


FILE

From: Ohio Power Siting Board
To: Puco Docketing
Subject: comment 17-2295 [ref: _00Dt0GzXt._500t0LnFAZ:ref]
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 10:45:51 AM

I write to you today as probably my final opportunity to implore you to NOT issue a certificate to Apex Energy's Republic Wind project. I have seen where many letters have been submitted asking for the opposite, but upon examination, a strong majority are from people living nowhere close to this project. My family home has 4 proposed turbines within approximately 3,000 feet of our property. We are fortunate in the sense that others in our community have far more near their homes.

I quote your own mission statement, "The Board's mission is to support sound energy policies that provide for the installation of energy capacity and transmission infrastructure for the benefit of the Ohio citizens, promoting the State's economic interests, and protecting the environment and land use." This project fails to meet any of the goals of your mission. First, the energy produced by these turbines will NOT benefit Ohioans as it is slated to be sent across the grid to the east coast. Second, the economic interests of the state and local community are being distorted by Apex. They claim much of the revenue will go to local schools, saying it's better than the state lottery because recessions may slow down ticket purchases. Apex, on their own Facebook page, admitted their turbines are often standing still because there either isn't enough wind or enough demand on the grid for their energy. I'm not an economist but it seems difficult for them to make money to give to school districts and local government when their turbines aren't needed. Finally, in your mission statement is the protection of the environment and land use. Much of the project area is to be developed on or near karst as documented by the Ohio DNR. Having 550-600' tall turbines supported by concrete piers and vibrating down into this soil is very likely to cause disruptions to well systems which a majority of the citizens here rely on for clean water. Furthermore, I submit, you must consider the safety of the citizens. The wind companies argue Ohio has too strict of setback laws, yet they seem to have had no problem in finding ways to locate several hundred proposed locations between the various projects in the area. If we must have these turbines, let's at least make sure it is safe for everyone. If wind companies don't want their employees within 1600' of the turbine when a fire, blade shear, or other incident occurs, how are we to protect our own families when a turbine maybe hundreds of feet closer?

If wind turbines are truly the answer to Ohio's energy, economic, and environmental needs, then it all comes down to safety. Please take this into consideration as you continue to review this, and the several other pending cases, for these wind turbine projects.

Robert Chappell
Republic, Ohio 

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Technician MN Date Processed 8-26-19