

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 16-1871
Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 12:40:51 PM

Subject: Icebreaker Wind Turbine Project

Dear Director Mertz,

I am writing to you regarding the Icebreaker wind turbine project on Lake Erie.

Lake Erie is Ohio's greatest natural resource. Our Great Lake is the only place in Ohio and possibly continentally, aside from the other four Great Lakes, where a person can sit on shore or in a boat and see only horizon. There are just two permanent elements to this viewscape, water and sky. Lake Erie's water quality is under siege by harmful algae blooms, human pollution, and invasive species. Wind turbines would be the ruination of Lake Erie's viewscape.

From a Natural Resource standpoint, there are additional concerns to be sure. There very likely will be impacts to fish and fishing, recreational boating, birds and bats, as well as from pollution during turbine construction and maintenance. Studies evaluating these impacts will be difficult to do (in the case of birds and bats, perhaps impossible to do) and subject to interpretation. The impact on viewscape is not subject to interpretation. The addition of wind turbines will fundamentally and permanently ruin the viewscape. There will be no horizon; no more just water and sky.

The stated goal of the wind turbine project developers is up to 1500 wind turbines in Lake Erie. This means that Lake Erie will go from a treasured natural resource to a factory used for producing energy. For Ohio to sanction such a project is unbelievable to me. Ohio can be and should be a strong supporter of renewable energy, but not at any cost. Such projects need to be properly sited. Lake Erie is not the proper site.

As Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, you are the lead steward of Ohio's greatest natural resource. I urge you to come down on the side of Lake Erie and recommend against the wind turbine project.

Sincerely,

Bob Stoll
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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

6/5/2019 3:55:52 PM

in

Case No(s). 16-1871-EL-BGN

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