

Public comment for the 17-2295-EL-BGN

### Join in the Excitement of the New Era

Corporations that have for many years been producing our electrical power, using traditional methods that involve the extraction of fossil fuels, continue to oppose the introduction of new methods that take advantage of the free, clean and unlimited sources of energy, available all around us.

Fossil fuel providers, instead of continuing to battle against the essential need of countries to move away from outdated energy sources, should find a way of getting on board the exciting opportunity of moving to new, non-polluting versions.

There are countless examples, throughout history, of far-sighted innovators who could see that the way that objects were being made could be improved. In some cases these innovators had no previous experience in influencing how the necessary materials or equipment could be manufactured, in order to make the desired updates.

However, other innovators have actually been the makers of the forms of equipment that were increasingly becoming outdated. They saw how some of that equipment they were producing could be modified, in order to move us into the new era. Studebaker was a classic example of such a company. It was founded in 1852 and was originally a manufacturer of farm wagons. Studebaker then formed the "Studebaker Automobile Company", and in 1902 began the production of electric vehicles. After two years it moved to building gasoline vehicles. Although the company did not have a very long lifespan, it developed a reputation, over the next 50 years, for very high quality and reliability.

A current example of corporate far-sightedness is illustrated by Statoil. It recently adapted its offshore oil drilling business to include manufacturing floating platforms for offshore wind turbines. It partnered with Masdar, and on October 18th 2017, Statoil Hywind, the world's first floating wind farm started production, offshore from Peterhead in Scotland, <https://www.equinor.com/en/news/worlds-first-floating-wind-farm-started-production.html> .

But it is not only industry leaders who can benefit from making smart transitioning choices. Some of those who have actually been employed as coal miners in the past are moving to newer, and very different forms of employment. An example of such a transition was the subject of an NPR interview on October 19th 2018, in which Colorado coal miners told how they had enthusiastically taken up jobs in their state's new fiber-optic cabling enterprises, <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/10/19/657496648/a-rural-colorado-coal-county-was-struggling-then-a-tech-company-brought-new-jobs> .

The Republic Wind installation will provide a leadership role for Seneca County. It will demonstrate how owners of agricultural properties can widen their goals - to include productivity of an exciting new kind. The installation of modern, beautiful, and silent wind turbines will illustrate not only how we should transition to clean power, but also in how we can benefit economically as we do so!

So the message for us all, and now particularly for the fossil fuel industry, is, as it has always been,

“Evolve - Don’t Stagnate”.

Sarah Taylor.

<http://www.windustrious.org>

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