

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 16-1871
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:22:18 PM

From: Leigh Mamlin <mamlin1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Feathering condition for Icebreaker's turbines

Dear Chairman Randazzo and Board Members:

I am writing to thank you for your decision to require feathering to protect birds at the Icebreaker Wind project. I support renewable energy development if it minimizes its impacts to wildlife. But with so many important promises left unfulfilled by the developer, I strongly believe you were right to take this commonsense step to protect migratory birds and bats.

As you know, the project site is in a National Audubon Society-designated **Globally Important Bird Area** due to its use by millions of birds. The project developers have yet to provide a plan for monitoring bird kills at the facility, and there has been no mention of mitigating these impacts through conservation actions. This leaves too much risk and too many unknowns in an area of great importance to birds.

Like millions of Americans, I value birds for their aesthetic, economic, and intrinsic value. But a recent study shows that the United States and Canada lost nearly 3 billion birds — almost 30 percent of the total population — since 1970. So many bird species are already struggling for survival due to habitat loss. Turbines in their ancient flyways will be devastating.

Each year, three generations of my family travel from central Ohio to Magee Marsh, Ottawa NWR, Black Swamp Observatory, and Howard Marsh to enjoy one of the planet's most dynamic and colorful bird migrations. When we travel to Lake Erie for the migration, we stay in hotels, eat at restaurants, and make purchases in the gift shop. Whether you are motivated by birders' positive, annual, impact on the region's economy, or by sheer value of protecting nature's diversity, I hope you'll continue to protect this significant bird migration thoroughway, by holding the Icebreaker Wind project to task.

This is not the time to take chances with our declining bird populations. Thank you for your commonsense decision to require feathering to protect this diminishing public resource.

Sincerely,

Leigh Mamlin
71 Colburn Court
Worthington, OH 43085

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Summary: Public Comment of Leigh Mamlin, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing