

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comment 18-1607-EL-BGN
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:24:21 AM

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From: Amy Russell <atr@bright.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Case No. 18-1607-EL-BGN

To Mr. Matt Butler:

Hello, Mr. Butler,

It's hard to believe that it has been almost a year since I contacted you with some questions regarding the Emerson Creek Wind Farm proposal.

You were very helpful at that time, and so I am contacting you once again regarding the public hearing to be held at 3 p.m. March 18 in Bellevue, OH.

Since it is difficult for persons who are working at that time of day to attend the hearing, I wish to submit my comments through this email.

In the interim since I last contacted you, I have read and researched information regarding industrial wind turbines, and if possible, I am even more opposed to these being placed in Huron County than I was a year ago.

First of all, in a notice I received through Dickinson Wright PLLC regarding the upcoming hearing, one of the criteria under consideration is noted as "...the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity;".

Right there I have a major disagreement.

Reports from other nations that have turned to wind energy in order to limit their reliance on fossil fuels have found wind energy to be insufficient for their needs, requiring even more use of fossil fuels as backup, as well as frequent experiences of power shortages.

Our particular rural area does not possess the needed transportation infrastructure to even bring in the materials to erect these structures.

Some of our roads are not even a full two-lane, let alone all the access roads that would be needed, creating a massive upheaval. I feel that Firelands Wind LLC has not been transparent regarding this impact, nor even in the representation of the enormity of these turbines! These are not some cutesy, picturesque farm-type windmills from bygone days. We are talking about structures over 600 feet high - and I don't even know the wingspan of the blades! I have repeatedly sought a simple chart comparison of a one-story home, two-story home and one of these turbines, so that the residents here could have a clearer perception of this proposal. Wouldn't this at least be fair for Firelands Wind LLC to provide?

The local school systems are being wooed with the prospect of additional revenue, but reports from another Ohio school system reveal that due to money received from their wind farm, they also receive LESS monies from the government, resulting in an over-all reduction in funding.

We have a few independent windmills in this area that have already been abandoned due to their inefficiency and/or breakdowns. They are still standing idle. The prospect of over 60 of these, even more massive, invading our rural area is incomprehensible to me! And I'm afraid I have no confidence that these will be efficient, maintained or repaired, and, after a short period of time they will most likely be sold to another company who will not have the funds to decommission them, they will end up as rusty, decomposing monuments to folly and greed.

I am sure there are others who can provide much more factual arguments regarding the proposed energy outputs, economic considerations and impacts on wildlife and environmental issues. I speak more from my heart regarding my home and family. We moved to Sherman Township a little more than 10 years ago, understanding that the township was zoned. We were agreeable to the regulations and relieved to be in an area that would not become industrialized, as we plan to live here for the rest of our lives, if at all possible. Additionally, in close proximity to our home (as in can be seen from our driveway) are two places of worship that are quite significant. One is the Sorrowful Mother Shrine, established in 1850, covering over 150 acres of woodlands, with walking paths, grottoes, and a large outdoor chapel where liturgies are held. People from all over the country and from around the world are visitors to this sacred place to worship and to be restored in the peaceful surroundings.

The other is St. Gaspar parish, a Catholic church and its adjacent St.

Michael's cemetery. (Specifically these are located in Seneca County, but they are simply on the other side of State Route 269.) It is heartbreaking to me to imagine this holy ground being overshadowed by these behemoths that destroy the very 'green' places they claim to support.

Mine is just one voice, but I loudly urge the board - beseech the board
- to save our homes, our land and our churches from this blight!

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Amy T. Russell
1814 St. Rt. 269N
Bellevue, OH 44811

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Summary: Public Comment of Amy T. Russell electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing