's Backbone Mountain have been described by a resident as "incredible. It surprised me. It sounded like airplanes or helicopters. And it traveled. Sometimes, you could not hear the sound standing right under one, but you heard it 3,000 yards down the hill." The huge magnetized generators can not avoid producing a low-frequency hum, and the problem of 100-foot rotor blades chopping through the air at over 100 mph also is insurmountable (a 35-meter [115-foot] blade turning at

15 rpm is traveling 123 mph at the tip, at 20 rpm 164 mph). Every time each rotor passes the tower, the compression of air produces a deep resonating thump. In addition, the difference in wind speed between the top and bottom of the rotor creates a rhythm in the "swishing" of the blades through the air. The sound is projected outwards, so that it is actually fairly quiet directly beneath the turbine, but farther away the resulting sound, especially of several towers together, has been described to be as loud as a motorcycle, like aircraft continually passing overhead, a "brick wrapped in a towel turning in a tumble drier," "as if someone was mixing cement in the sky," "like a train that never arrives." It is a relentless rumble like unceasing thunder from an approaching storm." Wind Power Co. Enxco's John Zimmerman admitted at a meeting in Lowell, Vt., **"Wind turbines don't make good neighbors."**

The penetrating low-frequency aspect to the noise, a thudding vibration, much like the throbbing bass of a neighboring disco, travels much farther than the usually measured "audible" noise. It may be why horses which are completely calm around traffic and heavy construction are known to become very upset when they approach wind turbines. Medical cases are being examined as evidence mounts that proximity (farther away than current setbacks) causes anxiety, nausea, sleep deprivation, and other systemic reactions. Many other noises have been ascribed to wind turbines, including an eerie screeching as the blade and nacelle assembly turns to catch the wind."

Source: Eric Rosenbloom <http://www.aweo.org/problemwithwind.html>

The above narrative is based on a smaller generator version than proposed for the subject project. The hub height is 328', the rotor tip 476', the rotor tip speed at rated capacity output is in excess of 200 mph, the terrain is flat, and it is a populated area. Although it is primarily agricultural it is not currently an industrial area. If this project is approved it will become an industrial site; not the original concept or perception of its thousands of affected residents who deem that project is **not a public convenience.**

Thursday, July 08, 2010

Ohio Power Siting Board;

My name is Milo Schaffner, my Wife of 45 years and I were born and raised in Hoaglin Township, Van Wert County, Ohio. I served on the Lincolnview School Board for 8 years, 5 as President. Presently I'm serving my 9th year as Hoaglin Township Trustee and 3rd term as Vice President of the Van Wert Co. Township Association.

Professor Michael A Persinger, Behavioural Neuroscience Program, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ont. Has stated comments by a wind industry-paid panel that sound of wind turbines are an annoyance that may be a frustrating experience for people, but it is not an adverse health effect or disease is a classic example of the commerical tradition of paying academics from "prestigious" institutions to be yes-men.

As the only Canadian scientist on the Overhead Power Lines Panel for the State of New York during the 1980s, I saw the same strategy employed when concerns about 765kV Ontario-Quebec-New York power lines were masked by the dismissive rhetoric of profit-driven power companies. However, objective and balanced studies by researchers not funded or connected to power companies showed the complex and sometimes adverse effects of power frequencies.

Do I need to mention the Tobacco Industry and their denials?

Dr McMurtry warned Legislators in Ontario of emerging health problems as early as April 22, 2009. He is one of the most prominent physicians in the province. Former Dean of Medicine at the University of Western Ontario, he became the first Cameron Visiting Chair at Health Canada-a post carrying the responsibility for providing policy advice to the Deputy Minister and Minister of Health of Canada.

Dr. McMurtry states "When uncertainty exists and the health and well-being of people are potentially at risk, assuredly it is appropriate to invoke the precautionary principle."

The wind Industry often states that "there is no peer-reviewed scientific evidence indicating wind turbines have an adverse impact on human health." (this statement is taken directly from actual applications for approval to build industrial turbines).

Health Canada disagrees. In a letter dated August 6, 2009 from Health Canada Safe Environments Program, Allison Denning, Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator Health Canada, Atlantic Region pointed out:

"Health Canada advises that this statement be revised to indicate that there are peer reviewed scientific articles indicating that wind turbines may have an adverse impact on human health."

Didn't the Tobacco Industry say there was no health problems?

The National Institute of Health (part of the US Department of Health and Human Services) warned:

"Wind energy will undoubtedly create noise, which increases stress, which in turn increases the risk of cardiovascular disease and cancer."
(Environmental Health Perspectives, volume 116, pg A237-238, 2008.)

In 2006, the French National Academy of Medicine issued a report that concludes:

"The harmful effects of sound related to wind turbines are insufficiently assessed. The sounds emitted by the blades being of low frequency, which therefore travel easily and vary according to the wind, constitute a permanent risk for the people exposed to them. The Academy recommends halting wind turbine construction closer than 1.5 km from residences".

The June 2009 report on Sleep disturbance and wind turbine noise by the British physician Christopher Hanning, BSc, MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP, FRCA, MD provides a useful survey of up-to-date evidence-based literature by physician who is more than qualified than most to carry out this peer review. the report can be seen in pdf form at <http://www.windaction.org/documents/22602>

Dr. Hannings credentials and experience are beyond dispute. He is one of the world's foremost specialist on noise, sleep disturbance and its consequent effect on health. Dr. Hanning founded and ran the Leicester Sleep Disorders Service, one of the longest standing and largest services in the United Kingdom. The University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust named the Sleep Laboratory after him as a mark of esteem.

His report concludes:

"In weighing the evidence, I find that, on one hand, there is a large number of reported cases of sleep disturbances and, in some cases, ill health as a result of exposure to noise from wind turbines, supported by a number of research reports that tend to confirm the validity of the anecdotal reports and provide a reasonable basis for the complaints. On the other, we have badly designed industry and government reports which seek to show that there is no problem. I find the latter unconvincing."

"In my expert opinion, from my knowledge of sleep physiology and a review of the available research, I have no doubt that wind turbines noise emissions cause sleep disturbance and ill health."

Dr. Hanning has also stated: "There can be no doubt that groups of industrial wind turbines (wind farms) generate sufficient noise to disturb the sleep and impair the health of those living nearby."

Hanning emphasizes that "inadequate sleep has been associated not just with fatigue, sleepiness and cognitive impairment but also with an increased risk of obesity, impaired glucose tolerance (risk of diabetes), high blood pressure, heart disease, cancer and depression. Sleepy people have an increased risk of road traffic accidents."

In Japan, in February, 2009, 70 cases of adverse health effects from wind turbines were reported. The Japanese call this Wind Turbine Disease. Their Minister of Environment fears a public health issue and is investigating low frequency sound as being of concern.

First to report on wind turbine difficulties was Dr. Amanda Harry in

England. Those who would dismiss the work of Dr. Harry as "anecdotal" and of no significance do not understand the role played by the clinician in our understanding of pathology.

Dr. Pierpont's study observed the effects on children, including toddlers and school and college aged children. Changes in sleep pattern, behaviour and academic performance were noted. 7 of 10 children had a decline in their school performance while exposed to wind turbine noise which recovered after exposure ceased. In total 20 of 34 study subjects reported problems with concentration or memory.

In March 2009 Dr. Nissenbaum of the Northern Maine Medical Center presented his findings to the Maine Medical Association. His study, which he characterized as alarming, suggest that his patients are experiencing serious health problems related to shadow flicker and noise emissions from turbines near their homes. The onset of symptoms all appear to coincide with the time the turbines were turned on.

Dr. Nissenbaum has Written; "There are many issues that need to be worked out. A moratorium is logical, unless we quickly move to adopt more stringent European and Australian standards. Otherwise, the state's failure to act responsibly on this issue is the equivalent of abandoning its responsibility to protect public health, which would leave the people with few options other than seeking remedy and redress through the courts".

In July, 2008, U.S. acousticians Kamperman and James introduced a set of proposed sound limits to prevent health risks from wind turbines. I ask have any of their recommendations been considered?

Let me close with the conclusion from a paper by Geoff Leventhall, Infrasound from Wind Turbines- Fact, Fiction or Deception. This paper was given to me by Mr. Litchfield when asked about WTS.

It is the swish noise on which attention should be focused, in order to reduce it to obtain a proper estimate of its effects. It will then be the responsibility of legislatures to fix the criterion levels.

I in good conscience cannot stand by and let the health of our community

be put in the hands of our legislature.

I ask that you deny Heartland Wind a Permit.

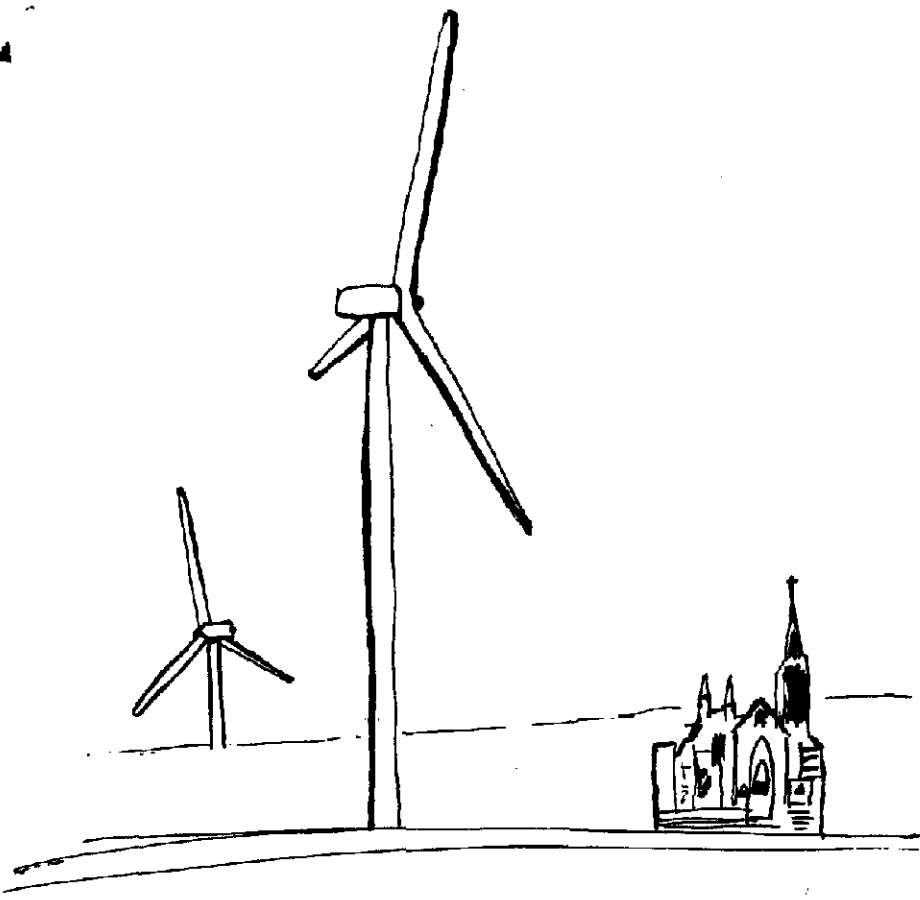
Respectfully,

Milo Schaffner

References upon request

JULY 8, 2010
BRETT A HEFFNER
3429 STEIN ROAD
SHELBY, OHIO 44875
419 632 3845

TO: OHIO POWER SITING BOARD
BLUE CREEK WIND FARM
IBERDROLA RENEWABLES INC.
OUR NEIGHBORS IN
VAN WERT AND
PAULDING COUNTY



GREETINGS,

IN 1971 A BEAUTIFUL AND HARDWORKING 31 YEAR OLD MOTHER OF THREE MARRIED A DARK HAired, INTELLIGENT RUSSIAN OF ITALIAN ANCESTRY. THEY BOUGHT A HOUSE IN SHELBY, OHIO WHERE THE MAN WORKED SWING SHIFT AT THE "LIGHT PLANT". AT THAT TIME, THIS PLANT GENERATED POWER FOR ALMOST TEN-THOUSAND SHELBIANS. THE SHELBY DAILY GLOBE AND TIRO WORLD CONTAINED ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMING ICE AGE, BEING HURRIED ALONG BY HUMAN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY.

THIS LIGHT PLANT PROVIDED GOOD JOBS FOR SHELBIANS; ALSO EDUCATION AND ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES. TRUCK DRIVERS BROUGHT COAL FROM WEST VIRGINIA MINERS. SINCE BEGINNING

JULY 8, 2010



ME AT BUCKSTOWN, PA

OPERATION IN 1890, IT HAS PROVIDED INEXPENSIVE POWER TO SMALL BUSINESSES THAT BECAME BIG BUSINESSES; WHICH IN TURN CREATED EMPLOYMENT, LIFE-LONG CAREERS, COMMUNITY SPIRIT, AND TAX REVENUES. THE CITY THRIVED, SCHOOLS WERE BUILT, PARKS WERE CREATED, POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS WERE HIRED, RENTERS BECAME HOMEOWNERS.

THE EARLIER DESCRIBED LIGHT PLANT WORKER GAVE MANY TOURS TO LOCAL GROUPS. ON ONE OF THESE TOURS, AN EIGHT YEAR OLD CUB SCOUT LEARNED ABOUT EDISON, WESTINGHOUSE, TESLA. THE BOY WITNESSED FIRSTHAND HOW WE COULD GRAB ELECTRONS OUT OF THE AIR (!), PUSH THEM UNDER HIGH PRESSURE THROUGH COPPER WIRES, AND SAFELY PUT THEM TO WORK IN PEOPLES HOMES PUMPING CLEAN WATER, PROVIDING HOT WATER, REFRIGERATION, LIGHTS, WARMTH, MUSIC.

JULY 8, 2010

THE LIGHT PLANT EMPLOYEE IN LATER YEARS TRAVELED THE WORLD FOR A LOCAL COMPANY WORKING ON PRIME MOVER GENERATION SYSTEMS; STEAM, WATER, WIND.

THE LIGHT PLANT JOINED THE BIG GRID, AND BEGAN BUYING SOME OF ITS POWER FROM HYDRO PLANTS ON THE OHIO RIVER. IT IS CURRENTLY WORKING TO INVEST IN NEW HYDRO CAPACITY BEING BUILT ON THE SAME RIVER. IT WILL ALSO BE CONVERTING TURBINE NUMBER FOUR TO NATURAL GAS.

THEN ARRIVES BIG WIND. WHEN AN OUT OF STATE OR OUT OF COUNTRY COMPANY USES FEDERAL FUNDS AND STATE INCENTIVES TO BUY CHINESE TURBINES, WHICH ARE ERECTED BY NON-LOCAL CONTRACTORS ON OUR NEIGHBORS LAND TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY; IS IT REALLY TOO MUCH TO ASK WHATS IN IT FOR ME?

THE MAJORITY OF THE MONEY THAT THE OUT OF STATE SPECULATORS, OUT OF COUNTRY MANUFACTURERS, AND LOCAL WIND FARM LEASE SIGNERS WILL RECEIVE HAS BEEN UNWILLINGLY DONATED BY AMERICAN TAXPAYERS AND ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS. IF THE MONEY WENT INSTEAD TO INNER CITY MOTHERS, APPALACHIAN AMERICANS, OR WORK VISA HOLDING IMMIGRANTS; YOU FOLKS WOULD BE THE FIRST TO COMPLAIN. BUT BECAUSE THE MONEY GOES TO PEOPLE IN BLUE SUITS, OR PEOPLE WITH NICE TRUCKS AND BALLCAPS, IT IS



JULY 8, 2010

JUST FINE. I HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR THE RECIPIENTS OF THIS MONEY. GET A JOB. THIS IS A REVERSE ROBIN HOOD SCHEME. ROBIN HOOD ROBBED FROM A RICH GOVERNMENT TO GIVE TO AN OPRESSED PEASANTRY. THESE FOLKS ROB FROM THE MIDDLE CLASS AND POOR, AND GIVE TO THE ALREADY RICH, WHO IN TURN CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR BUDDIES IN GOVERNMENT.

DO YOU HAVE GRANDCHILDREN? I DO NOT, BUT IN THE FUTURE WHEN I DO THEY WILL EACH BE BORN OWING MONEY TO CHINA; MONEY THAT WENT INTO THE POCKETS OF ALREADY WEALTHY CITIZENS, OIL COMPANIES, FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS, AND POLITICIANS.

INDUSTRIAL WIND TURBINE COMPLEXES ARE NOT GREEN ENERGY. TAKING ENERGY FROM CONVECTION CURRENTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON OUR CLIMATE. WE ARE NOT SPEAKING ABOUT SOME FUZZY COMPUTER MODEL, WHERE IF WE TWEAK THE INPUTS WE CAN ARRIVE AT THE DESIRED RESULTS. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT EACH TURBINE BLADE REMOVING SIX-TENTHS OF A MEGAWATT OF ENERGY FROM THE CONVECTION CURRENTS, WHICH ARE THE STABILIZERS OF OUR PLANET'S TEMPERATURE. THIS TIMES THREE BLADES TO THE TURBINE, AS MANY AS A HUNDRED TURBINES TO THE PROJECT, TIMES HOW MANY PROJECTS?

ALSO, WHEN THE WIND BLOWS, COAL FIRED PLANTS MUST RAMP DOWN. WHEN THE WIND STOPS, THESE COAL FIRED PLANTS MUST

JULY 8, 2010



IMMEDIATELY RAMP UP. THIS HAS A NET HARMFUL EFFECT ON EMISSIONS.

WE WILL ALL PAY THE PRICE FOR THIS MASSIVE INDUSTRIAL INTRUSION INTO OUR QUIET COUNTRYSIDE. LETS TAKE SOME TIME TO COUNT THE COST.

THE BEAUTIFUL AND HARDWORKING MOTHER I MENTIONED AT THE BEGINNING IS MY MOTHER, NOW NEARLY SEVENTY, STILL BEAUTIFUL AND HARDWORKING.

THE RUFFIAN WAS MY STEPFATHER. FEW OF THE WIND TURBINES HE WORKED ON IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES STILL SPIN. WHEN THE SUBSIDIES GO AWAY, SO DO THE "WINDFARMS".

THE CUB SCOUT GREW UP (SORTA) TO BELONG ME. I HAVE BEEN AN ENTHUSIAST OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SINCE OUR LAST "ENERGY CRISIS". I HAVE VISITED FIVE INDUSTRIAL WIND TURBINE PROJECTS IN FOUR STATES. AS MUCH AS I DESPERATELY WANT TO BELIEVE THE FAERY TALE WORLD PRESENTED BY THE WIND INDUSTRY, ALAS, I CANNOT.

BEST REGARDS,

BRETT ~~TA~~

Brett Taft

I'm Kent McMillen, local citizen, with no vested interest in any wind farming company, but I am interested in wind energy.

This is between one and two BILLION \$ in economic development in our area, which We can't afford to pass up.

Wind is the next big thing. 42% of all new power coming on line in 2008 was wind.

Wind farming is a national security issue, as many countries who we buy oil from promote terrorism. most 9/11 terrorists were from Saudia Arabia.

A wind farm in motion is as stirring as seeing a squadron of fighter jets, or watching tank maneuvers in action.

Many TV commercials feature wind farms as background to what they advertise.

While some may not be happy with wind farms, it is like building a school or highway, overall it is a net benefit to society.

Wind farms smell better than "factory farms", and there seems to be more local say concernig wind farms than in factory farms.

It is my understanding that no property will be taken by emminent domain.

There is a wind farm on US Rt. 6, just west of I-75, near Bowling Green, also several generators on Rt. 81, just west of Ada, OH., and 2 at McGuffy OH 20 minutes southeast of Ada.

Wind is free and forever, and building costs for wind are increasing at a slower rate than fossil fuel facilities.

Wind emits no acid rain, and generates no waste, which has to be stored safely for 10,000 years WHITEFACE MTN. NY.

3,000+ sterile lakes and ponds in Adirondack Park, NY, from acid rain generated in the Ohio valley.

DIRECT SUBSIDIES: 2000 to 2008, fossil fuels received 72 billion dollars in US direct subsidies, while only 12.2 billion\$ direct subsidies for wind in the US.

Nuclear could not operate without the PRICE ANDERSON ACT, which limits their liability to 10 billion per accident. Taxpayers laible for all costs above 10 billion\$ DO YOU THINK WE CAN FIX THE GULF FOR 10 billion\$?

Wind farms negotiating for local leases have agreed to repair any drain tile disturbed, and to rebuild any roads and bridges damaged during construction. contracts also specify a bond to pay for decommission at end of useful life. Many nuclear plants not fully decommissioned though shut down years ago.

Wind can't supply all our electricity, but can enable us to move toward ending our dependence on foreign oil .

Negotiations on Senate Bill 232 resulted in many concessions to local interests, further resistance could result in loss of this large economic development to other states/ localities.

Vantage is teachin wind technology, and we will soon have a super-site, should a wind manufacturer locate here.

This is an opportunity for Van Wert Cunty to become al leader in alternative energy, and possibly create jobs in this rapidly emerging industry.

As they say: Lead, follow, or get out of the way

Patty Vance

From: Elaine Siler [esiler43@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 9:48 AM
To: pvance@doubletake.com
Subject: Fw: 5 minutes for wind energy

Elaine Siler, 716 E. Quinn Rd., Van Wert, OH 45891

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Elaine Siler <esiler43@yahoo.com>
To: pvance@doubletake.com
Sent: Wed, July 7, 2010 3:05:30 PM
Subject: 5 minutes for wind energy

Members of Grandparent Farm Bureau

Short "self" introduction--Grandparents purchased farms in Union Twp prior to 1905; they were a hardworking Christian family. Grandfather in addition to being a farmer was a schoolteacher. They were both very progressive thinking in their actions and plans for the farms. They believed in tile drainage for their farms, crop rotation, "giving back to the land." They even had a "Delco" type electric system in their home before rural electric became available. In my heart I know they would have believed very strongly just as I do regarding using renewable energy, and in particular--wind energy.

Peace

I believe we have a very definite obligation to ourselves, this county and state, and future generations to provide a lean and Green environment. *any* of you who questions the need for a green environment only needs to ask a young person of 12 or older if they think/feel it is important to use renewable energy (no threats of being written out of the will or eliminated from the family trust) and really listen to their answers. ~~We absolutely do NOT~~ need another--ever--oil disaster, any more loss of lives in coal mine accidents, and no dependency on billionaire oil barons in the Middle East. We must take responsibility for providing other sources of energy and never be dependent on other countries. We have the opportunity for wind energy; it is here, it is available, and we need to use it.

Peace

Many people resist change--many people do not wish to see the "landscape" change with the addition of wind turbines. However--there have been changes thru many years--dirt and gravel roads became paved roads, woods were cleared for timber to build homes and barns, woods were cleared to have more acres of tillable land, power poles were necessary for the rural electricity to be available, telephone poles were erected for communication. Land has been leased to various telecommunication companies for towers, many landowners have sold small parcels of land to individuals for building homes. All of these things have changed the landscape--~~and all of this has been called PROGRESS.~~

Members of Grandparent Farm Bureau

This is a county that has lost industries and therefore many of our citizens have lost jobs. We need to once again become a county that is progressive and economically stable. We definitely need more revenue. Our townships and counties need to work together to create a strong economic base and a clean environment.

My husband and I *Hundreds and hundreds of turbines*

I have visited the wind farms in Indiana; an awesome sight.; And I have talked with farmers/residents in the wind farm areas. Their responses *are very positive--just as I expected* were very positive. They immediately told me how all the lands had been restored after construction--I witnessed beautiful crops growing with no irregularities in the turbine areas. They also were very proud of the roads and the wonderful rebuilt condition of the roads after the construction process. Also told me that a tile drainage contractor is always available if repairs on necessary. I saw wind farms in the process of construction; roads had not been destroyed and right of ways into the croplands were well laid out and in excellent condition.

One gentlemen I spoke with is an inspector for a seed distributor; he inspects the crops; says he has walked around and under many, many turbines and has not seen ~~any~~ dead birds or poor crops, and he himself was quite alert and spoke intelligently, therefore, I have to believe there was no evidence of bodily or brain damage from being near the turbines.;

less than 500 ft from
to noise -
crops suffering
in the breeze actually
make more noise

infat

Perhaps, you who have doubts regarding the wind farm project need to drive to a wind farm area; talk to people and see the turbines and begin to understand this is a good thing!

It is my understanding that one of the school reporters requested their Power Pledge be a Profit from the wind energy and because of that they received federal funds (state or county/federal funds).

Patty, not sure if this is complete but nearly. Let me know what you, etc. think. I am definitely open to suggestions. Thanks for listening to me; I really do care sooo much about this. Elaine

Our county and townships need to pull together, This should NOT be about politics or re-elections, ^{or} giving up a few hours - not deep of summer vacation time to make a few phone calls. And someone to actually work up numbers and facts relating to funds. It must be about the present, our environment, and a future for our grandchildren and our descendants.

I hope my grandchildren can say "I remember when Grandma ~~showed~~ showed the lease for the wind turbines; then ~~we~~ we discussed ^{it, we talked about it, and} the need for renewable energy. It's been a GREAT" thing!"

God Bless you, our —, —, and Nation.
Thank you.

Lincoln Ridge

EST.1919

July 8, 2010

My name is Jeff Thomas. I live in Tully Twp., near Convoy along with my wife Cathy and 2 sons. We are the 4th generation operators of Lincoln Ridge Farm founded in 1919. We will soon be a century farm and are proud of our heritage. ~~We have a 25-acre produce operation, host a fall mums and pumpkin festival each year and founders of Lincoln Candle Company. Our children, Arrin, Alison and Alec are involved in our business and desire to carry on the heritage of Lincoln Ridge farms along with our (3) grandchildren, the 6th generation.~~

~~I am here today to speak in favor of the Iberdrola Wind Energy project in Van Wert and Paulding County. My wife's mother and father, Mary and Gene Rhoad, (Mary is here today in support) leased their farmland in neighboring Paulding County to Iberdrola after much deliberation with their neighbors. Gene was a successful, hard working farmer all of his life and passed away just this past Labor Day weekend.~~

~~My father, Marlin Thomas, was a retired farmer. Dad also leased his farmland to Iberdrola but passed away just 5 weeks after Gene. I know both lived long, good lives and gained much wisdom. They were stewards of the land and passed that obligation to our family. I know both would want me to speak out in favor of this project.~~

You know, as you get older, I think your values change. As a youngster, it's about school and all the activities. Then you focus your attention on college and a potential career. Then it's about a job and finally – it's about making things better for your family and your community.

It's my opinion the wind energy project offers more good for the community than potential bad. Having personally observed a wind turbine farm along interstate 80 in Iowa, I do not find them objectionable. They will convey a positive image along Rt. 30 as folks travel into Van Wert County. Their existence speaks progress for our community. Noise levels are managed by avoiding high turbine speed and careful placement of all turbines as been made ensuring adequate setbacks from neighboring homes – and there is no smell or dust associated with wind energy. In our family's case, we have leased our wind rights to Iberdrola. Our family has had much experience with change and large projects including a loss of 12 acres from the farm when the US RT. 30 bypass was constructed in 1961, an overpass, a ¼ mile long temporary highway, a temporary concrete plant, (2) electric transmission lines and the sale of our oil rights. Iberdrola has followed up and has done what they said they were going to do. It has been a very good relationship – you can tell they want this to be a win – win situation for all involved.

Folks, you know we need a new source of revenue in the county. As I grew up in Van Wert County, our county population was about 20,000. Today, it's about 20,000. We are experiencing high un-employment in the area – higher than the national average. We've got lots of folks under employed – trying to make ends meet. We've got lots of young people still living at home with their parents to save money.

Without people and jobs, the local economy will continue to suffer. Businesses will struggle, tax revenues will remain flat. Uncertainty will prevail. We all live in an outstanding community – we have many of the right things to attract business - and a lot of very good community leaders and businessmen have tried to attract new business with limited success through the years, but at the same time, many of our existing industries have struggled with the new economy. Back in 2001, a seminar was being held in New York for CEO's of manufacturers in the US. A bold quote appeared on the front page of the Wall Street Journal the following day. The speaker stated "Gentlemen, if you manufacture in the United States, you have two choices - #1 outsource, OR #2 sell your company.

I believe that agriculture has played an important role in giving Van Wert and Paulding County financial stability for their infrastructure and schools. Overall, it's been good for most producers in my lifetime, but there are words of caution. Dr. Darrell Good, ^{RESPECTED} Agriculture Economist at the University of Illinois stated in January at an outlook seminar that with the enormous amount of prime virgin land in the world and enormous sums of money sitting on the sidelines, that it would not take much for grain prices to fall back to what we experienced in the 80's. ~~WIND FARMS ARE THE "NEW" AGRICULTURE and Van Wert & Paulding Counties have been chosen~~

Let's not lose sight of the fact that things will probably not be the same in the future because of the shift to a world economy – making it or buying it at the lowest cost – some 10 years ago and the fact that we too must be competitive. You know, we've got a tough act to follow especially with our neighbors to the west, the state of Indiana, ~~but they haven't been given this huge opportunity of a wind farm.~~

^{MAKING US COMPETITIVE.}
Senate bill 232 accomplished just that. No it may not be perfect – but it gets our foot in the door.

What the Blue Creek Wind Energy project alone will mean to Van Wert County is an estimated 2.2 million of new tax revenue of which the bulk will go to our schools. This is based on 121 turbines in Van Wert County at 2 mega watts per turbine @\$9,000 per mega watt. I asked Nancy Dixon today what her opinion was of the wind energy project. Her reply was, and I quote, "We have to have it happen." ~~Let's work together to make it happen!~~

When we choose earth-friendly wind energy we are contributing to a greener world and an energy-independent America. I ask you to join our family, Iberdrola and the many other families that have committed to make the earth- friendly choice of the future for our children and grandchildren of our community.

Let's join together for the good of all! Thank – you!

I URGE THE COMMISSIONERS TO PASS A RESOLUTION
TO MAKE V.W.X. AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY ZONE
WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

Support for Wind Energy

Hi my name is John Bauer I am a landowner in Union Twp. Of Van Wert County. Along with my brother Tom and nephew Dan we have leased over 1,500 acres of farmland in Union Twp. to Iberdrola Renewables for the Blue Creek wind farm. We support wind energy for the following reasons.

1. **JOB** Immediate construction jobs and long term operational and maintenance jobs. In addition to the jobs in the supply chain such as turbine component manufacturing, steel mills, wire and cable manufactures, transportation, logistic services, and many more. There are now 205 educational programs offered by university and colleges related to wind energy to ensure a skilled workforce across the wind energy industry.
2. **TAX PAYMENTS** Annual tax payments by the wind developers will provide a new source of revenue for the state, county and townships. These new tax dollars will help our local schools and government at a time when tax revenues have been declining. This means instead of tax increases for tax payer we should see a delay or elimination of future tax increases. I don't know anyone who likes tax increases.
3. **LEASE PAYMENTS TO FARMERS** The annual lease payments being made to farmers will help them replace some of the subsidies being cut or eliminated by the government.
4. **ENERGY** The energy produced by wind farms will provide power for Ohio homes and business. At the end of 2009 wind power in the U.S. was over 35,600 MW generating enough to power the equivalent of 9.7 million homes. This eliminated 62 million tons of carbon dioxide annually, equivalent to taking 10.5 million cars off the road. (i.e. Source AWEA American Wind Energy Association). This has a positive effect on global warming as wind turbines don't produce carbon or heat like convention power plants.
5. **FOREIGN ENERGY** We need to reduce our dependence on foreign energy. With our automobile manufacturers in the infancy of electric cars we believe over the next 10 years electric automobiles will be recharged by plugging into an electric wall outlet and thus reducing our dependence on foreign oil.

In summary we would like to thank the government officials for coming to hear the pros and cons on wind energy and hope at the end of the day they find the pluses overwhelm the minuses.

Thank You

My name is Jennifer Smith, I am the organization director with Ohio Farm Bureau for Allen, Paulding, Putnam and Van Wert Counties.

The position of the Van Wert county Farm Bureau is that we encourage the continued support of alternate energy use, such as wind and biofuels and I do have a copy of the current year Van Wert Farm Bureau policy list to be entered into the record.

Personally, I believe that proposed wind farm holds many benefits for Van Wert county not to mention the fact that it is needed – research conducted by the US Department of Energy shows that our need for electric power from 1970 to 2030 will actually double and the wind mills are a great way to help meet the need for additional power.

I also believe that there will be little negative environmental impact from the proposed facility; Ohio has had the opportunity to gain from the experience of other projects created in other areas of the world. These include using new technology created to address previous issues concerning noise, electromagnetic interference along with other points of concern. In fact wind mills built today have to meet a variety of international standards that equipment manufactured and installed less than a decade ago doesn't meet.

The fuel for wind turbines is our air currents. Using this fuel is free, and involves no air emissions or use of water. Not to mention the fact that the impact of the facility on our agricultural land will be minimal; as seen in other areas of the Eastern Corn Belt where wind farms are now being constructed or are fully operational, with the exception of the wind turbine footprint, all ground around a turbine is still fully utilized for agricultural activities.



LOCAL POLICY SUGGESTIONS

1. We support the implementation of an Agricultural District promotional campaign.
2. We continue to support the county engineer and township trustees efforts to improve drainage through improvements to bridge and culvert construction and to reduce erosion through the use of filter strips along ditches.
3. We support a SMV Fast Track and equipment lighting awareness campaign for members and the public.
4. We support the enforcement by township trustees and the county engineer to remove obstructions (trees, weeds, shrubs, field crops and signs) from intersections.
5. We support an education and awareness program regarding illegal drugs and the threat to farmers due to theft of anhydrous ammonia for use in the making of methamphetamine.
6. We encourage the county engineer, township trustees and utility companies to properly trim and maintain trees overhanging on roadways. To facilitate this we encourage the county to purchase a bucket truck that can be rented out to the townships.
7. We encourage utility companies to raise power and phone lines higher to accommodate farm equipment.
8. We support a notification system to the statewide Ag District program (as a part of building permits, zoning inspectors or deed transfers) that would directly notify home owners located in an area zoned agriculture that they should expect noise, odor, dust, slower traffic, large equipment and other operational items necessary to the farming industry.
9. We support new roadside ditch construction with every effort being made to establish good grass seeding to avoid ditchside erosion.
10. We encourage the Ohio Department of Transportation to keep access roads across US Route 30 open.
11. We encourage SWCD and livestock producers to develop and implement nutrient management plans.
12. We encourage the continued support of alternate energy use, such as wind and biofuels.
13. We support issue 2, The Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board, which will help keep agriculture Ohio's #1 industry.



Van Wert County Farm Bureau

Approved Policies

14. We support the passage of the upcoming general operating levy for Van Wert county.
15. We support updates to US 224 including additional turning and acceleration lanes at the intersections of Lincoln Highway and US 224 and Van Wert-Decatur Road and US 224, along with deacceleration lanes at the intersection of US 30 and SR 49.
16. We urge ODOT to put up flashing caution lights and bumper strips at the intersection of 118 and 81, and the intersection of 81 and 127 to alleviate traffic accidents.
17. We support that all proposed livestock facilities, permitted and non-permitted, utilize outdoor lagoons or pits for manure storage follow livestock permitting guidelines as they relate to depth of bedrock requirements and that they use a site evaluation scoring sheet to determine an ideal location for an operation.

STATE POLICY SUGGESTIONS

1. We support continued use of renewable fuel components in Ohio's fuel supply.
2. We support an increase in the property tax averaging period from 5 years to 10 years during the re-evaluation process.
3. We support a law that requires true proof of insurance at the time of registration and an auto insurance notification system between insurance companies and the License Bureau. If someone cancels their insurance, the bureau is automatically notified and their license should be revoked. We also support a system for law enforcement agents to notify BMV and revoke a license upon citations of uninsured motorists.
4. We support a buffer strip initiative and production of grass filter strips along roadways.
5. We recommend a nutrient management plan system be implemented for commercial applicators on lawns, golf courses, etc. including soil sampling.
6. We recommend that all road kill be disposed of in a timely and proper manner.
7. We continue to support the preservation of farmland in Ohio.
8. We urge the state to use a better re-evaluation of school buildings prior to approving new construction.



Van Wert County Farm Bureau

Approved Policies

9. We support equitable funding for school systems, as long as property taxes are not the primary source of support. If tax abatements are going to be used to increase economic development, there must be a program in place to ensure the schools still receive their monies.
10. We support a considerably higher level of exemption for the Estate Tax and Capital Gains Tax.
11. We demand that revenues collected from the mail-in licenses be distributed back to the county of origin from which the collection was received.
12. We urge ODOT to increase the width on new overpasses to improve the safety when moving farm equipment. For existing overpasses, the access roads should remain open and maintained until an overpass widening project occurs.
13. We encourage the State of Ohio to investigate the need to have an indemnity program for livestock producers such as what has been done for elevators.
14. We support a budget increase of 20% for the specific budget item in ODA's budget to increase the number inspectors to enforce current livestock regulations.
15. We support that all proposed livestock facilities, permitted and non-permitted, utilize outdoor lagoons or pits for manure storage follow livestock permitting guidelines as they relate to depth of bedrock requirements and that they use a site evaluation scoring sheet to determine an ideal location for an operation.
16. We support third party geologic studies be conducted for any newly constructed livestock facility that will use an outdoor lagoon/pit for manure storage, regardless of numbers of animal units.
17. We encourage the state to increase the forced limit accounts for county engineers by 70% with a 3% annual increase to offset inflation.
18. We support a continuance of the state soybean checkoff, in the event the federal checkoff fails, to help fund research for soy products.

NATIONAL: POLICY SUGGESTIONS

1. We continue to support the enforcement against Medicare & Medicaid fraud.
2. We support the elimination of 7 ½ percent level for Adjusted Gross Income so that all medical expenses are deductible.
3. We support the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in making the Conservation Securities Program (CSP) a permanent and fully funded program.



4. We believe the marketing philosophy for agriculture and other international trade should be based on US Surplus trade balances. We cannot become dependent upon the imports of food, fiber or other agricultural products.
5. We support more incentives for bio-fuel production and use of alternate sources of energy.
6. We support an efficient rail system to relieve the congestion of highway traffic.
7. We support open agricultural trade with Cuba.
8. We encourage crop insurance to substitute double stacks for triple stacks to qualify for the potential discount in crop insurance.