

Public comment in 16-1871-EL-BGN

From: Sherri Lange [<mailto:kodaisl@rogers.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:54 AM

To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>; Haque, Asim <Asim.Haque@puco.ohio.gov>

Cc: Krawczyk Joseph W CIV USARMY CELRB (US) <joseph.w.krawczyk@usace.army.mil>

Subject: Please add to Case 16-1871-EL-BGN

Good morning, Matt,

Please add this to the Icebreaker Case 16-1871-EL-BGN

Germany, sometimes referenced in this matter as the poster child of wind development, has reached its tipping point, and as subsidies dry up, untenable, unaffordable, meaningless to prevent climate change, is now charged with the equally difficult job of managing eco junk: dismantling and disposing of turbine blades, is proving disastrous. Needless to say, whether it is six or 1400 industrial machines in Lake Erie, this will profoundly impact OH as well.

Kind regards, and thank you.

Sherri

[‘Green’ Energy’s Poisonous Legacy: Millions of Toxic Turbine Blades Destined for African Landfills](#)



**‘Green’ Energy’s Poisonous Legacy:
Millions of Toxic Turbine Blades Destine...**

Environmentalists of the kind lovingly called ‘tree huggers’ (rather than wind turbine worshippers) are finally ...

Please use full article for inclusion: excerpt below

Wind turbine dump in Africa?

So what happens to the old turbines that will get taken offline?

Windpark owners hope to send their scrapped wind turbine clunkers to third world buyers, Africa for example. But if these buyers instead opt for new energy systems, then German wind park operators will be forced to dismantle and recycle them – a costly endeavor, the Baseler Zeitung reports.

Impossible to recycle composite materials

The problem here are the large blades, which are made of fiberglass composite materials and whose components cannot be separated from each other. Burning the blades is extremely difficult, toxic and energy-intensive. So naturally there's a huge incentive for German wind park operators to dump the old contraptions onto third world countries, and to let them deal later with the garbage.

Sweeping garbage under the rug

Next the Baseler Zeitung brings up the disposal of the massive 3000-tonne reinforced concrete turbine base, which according to German law must be removed.

Some of these concrete bases reach depths of 20 meters and penetrate multiple ground layers, the Baseler Zeitung reports, adding:

"The complete removal of the concrete base can quickly run up to several hundreds of thousands of euros. Many wind park operators have not made the corresponding provisions for this expense."

Already wind park operators are circumventing this huge expense by only removing the top two meters of the concrete and steel base, and then hiding the rest with a layer of soil, the Baseler writes.

In the end most of the concrete base will remain as garbage buried in the ground, and the above-ground turbine litter will likely get shipped to third world countries.

That's Germany's Energiewende and contribution to protecting the environment and climate!

Sherri Lange

CEO, NA-PAW, North American Platform Against Wind Power

Executive Director, Canada, Great Lakes Wind Truth

VP Canada, Save the Eagles International

kodaisl@rogers.com

www.na-paw.org

Twitter: #torwinaction

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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

5/10/2018 1:00:30 PM

in

Case No(s). 16-1871-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.