

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:25:23 AM
Attachments: [EMERSON CREEK PUBLIC MEETIN Exhibit copy -Draft.doc](#)

From: Gail Miller <gblaskis@woh.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 8:26 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: EMERSON CREEK PUBLIC HEARING - Docket # 18-1607-EL-BGN - August 20, 2020 - Exhibit

Dear Sirs:

RE: Exhibit for the Emerson Creek Public Meeting – Docket # 18-1607-EL-BGN. I have attached the testimony I gave at the public meeting using the Webex connection available at the Bellevue VFW. My name is Gail Miller – I was # 11 on the list of those offering to give testimony.

Please learn from the experiences of those in other states in the U.S. and those in other countries around the world – Protect our farmland and the health and safety of our people! Please deny the application for the Emerson Creek Wind Project!

Gail Miller
14411 U.S. Rte 224
Attica, OH 44807

Venice Township
E-Mail: gblaskis@woh.rr.com

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EMERSON CREEK PUBLIC MEETING
Docket # 18-1607-EL-BGN
Exhibit Copy – August 20, 2020 – Gail Miller

Throughout history man has advanced in knowledge and technology through a trial of ideas and inventions and by learning and responding to the experiences of others. Ohio is being besieged by wind power companies seeking, under the guise of renewable energy, to install wind turbines and line their own pockets before the advantage of government subsidies runs out. They are doing this at the expense of local residents who will be facing loss of property values, infrasound, shadow flicker, and the destruction of a peaceful rural way of life.

Let's talk about electricity – "Electricity supply is costly due to its variability, interruptibility, inefficiency and its requirement of 100% backup". The value of solar and wind decline in economic value as they become larger shares of the electricity grid for physical reasons. **They produce too much energy when societies don't need it and not enough energy when they do.** California is currently experiencing rolling blackouts due to this. Germany averted three blackouts of its own in June 2019. In the U.K. more than a million homes lost power in Aug 2019, in part because a wind farm tripped offline." Forbes, September 2019 – "The University of Chicago found that renewable energy mandates 'significantly increase average retail electricity prices'. Thanks to the heavy deployment of renewables, since 2011 electricity prices in California have jumped 30 percent, the most expensive in the western United States, while electricity prices have risen 51% in Germany since 2006." In states like North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, and Oklahoma electricity prices have jumped anywhere from 18 to 40%. Bloomberg.com – August 2019 – "The road to a world powered by renewable energy is littered with unintended consequences. Like a 40,000% surge in electricity prices".

Let's talk about safety - In the past several months: February 15 – Germany – Between Guxhagen & Kiorle - "Fire brigades had to just stand by and watch as a turbine burned. They could not extinguish the fire due to its height and trying to extinguish the falling parts was too dangerous. "February 23 – Corpus Christi, Texas – "Wind turbine catches fire. Authorities say they have no choice but to let it burn itself out." July 13 – Nolan County Texas – Brush fire started at Turbine 46 – 3,000 acres were impacted. What would happen in Erie, Huron, Sandusky, and Seneca counties if the proposed turbines caught on fire and high winds blew flaming falling parts into the wheat, corn, or soybean fields?? Our fields extend from farm to farm! Homes caught in the wake of the fire would also be burned!

(2)

Two accidents involving turbines have happened in Ohio just last month. July 11 - Hardin County – Scioto Ridge project – crane installing a wind turbine toppled over and the boom fell across Twp Rd 220. The road was blocked several days. July 31 - Driver transporting an oversized load with a wind tower section to the Scioto Ridge project. The rear trailer section, on a dolly system, went off the side of the road and slid downhill before striking a guardrail and stopping. At least 10 other wind turbine accidents have been reported since April of this year.

And what about setbacks? Quoting from an “Analysis of Throw Distances of Detached Objects from Horizontal-axis Wind Turbines” – At “extreme” tip speeds the potential blade throw distance for the 5 MW turbine was 4,921 feet. January 31st 2020 – Wittstock, Germany – The upper part of a 330 foot turbine tore off and fell to the ground. Parts flew 656 feet. The turbines for the Emerson Creek project can be as tall as 654 feet. If parts fly 2 X the height of the turbine, they could end up 1,300 feet or more from the turbine tower. Does Ohio’s current setback distance of approximately 1300 feet reflect “safety” from blade throws?? Turbine safety manuals for workers specify a safe distance of 3280 feet. July 30, Beatrice, Nebraska – The Gage County Planning and Zoning Commission voted 6 – 1 to recommend that the setback distance between wind towers and non-participating rural homes be increased from the current three-eighths mile, to one mile.

What about setbacks due to dangerous Infrasound?? NASA’s Guide to the evaluation of human exposure to noise from large turbines showed that even with windows shut, houses do not stop LFN (Low Frequency Noise) sound energy. “Measured levels inside the home are significantly higher than predicted within the LFN range. The house acts like a drum for LFN.” The wind industry has been told, ‘The dB(A) filter shuts out the LFN and is therefore unsuitable. G-weighted scales were better correlated with noise, annoyance, vibrations, and pulsations. March - 2020 - Australian researchers reported “an audible indoor low-frequency tone was amplitude modulated at the blade-pass frequency for 20% of the time up to a distance of 7,874 ft. It occurred for a similar percentage of time between wind farm percentage power capacities of 40 and 85 %, indicating that it was important that the AM analysis should not be restricted to high power output conditions only. Their work showed that despite the number of amplitude modulation events being recorded to reduce with distance, audible indoor amplitude modulation still occurred for 16 % of the time at a distance of 11,482 Ft. At night-time it occurred indoors for residences located as far as 11,482 Ft. from the wind farm for up to 22 % of the time.” Does Ohio’s current setback reflect safety from Infrasound?

(3)

Representatives from Apex would like us to believe that unless we are living in the “footprint” of the project we will not be affected and therefore whatever we have to say has no merit. Currently there are two wind projects “pending” for Erie, Huron, Sandusky, and Seneca County with at least three more projects waiting in the wind companies back pockets! All of these approximately 650 foot turbines will be within a 250 square mile area. Picture in your mind about 300 - 650 turbines with a height equal to the length of two football fields and topped by blinking red lights at night. This is real – not an exaggeration! These would be visible for miles and our peaceful rural farmland would be turned into an industrial wasteland! We are not going to be affected?? We all use the same roads that the trucks will use in carrying tons of cement and that the multi-axel trucks will use carrying huge turbine parts and the up to 246 foot long turbine blades (Picture 4 semi-trucks end-to-end). And we will not be affected???

Leaseholders seem to say it is all about their “property rights”. But what about the property rights of their non-participating neighbors?? When the leaseholder agrees to a 600 ft turbine on their farmland that will affect the health, well-being, and peaceful living of their neighbor then in fairness the leaseholders’ rights become limited. How, when, and why has the questionable promise of money and jobs become more important than the health and welfare of the residents in Ohio?? With due respect, people who will not be affected by a policy should not be making the rules for those who will be affected by the policy. Those of us who live in Erie, Huron, Seneca, and Sandusky Counties deserve a voice. Please learn from the experiences of others – Protect our farmland and the health and safety of our people. Thank you.

Gail Miller
14411 U.S. Rte 224
Attica, OH 44807

E-Mail: gblaskis@woh.rr.com

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:26:03 AM
Attachments: [Emerson Creek Public Hearing.docx](#)

From: Smith, Greg <gsmith@nationalmachinery.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Emerson Creek testimony - Greg Smith

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My name is Greg Smith and I reside in Seneca County. I am going to focus my testimony on two specific points that I think should be the Ohio Power Siting Board's primary consideration.

The first point is public safety. The current minimum setbacks in Ohio are shorter in distance than the distance debris has been thrown in documented blade failure cases. Ohio's setbacks are also shorter than the turbine manufacturer's safety recommendations for their own employees. The fact that we have politicians at the local and state levels who want to reduce the setbacks is especially frustrating when you consider that the turbines built today are much taller than what was built previously. Instead of considering shorter setbacks, we should be talking about increasing the setbacks. The Ohio Power Siting Board does not have the authority to modify the setback law however the Board does have the ability to site turbines at any distance greater than the minimum distance dictated by law in the name of public safety. Public safety should be the first priority.

The 2nd point that I am making today is whether there is a basis of need for the Emerson Creek project. By law, the Board must evaluate eight points when considering a project. Point #6 is for the Board to determine whether the facility will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. I am challenging the Ohio Power Siting Board to evaluate whether there is a need for the Emerson Creek facility in the State of Ohio.

Ohio is served by the PJM electrical grid that serves all or parts of 13 states and the District of Columbia. Per PJM's statistics, for all of 2019, the actual efficiency of the installed base of wind power sources within the grid was only 18.1%. This dataset included a sample size of over 43,000 data points which is meaningful and includes nearly 9000 MW of installed wind turbine capacity. Per PJM's statistics posted for 4:00 today, wind power contributed a whopping 181MW of power which is only 0.1% of the total electrical power that was generated today.

As a reference, look at what happened in California this past week. Rolling blackouts occurred as the State's grid operator declared a Stage 3 emergency and cut power across the state. This action happened despite the billions of dollars invested in renewable power sources of wind and solar within the state. The bottomline is that renewable power is not the answer since it is not efficient or reliable and it consumes a huge amount of acreage.

So in the case of the Emerson Creek project, the Board needs to consider if a) does the "need" exist and b) is the benefit of adding 18% ultra-inefficient power generation worth all of the negatives that come from installing (87) 656' tall turbines spread over 32,000 acres that spans two counties. These negatives include shadow flicker, excessive noise levels, high risk of ground water contamination due to the extensive karst that exists within the project footprint, destroying our viewshed, devaluation of personal property, and harming our Lake Erie corridor of migratory birds. And then there is the impact on our bald eagle population. Per the March 2nd, 2020 Staff report, the US Fish & Wildlife Service has estimated that on average 2.5 eagles per year will die as a result of building this project in the region being proposed. That is 75 eagle deaths over the 30 year life of the project. Is this a so-called eagle conservation plan? I would call it an open hunting season for bald eagles. This is our National Symbol that we are talking about. If an individual killed 75 eagles, they would spend the rest of their life in jail but somehow it is OK for a wind company to get away with this. I find this absolutely unacceptable.

It boils down to a fundamental question.....Is the supposed benefit worth the negative impacts? I think not.

I encourage the Ohio Power Siting Board to deny this application.

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:25:40 AM

From: Jackie Easley <Jackie.Easley.345966980@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 7:00 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: I support Emerson Creek Wind!

Dear Docket Submission OPSB,

As an Ohioan, I want to encourage you to award a permit to the Emerson Creek Wind project (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek).

Wind energy projects like Emerson Creek Wind are an important part of the future of Ohio's economy. Ohio manufacturing already supplies many of the components for wind projects in other states, and it's high time we put these components to work in projects in our own state.

The economic, community, infrastructure, and health benefits that this project will bring Northern Ohio are hardly debatable. Support clean, reliable, and affordable energy that will spur economic development across Ohio. Support Emerson Creek Wind.

Regards,
Jackie Easley
870 Mercer Ave
Akron, OH 44320 |

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From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:26:20 AM

From: Joan Potter-Sommer <Joan.PotterSommer.345784027@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: I support Emerson Creek Wind!

Dear Docket Submission Ohio Public Siting Board,

To the members of the Ohio Power Citing Board,

Although I am not exactly local to the proposed Emerson Creek Wind Farm, I strongly support the development of renewable energy sources. Burning fossil fuels continues to add greenhouse gasses to already compromised atmosphere. Climate change is real and using renewable energy, i.e. wind, solar, water, for electric power makes huge sense. It also creates jobs for individuals in the energy industry and tax revenue for communities that choose to support such projects.

As an Ohio resident, I would encourage you to approve the Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek).

Although I am unable to voice my opinion in person, please take this letter as my written testimony in support of this project.

Joan Potter-Sommer
7791 Fairfield Road
Oxford, OH 45056
phone: 513-523-2050

Regards,
Joan Potter-Sommer
7791 Fairfield Rd
Oxford, OH 45056 |

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From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:26:34 AM

From: Keith Warren <Keith.Warren.345767503@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: I support Emerson Creek Wind!

Dear Docket Submission Ohio Public Siting Board,

To the members of the Ohio Power Citing Board,
As an Ohio resident, I would encourage you to approve the Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek).

The benefits of this project would offer tremendous economic support to the state and local communities, as well as, create hundreds of jobs, increase production for the Ohio manufacturing industry, and promote our country's commitment to energy security and independence.

Over the last several years, Ohio has missed out on \$4.2 billion in investment as a result of the lack of development of utility-scale wind energy that could go directly to aid local roads, schools, and hospitals. The project is set to provide \$51.3 million in landowner payments, \$54 million in school payments, \$27 million in county and township payments. As we grapple with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that the state does not miss any opportunities for investment of the caliber.

For these reasons and more, I would like to implore you, the members of the OPSB, to award a permit to the Emerson Creek Wind Farm
Although I am unable to voice my opinion in person, please take this letter as my written testimony in support of this project.

Regards,
Keith Warren
971 College Ave
Columbus, OH 43209 |

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From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:26:11 AM

From: L.K. Tuominen <LK.Tuominen.146102817@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: I support Emerson Creek Wind!

Dear Docket Submission Ohio Public Siting Board,

To the members of the Ohio Power Citing Board:

As an Ohio resident, I encourage you to approve the Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek).

The benefits of this project would offer tremendous economic support to the state and local communities, as well as, create hundreds of jobs, increase production for the Ohio manufacturing industry, and promote our country's commitment to energy security and independence.

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For these reasons and more, I would like to implore you, the members of the OPSB, to award a permit to the Emerson Creek Wind Farm
Although I am unable to voice my opinion in person, please take this letter as my written testimony in support of this project.

Regards,
L.K. Tuominen
12830 Fairhill Rd
Shaker Heights, OH 44120 |

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From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 18-1607
Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 11:26:26 AM

From: Rob Hoeffler <Rob.Hoeffler.345807599@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: I support Emerson Creek Wind!

Dear Docket Submission Ohio Public Siting Board,

To the members of the Ohio Power Citing Board,
As an Ohio resident, I would encourage you to approve the Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek).

The benefits of this project would offer tremendous economic support to the state and local communities, as well as, create hundreds of jobs, increase production for the Ohio manufacturing industry, and promote our country's commitment to energy security and independence.

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For these reasons and more, I would like to implore you, the members of the OPSB, to award a permit to the Emerson Creek Wind Farm
Although I am unable to voice my opinion in person, please take this letter as my written testimony in support of this project.

Regards,
Rob Hoeffler
4649 W 227th St
Fairview Park, OH 44126 |

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Virginia R. Ruffing
205 C Woodwind
Attica, Ohio 44807

August 8, 2020

OPSB, Re: 18-1607-EL-BGN
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

OC OPSB of letter Dickinson Wright Pirik LLC:
Re: Notice Firelands Wind Letter 7.17.20

Upon receiving a previous mailing, the map was shown to the Huron County Tax Map Department.

The Tax Map employee said: "The map is prepared as an illegible document and the document was designed as on purpose."

A message was on your answering machine requesting a readable document, but no response was received except the letter of 7.17.20 and an illegible map.

These documents purport an illegible or a negative wind powered electric generating facility. Legal documents are very detailed and printed with precision.

As a small landowner of property in Sherman Norwich, I am not for a wind power on my property,

Virginia R. Rutting
page 2 205C Woodwind
8.8.20 Attica, Ohio 44811

but do declare the right to know of wind power towers in the area. These could endanger agriculture plant growth by drying affects. Towers should be in full height plus for distance from my said property.

These wind towers are not a contraption designed or should be construed and worded for an agricultural product. The property Town is legally signed as an agricultural district for grain growing and producing property per document of the Huron County Auditor and signed by myself.

Some of the Wind Power employees do not know of a neighbor wind test site, but carry documents of estate income given to a brother without a tower. These so called Wind employees had a Florida license and worked in Bellevue, Ohio.

page 3
8.8.20

Virginia R. Ruffing
205C Woodwind
Attica, Ohio 44807

At this point in time,
I refuse any wind power
employees at my door
or nearby proposed towers.

Virginia R. Ruffing
Virginia R. Ruffing
Sherman Norwich Property Owner

copies mailed
for preventing COVID19
or any germs.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

8/21/2020 1:01:50 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-1607-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment of Gail Miller, Greg Smith, Jackie Easley, Joan Potter Sommer, Keith Warren, L. K. Tuominen, Rob Hoeffler and Virginia R. Ruffing, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing