

Please file the attachment in the public comments for 17-2295, 18-0488 and 18-1607.

Thanks,

Matt

1-8-15

Dear Matt,

Enclosed please find 2 local letters to the editor opposing IWT in Seneca County:

Jan Sampson is in the footprint of Seneca Wind Case # 18-0488-EL-BGN, at 6305 S. TR 151 Tiffin.

Please may these 2 Ltr be included in Public comments for

18-0488-EL-BGN Seneca Wind

18-1607-EL-BGN Emerson Creek

17-2295-EL-BGN Republic Wind

Sincerely,

dhudoke@gmail.com

Diane Hudoke 419 443 0533

6300 TR 151 Tiffin 44883

Say 'no' to industrial wind turbines in county

I want to thank Commissioner Mike Kerschner for listening to residents of Seneca County and their concerns about the application Seneca Wind LLC has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board asking OPSB to approve installation of 70 large-scale industrial wind turbines in Seneca County. At the June 5 commissioners meeting, Kerschner stated he would be the voice of residents opposing this project.

Jan Sampson
is a guest columnist.

At this meeting, Commissioner Holly Stacy referred to the establishment of the alternative energy zone put in place by former county commissioners and read a long list of county agencies, schools, etc., who expect to receive tax dollars as a result of the turbine operation. When questioned during the open forum by many of the meeting attendees, Stacy appeared adamantly unwilling to consider any non-monetary concerns.

Promises made by Seneca Wind LLC to Seneca County residents mirror promises made in other states and communities in the United States and Canada where industrial wind projects have already been constructed and are operational. Stacy appeared unwilling to hear about the negative experiences of residents in those communities after the wind turbines began production.

Sadly, after the project was approved and huge turbines (in many cases 500-foot towers, similar to what is to be installed here in Seneca County) began operating, residents saw significant drops in property values, people reported health problems associated with turbine operation, there were very few long-term jobs created in the community, and their lists of other negative impacts goes on. At the June 5 meeting, a letter by Jane Harper, former county commissioner in Tipton County, Indiana, was read. Harper wrote about her regrets for allowing a wind facility to become a reality in her county.

I have read scientific studies that state health impacts (shadow flicker, noise and infrasound) are an issue; property values actually drop anywhere from 12 percent to 40 percent in the area where wind turbines are installed; interpersonal relationships between neighbors are never the same; environmental changes (some due to significantly reduced bat populations — our natural mosquito and pest fighters) are very real.

Here is a link to just one of many stories of a community that agreed to installation of an industrial wind generating facility in their community (Lockport, New York), and the negative consequences they experienced after the turbines began operating. This link opens a news article in the Union Sun & Journal, Lockport, New York: http://www.lockportjournal.com/opinion/apex-s-windy-disinformation-campaign-ignores-reality/article_a7f064ad-7bf4-5af0-b533-6d051730fb6a.html.

"Life Under a Windplant," is a documentary video featuring many residents from Meyersdale, Pennsylvania, and what they experienced after their industrial windplant (20 turbines each 375 feet tall) began operating. The documentary is viewed in three parts (8 ½ minutes each) at:

Part 1 — www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNxvkrGoPLo

Part 2 — www.youtube.com/watch?v=utFV2ukOtU

Part 3 — www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOD5tSZF3A4



I have additional links to other online independent studies concerning property values, health impacts, etc. I will share these links if you contact me at jsamps0318@yahoo.com. I encourage you to do your own research as well.

Republic Wind recently ran a large ad in The Advertiser-Tribune touting the benefits of their windplant to "our children." In evaluating what is in the overall best interest of Seneca County and its residents, it is critical to realize that it's not just about the money. There is only one source for tax revenue (whether it is in the form of federal tax credits paid to windfarm developers, or in the form of tax payments promised to Seneca County) — the source is the individual taxpayer. We all fund the federal tax credits. There are other real issues that must be considered.

Now that we have knowledge about the experience of communities where industrial windplants are now operating, Seneca County commissioners are wise to re-evaluate retaining the alternative energy zone and to consider the many other significant drawbacks for operating an industrial wind facility here and the overall impact on the community — not just the impact on expected tax revenue.

The AEZ previously granted by Seneca County is a "welcome mat" for Seneca Wind LLC and its proposed turbine project. When granted, the AEZ seemed reasonable; however, we now know more than we did at the time the AEZ was granted. Kerschner now favors rescinding this AEZ and made a motion to do so. However, Stacy would not second the motion and it died. Although absent from the meeting June 5, Thomas has stated his support for the AEZ.

Rescinding the AEZ does not necessarily stop the project, but it does make Seneca County less attractive to developers who are more interested in qualifying for production tax credits (the federal tax breaks developers receive for their project) than they are in adding energy capacity to the electrical grid or providing Seneca County with increases in long-term employment. Approval for the installation of these 500-foot-tall industrial turbines lies solely in the hands of the Ohio Power Siting Board. Removing the

Seneca County AEZ welcome mat is a step in the right direction to protect Seneca County residents from experiencing the very real negative consequences experienced by people living in Lockport, New York, or in Tipton County, Indiana, and in many other areas in the US, Canada and Australia.

Everyone in Ohio should be concerned about setback distances and attempts to change the law in the Ohio Revised Code to measure turbine setback distances between the turbine base and the nearest residential dwelling. Legislation is being proposed in Ohio to change setback measurement methods from the historical method of measuring between the turbine base and the property line of the nearest adjoining property. Measuring setbacks from turbine to the nearest residential dwelling significantly hampers all non-participating property owners in the use of his/her own property and encumbers the property of the non-participating owners when it is placed on the market to sell. This must not happen.

Seneca County has no local zoning authority. The approval of the project application by Seneca Wind is solely in the hands of the Ohio Power Siting Board. For this reason alone, I urge Seneca County residents to submit public comments opposing approval of Case No. 18-0488-EL-BGN to the Ohio Power Siting Board. Comments can be submitted on the OPSB website:

<https://www.opsb.ohio.gov/siting-case-breakdown/18-0488-el-bgn-seneca-wind-farm/>. Comments also may be submitted by U.S. mail to: Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215 or by calling toll-free (866) 270-OPSB (6772), or via email directly to contactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us

Seneca County is too heavily populated for an industrial wind facility; the negative impacts outweigh the promised tax revenues. Based on what I have learned, I oppose Seneca Wind LLC and their Case No. 18-0488-EL-BGN before the Ohio Power Siting Board.

This is a long letter, but this is a complex issue that should be carefully studied by all residents of Seneca County.

Thank you.

Opinion

The Advertiser-Tribune

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6A — Tiffin, Ohio Tuesday, January 8, 2019

EDITORIAL

Take care of Ohio's roads, bridges

Thoughtful Ohio legislators go into the new year with some bad news to ponder. It came last year in the form of a report that the state lacks adequate funding to maintain highways and bridges.

According to the report, by 2040, the state Department of Transportation will need \$55 billion to maintain roads and bridges adequately. Only \$41 billion is projected to be available for the purpose.

That is a substantial gap, but the good news is that if lawmakers act now, the shortfall can be made up. The longer they delay in

Trip to Hawaii reveals rusting wind turbines

Recently, my wife and I were blessed with an early Christmas gift from our son. We spent a week in the beautiful state of Hawaii. I would like to share with you some of our experiences. I will not excite you with details about Pearl Harbor, the volcano, nor the Space Observatory located at 14,000 feet above sea level on the Big Island. Although the star shower from that vantage point was an awesome experience, I wish instead to tell you what I observed and discovered with relevance to the Hawaiian people's experience with wind turbines.

Paul E. Jones
is a resident of the Republic rea.

At 7,000 feet above sea level, we stopped at a ranger station, and I had an interesting conversation with a young ranger who held a degree in biology from the University of Oklahoma. Because he was a native Hawaiian, his love for nature provided an understanding of the delicate ecological system that makes Hawaii so inviting and attractive to all forms of life that have the ability to breathe. We learned how to breathe at 14,000 feet, what to expect as we climbed to greater heights, and the rules of behavior that visitors must realize.

When I asked about the wind turbines that rest silent and unmoving on the jetties close to the rugged seashores of the mountains, he responded with the following statement.

"We are more concerned with the ecology of our island than of wind energy. We have two species of bats that near extinction. That is more important to our peo-

"The wind turbines are not cost efficient. When they stop working, the maintenance to repair them is not a good business move. Although we built them on shorelines where people do not live, their appearance is ghastly. Most of them remain still as they rust away. The big energy companies took advantage of the Hawaiian people."

Broken promises:

The rusting wind turbines of Hawaii
A breathtaking sight awaits those who travel to the southernmost tip of Hawaii's stunningly beautiful Big Island, though it's not in any guidebook. On a 100-acre site, where cattle wander past broken 'Keep Out' signs, stand the rusting skeletons of scores of wind turbines.

Just a short walk from where endangered monk seals and Hawksbill turtles can be found on an unspoiled sandy beach, a technology that is supposed to be about saving the environment is instead ruining it.

In other parts of the U.S., working wind turbines are killing hundreds of thousands of birds and bats each year, but here the wildlife can perch on the motionless steel blades.

If any spot was tailor-made for a wind farm, it would surely be here. The gales are so strong and relentless on the tip of South Point that trees grow almost horizontally.

Yet the 27-year-old Kamaoa Wind Farm remains a relic of the boom and inglorious bust of America's so-called "wind rush," the world's first major experiment in wind energy.

At a time when the EU and the British

ated by outsiders? Is it the temptation of financial rewards for our family? It certainly cannot be based on research or history, for research warns of extreme danger and history speaks of consequences that result in regret as we rush to discover clean renewable energy.

I end this long letter with the following paragraphs: This letter was penned and coined after a day substitute teaching for music classes in lower elementary. I watched a little girl with special needs shake violently when a Christmas carol began playing via the smartboard. I watched her attendant speak softly in her ear while rubbing her arms and gently squeezing her hands. Suddenly, a smile lit up her face and she began singing "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," for now she understood the sudden eruption of sound was not a threat to her inclusive world.

Obviously the names and places were withheld to protect the innocent, for she and many others facing the same difficulties cannot speak for themselves. Today, I speak for them. I am not sure if her family has the means to relocate if health issues confront them. I have those means, but I do not want to relocate. Finally, I do not work for the coal or oil industry, and I have no aspirations of doing so. Several months ago, I had no idea that clean energy was an oxymoron. Today, I have made an attempt to understand, and that understanding has brought me to the precipice of wanting to hear "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer" being sung over and

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