## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Hardin Wind LLC, for a Certificate to Construct a Wind-Powered Electric Generating Facility in Hardin and Logan Counties, Ohio

Case No. 13-1177-EL-BGN

In the Matter of the Application of Hardin Wind LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for a Substation Project in Hardin County

Case No. 13-1767-EL-BSB

In the Matter of the Application of Hardin Wind LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for a 345kV Transmission Line in Hardin County

Case NO. 13-1768-EL-BTX

## REPLY IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITION TO INTERVENE

James Rudolph, Rich Rudolph, Susan Cornell, Ron Brown, and Charles Ruma (collectively the "Indian Lake Residents") have demonstrated good cause and extraordinary circumstances to intervene in the above captioned proceedings. The Indian Lake Residents stand on the arguments made in their Petition to Intervene filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board (the "Board") on April 16, 2014; however, the Indian Lakes Residents will address and correct Hardin Wind, LLC's ("Hardin Wind") mischaracterizations of the Indian Lakes Residents' Petition to Intervene.

First, Hardin Wind makes the groundless declaration that the Indian Lake Residents are absolutely opposed to the Scioto Ridge Wind Farm. (Hardin Wind Memorandum Contra ("Memo Contra") at 4-5). The Indian Lakes Residents' Petition to Intervene makes no such statement. Rather, the Indian Lakes Residents' concern focuses on the placement of the wind turbines so close to Indian Lake and the Indian Lake State Park without sufficient consideration for the surrounding environment and property values. The State of Ohio should not have to sacrifice its green spaces for

green energy - the State should promote both with equal vigor. These issues should be addressed, and it will not require the Board to reopen every issue in the proceeding in order to have a meaningful evidentiary record to determine whether it is appropriate to place wind turbines so close to a state park. Further, the Indian Lake Residents are willing to discuss strategies for the placement of the wind turbines that do not irresponsibly interfere with the natural beauty of Indian Lake.

Second, the Indian Lake Residents never stated that Hardin Wind did not have a single picture of Indian Lake in its application submitted to the Board. The defined "Project Area" is on page 21, which refers to the map at Figure 05-4. Figure 05-4 has 15 aerial photographs of the "Project Area" but not a single photograph of the proximity to Indian Lake. The application and exhibits are over 2,000 pages. If the casual observer wanted to find the geographic scope of the project, the "Map of Project Area" would be a natural starting point. This map conspicuously leaves out Indian Lake.

Third, Hardin Wind has attempted to attribute the knowledge of five individuals living near Indian Lake to all of the residents of Indian Lake. (Memo Contra at 3-4). This five person sample is wholly unpersuasive. Clearly, there was a failure to provide adequate notice to the public if Hardin Wind can only show that five residents of Indian Lake had knowledge of the proposed wind farm. Further, given the rural area of the project, notice should have been published in the <u>Lima News</u> or the <u>Columbus Dispatch</u> in order to reach a larger audience.

Fourth, Hardin Wind makes the dubious claim that the Indian Lake Residents must agree to all of the terms of the Stipulation in order to intervene in the case. Under this logic, there would never be a meaningful opportunity for intervention at this stage in a proceeding because the potential intervenors would be tied to the agreement that settled all of the issues in the case. This argument also ignores the fact that the Ohio

General Assembly provided a mechanism for non-parties to a Board proceeding to file applications for rehearing pursuant to Revised Code section 4903.10. If non-parties were required to agree to the stipulation, then allowing those parties to file applications for rehearing would be a superfluous provision. This cannot be the intent of the Ohio General Assembly.

For the reasons set forth herein and in the Petition to Intervene, the Indian Lake Residents respectfully request that the Board grant intervention in the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing *Reply in Support of the Petition to Intervene* was served this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014 via U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid, upon the following:

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Summary: Reply In Support of The Petition to Intervene electronically filed by Mark Yurick on behalf of Rudolph, Richard Mr. and Rudolph, James Mr. and Cornell, Susan Ms. and Ruma, Charles Mr. and Brown, Ron Mr.