

**BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Republic Wind, LLC for a Certificate to)	Case No. 17-2295-EL-BGN
Site Wind-Powered Electric Generation in)	
Republic and Sandusky Counties.)	

Direct Testimony of

Bill McCallister

On behalf of

Seneca County Park District

SENECA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT EXHIBIT #_____

1 Q 1: State your name, educational and professional background.

2 A 1: Bill McAllister. I am a 1974 Graduate of Bowling Green State University with a
3 Liberal Studies degree and a 2005 Master's Degree in Organizational
4 Management from Springfield College, Springfield, MA. I have spent my 40+ year
5 career with the YMCA, retiring in 2018, including 18 years as CEO of the Fostoria
6 YMCA and 10 years as consultant with the YMCA of the USA

7 Q 2: What is the Seneca County Park District?

8 A 2: The Seneca County Park District (SCPD) was founded in 1996. Under the
9 jurisdiction of Seneca County Probate Court, SCPD consists of 10 parks comprising
10 of more than 600 acres. From its inception in 1996 until the first levy was passed
11 in 2016, the SCPD was operated by volunteers and through donations. There are
12 now three full-time and two part-time employees. The annual operating budget
13 is \$600,000. The SCPD Board of Commissioners is made of five people selected by
14 Probate Judge Jay Meyer. There are more than 50 volunteers who help out with
15 programs, fundraising, maintenance and policy making. Programs offered include
16 a very successful nature-based preschool program, and a variety of outdoor
17 educational and recreational programs for all ages. Many people use the parks for
18 individual and family hiking, fitness, and nature appreciation. The parks are used
19 by people of all ages, from Seneca County and the surrounding counties.

20
21 Q 3: State your relationship to the SCPD?

22 A 3: I have been a board member since 2012 and currently chair the strategic
23 planning committee. I co-chaired the successful 2016 levy campaign.

24
25 Q 4: Of the parks within the SCPD, which park is closest to the proposed wind
26 turbines in the Republic Wind Project?

27 A 4: Bowen Nature Preserve located in West Lodi.

28
29 Q 5: Are you personally familiar with Bowen Nature Preserve?

A 5: Yes. It is a 58 acre nature preserve with trails, grasslands, wildlife and approximately 6 acres of woodland. It became part of the SCPD in 2007.

Q 6: If the turbines are constructed as proposed by Republic Wind will those turbines be visible from Bowen Nature Preserve?

A 6: Yes. As I understand the proposed construction, it is my belief that I'll be able to see a wind turbine in every direction while at Bowen Nature Preserve unless my view is blocked by an obstruction such as a tree.

Q 7: What is Seneca County Park District Exhibit #1?

A 7: This exhibit shows the locations of the proposed turbines in relationship to Bowen Nature Preserve. Twenty-one turbines are to be constructed within two and one-half miles of the nature preserve. Ten turbines are to be constructed within one mile of the nature preserve. This exhibit was created using the latitude and longitude for the proposed turbines provided on FAA Document Dated 06/26/2019 for Aeronautical Study No. 2018-WTE-11673-OE. This exhibit fairly and accurately depicts the location of Bowen Nature Preserve in relationship to proposed wind turbines within 2 ½ miles of the boundary of the Bowen Nature Preserve.

Q 8: What is Seneca County Park District Exhibit #2?

A 8: This exhibit depicts fairly and accurately depict the general location of the various parks of the SCPD.

Q 9: What is the position of the SCPD regarding the construction of the Republic Wind project?

A 9: The District does not in general oppose the construction of wind turbines as an alternative energy source, however we do oppose any construction of any wind turbines within 2 ½ miles of any of our parks' boundary. The District

59 respectfully believes that the scenic quality of our parks will be significantly
60 harmed by viewing wind turbines at relatively short distances.

61 Q 10: Does this conclude your testimony?

62 A 10: Yes, but I reserve the right to update my testimony.

63

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Bill McCallister was served upon the following Parties of Record on this the 11th day of November via electronic or regular US mail.

/s/Derek W. DeVine
Derek W. DeVine #0062488

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Summary: Testimony of William McCallister on behalf of Seneca County Park District electronically filed by Mr. Derek W. DeVine on behalf of Board of Park Commissioners of the Seneca County Park District, Seneca County, Ohio