

**Public Utilities
Commission**

Mike DeWine, Governor
Sam Randazzo, Chairman

Commissioners

M. Beth Trombold
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Dennis P. Deters
Daniel R. Conway

Memorandum

To: Docketing Division
From: Jay S. Agranoff *jsa*
Date: 11/20/19
Re: Case No. 17-2295-EL-BGN

Please correct the public hearing transcript in Case No. 17-2295-EL-BGN filed on 10/18/19 by substituting the following corrected attachment pages in order to properly reflect the supporting documentation for Mr. Charles Groth's testimony that was incorrectly attributed to Dan White.

PUCO

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This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician *AS* Date Processed 11/20/19

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~~DAN WHITE~~
Charles Groth

I would like to share some statistics from the public comments filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board in this project. I have here a list of all comments filed through September 9th, and I have an extra copy that I will leave with the board following my testimony today.

First, I will state that roughly an equal number of people have filed comments supporting and opposing this project. But beyond that the similarities stop.

One of the first things noticeable when reviewing comments is that some comments on both sides have been filed repeatedly. Of comments opposing the project, six were filed in duplicate - meaning the same letter signed by the same person filed two separate times with the OPSB.

But there is a much more noticeable pattern of duplicate filings among comments in support of the project. Overall, 24 comments in support have been filed in duplicate with the OPSB. Four comments in support have been filed in triplicate. And one comment in support - the same letter signed by the same person - was filed four times in a five month period.

Another statistic that I want to point out to this Board is that fewer than half of the comments in support of this project are from Seneca County residents. By comparison, 90% of the comments in opposition are from people who live in this county. And if you add residents of neighboring Sandusky and Huron Counties that figure rises to 95%.

I understand why a union employee might not object to this project. For them, Republic Wind is a paycheck for a few months, and then they get to go home. They are not forced to carry the burden for the next 20-30 years like those of us who live here will be.

A final pattern I want to point out is the overwhelming prevalence of form letters among comments in support of the project. In fact, 93% of all public comments in support of this project are form letters. By comparison, only 23% of comments in opposition are form letters.

One of the dangers of relying heavily on form letters is that you end up with situations such as the gentleman from Crosby, Texas who submitted a form

letter stating he is "a resident of the area surrounding the Republic Wind Project." I suppose it depends how you define "the area surrounding Republic", but at over 1200 miles away I think Crosby, Texas is rather a stretch.

I would also like to point out that it is much easier to simply sign your name to a letter that someone else wrote and that someone else will submit on your behalf than it is to take the time and effort to find your own words and figure out how to navigate the OPSB system to submit your comment yourself. There is a level of time, effort and investment in the many heartfelt comments in opposition that is lacking the form letters of support.

In closing, I would like to make the following comments:

To Whom It May Concern:

Seneca County is (really) my home, and I have an interest in decisions that impact our future.

Wind energy is a complex subject, but I've educated myself over the last few years to understand exactly what this project means for my family, my community, and our legacy. I'm not alone, as I've seen widespread opposition to this project from my neighbors and family. Most don't want it, and I share their opinion. As for me and my family, we will welcome the denial of this project and the avoidance of all damage that this wind project would bring.

We've been voicing our concerns on this project for over a year. Now that the Ohio Power Siting Board is finally here, I urge you to hear the overwhelming opposition from the foundation of this community - the people who (really) live here!

Thank you.

