

FILE

17-2295-EL-BGN  
18-0488-EL-BGN

Denny Niederkohr

**From:** Denny Niederkohr <dniederkohr@woh.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 06, 2018 9:37 AM  
**To:** 'OPSB@puc.state.oh.us'  
**Subject:** 17-2295-EL-BGN and 18-0488-EL-BGN

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I am writing concerning cases 17-2295-EL-BGN and 18-0488-EL-BGN. The first one is the Republic wind farm in which our family's farm is located and Seneca wind farm which is also in our county. My primary point is the PILOT program that was given to the wind companies which is a taxation break that in 68 years of my life I have never enjoyed. We had a machinery business in Republic and the personal property taxes that we paid over the years would kill most people and businesses. We were paying on inventory that we didn't even own yet, that was on floor plan from the companies we dealt with. This kept our county operating. Giving these wind companies a huge break like this is a slap in the face to most of us former business owners.

The money that is generated from PILOT won't amount to much when divided among the townships and will put an additional stress on our fire protection that is funded by our taxes and fundraisers put on by our departments. These wind companies need to pay the taxes appropriate to commercial entities. Setbacks need to be maintained at the current values and maybe even increased due to possibilities of field fires putting our homes and property in harm's way. *This isn't the plains of Nebraska where you have a ranch every 10 – 12 miles apart. Our homes are hundreds of yards apart. We are so close we can hear our neighbors talk on a quiet day.*

Foremost please increase the setbacks to protect adjacent properties and fields allowing more time for our fire departments to respond to help save lives and property. This is a small price to pay for what we perceive as a big headache and problem in our townships. It's a hard pill to swallow for our residents knowing all this power will be going to the Eastern states and we will not get any benefit from it. Eastern power at our expense. SAD!

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