

Public comment 18-0488-EL-BGN

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Subject

Oppose Seneca Wind Farm

18-0488

We are lifelong residents of Seneca County. We raised our family, built our dream home, worked and invested into our community. It was only recently that we learned that county leadership and our elected officials had decided to pursue industrial wind projects for the county. Industrial wind projects are rapidly becoming unpopular as concerned residents learn more about the impacts these projects will have on our communities. At stake includes the surrendering of private property rights, threats to the environment, destruction of our scenic landscape, various health issues such as noise and "shadow flicker", impact on air ambulance access to rural areas, strain on rural volunteer fire departments in the event turbine fire and failure, and devaluation of our property investments. Industrial wind projects are nothing more than "big industry" that is vehemently pursuing subsidies as they aggressively lobby state and local elected officials in rural areas to agree and allow them to construct their widely unpopular projects. The industry has a pattern of covertly moving into communities and cutting financial deals with a select few at the expense of their neighbors. A few neighbors no doubt stand to financially profit from these arrangements, but the rest of us residents stand to lose so much that makes us proud to call Seneca County our home. The pitting of neighbor against neighbor is a behavior in which industrial wind repeatedly engages. We believe such projects have no place in an area such as Seneca County and therefore adamantly oppose the Seneca Wind Farm.

Jan (Mrs. Doug) Sampson

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SENECA WIND LLC 18-0488-EL-BGN

June 3, 2018 Comments to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding Case No. 18-0488-EL-BGN, Seneca Wind, LLC My husband and I attended the informational meeting on April 17, 2018 in Tiffin hosted by Seneca Wind, LLC. The "open house" format was not conducive to hearing answers to questions, since the room was over crowded, and you had to "elbow" your way from one post to another, hoping to speak with a representative. There was no opportunity to hear answers to questions asked by others. The maps provided were so small and roadways unidentified, which made it virtually impossible to determine the location of properties where turbines are to be constructed. Subsequent to the meeting, I checked the developer's website, and maps on www.senecawind.com are no more helpful. The project manager, John Moran, answered my email and said no tax maps or other maps of the turbine sites are available. I am very concerned about proposals in the Ohio General Assembly to change set back measurements, especially the fact that developers want to measure from the turbine base to the nearest habitable residence, rather than measuring from the turbine base to the property line of the adjoining property. Ohio already has some of the shortest setbacks for industrial wind turbines (so short, in fact, that they are less than the minimum clearance distance recommended by turbine manufacturers for their employees who have to maintain and repair the turbines if there is a fire). Setback measurements must be calculated between the turbine base and the property line and should be at least as far as the minimum approach distance recommended by the manufacturer for employees servicing the turbine in the event of a fire. Any other setback calculation ignores the rights of adjoining property owners. If the Ohio Power Siting Board has sole jurisdiction in this matter (due to lack of specific zoning restrictions in the county or township), any setback measurement between the turbine base and the nearest residential dwelling (on an adjoining property) infringes on the land rights of the adjoining property owner. This would leave Seneca County owners who have lands adjoining the turbine sites with no recourse and no voice (similar to the "no taxation without representation" situation).

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Seneca Wind Farm

Very dissappointed with the meeting that was held in April for public information. Having not enough information, nor having it in a understandable distribution, I believe did not explain nor alleviate any possible misconceptions. It appeared to me that they were trying to satisfy a requirement while keeping the community in the dark about what they wanted to do. I believe that they need another public informational meeting giving the truth about what they plan to do with copies of their filings. I am against this project.

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