

FILE

16-1871-EL-BGN

December 3, 2019

Mr. Sam Randazzo, Chairman
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: 16-1871-EL-BGN Icebreaker Windpower

Dear Chairman Randazzo,

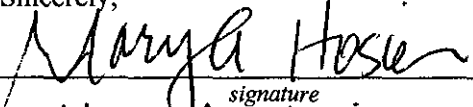
I strongly support the Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation's (LEEDCo) application to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) to build the Icebreaker Wind project: a 6-turbine wind farm in the waters of Lake Erie eight miles off the coast of Cleveland. This project has the potential to help create a robust off-shore wind industry in the Great Lakes region and jobs in Ohio. Alone, Icebreaker Wind will create more than 500 construction jobs and a projected economic impact of \$168 million.

In the last decade, Icebreaker has achieved significant success:

- Icebreaker won a \$40 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to support innovation in offshore wind.
- LEEDCo attracted Norwegian private investor and developer Fred. Olsen Renewables to help with development, finance, and construction of the project.
- Icebreaker has a signed contract with the City of Cleveland where Cleveland Public Power and Cuyahoga County have agreed to buy a significant portion of power from Icebreaker.
- Icebreaker will connect to Cleveland Public Power's Lake Road Substation that is expected to feed Cleveland's planned "microgrid."
- The project has earned all required federal approvals. Those include a "Finding of No Significant Impact" from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Department of Energy. Other federal agencies that have signed off include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. State Department and the Federal Aviation Administration.
- LEEDCo has reached an agreement with the staff of the OPSB on proposed permit conditions. Ohio Department of Natural Resources staff was involved from the beginning. The project also has its Water Quality Certification from Ohio EPA.

Please grant Icebreaker a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (as recommended by the OPSB staff) so the project can move forward and is not stifled or killed by regulatory delay.

Sincerely,


signature
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name
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Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
city, state zip

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Technician A Date Processed 1/6/20