

## Before The Ohio Power Siting Board

### Update on Intervenor Status

#### Case Numbers:

08-0666-EL-BGN, 12-0160-EL-BGN, 13-0360-EL-BGA, 17-2516-EL-BGA, 17-2517-EL-BGA

I, Matthew Earl, resident of Champaign County and non-participating neighbor to the Buckeye Wind Farm, issue this update on my status as an intervenor before the Ohio Power Siting Board.

It has been well over a year since I was first informed of the December 2017 amendments to the certificates of Buckeye Wind Farms 1 & 2, by EverPower Wind Holdings (now Innogy).

An entire decade has passed since this project was first proposed, and each month of delay only perpetuates the division in our community. In fact, the debate is so old that the yard signs (yellow anti-turbine and blue pro-turbine) are faded, cracked, and split apart from age. There are stories of neighbors who live beside each other in silence and refuse to communicate because emotions run so hot. Finalizing the project's status would help heal fractured relationships instead of keeping these wounds open. The Ohio Power Siting Board should definitively resolve the matter of Buckeye Wind Farm.

During these last 15 months, I endeavored to discover the truth about wind farms by examining the opposing viewpoints. I have friends and neighbors on both sides (pro-turbine and anti-turbine), and I desire to remain a good friend and neighbor to each of them. I interviewed residents and farmers to hear their concerns and perspectives.

In the course of my research, I personally encountered the two sources of energy that are pitted in a battle for the future of producing electricity. I smelled the fumes of burning coal and I also listened to the spinning blades of an industrial wind turbine. This investigation has given me a new perspective, and many assertions I was initially told about coal-power and wind-power have proven to be false.

When I moved my family to Urbana, it was my intent to live in a rural setting. Whatever my misgivings about the aesthetic impact of cell-towers, irrigation-pivots, and wind-turbines, it is impossible to ignore the fact that each directly extends the economic viability of rural land remaining in agricultural use.

After much deliberation and prayer, I feel it is best to remove myself from further legal proceedings. I hereby withdraw my involvement as an intervenor in any cases and amendments filed or pending with the Ohio Power Siting Board. I also withdraw and terminate my participation in Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP as well as Champaign County Townships United.

I welcome those who have questions about my departure to contact me directly at [earlfamily@ctcn.net](mailto:earlfamily@ctcn.net)

Respectfully signed and submitted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, Earth Day, 2019.



Matthew A. Earl

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**4/22/2019 12:38:21 PM**

**in**

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Summary: Notice of withdrawal Notice of Withdrawal and Update on Intervenor Status for Resident Matthew A Earl electronically filed by Mr. Matthew A Earl on behalf of Resident and Mr. Matthew A Earl