

**BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of	:	
Firelands Wind, LLC for a Certificate of	:	
Environmental Compatibility and Public	:	Case No. 18-1607-EL-BGN
Need to Construct a Wind-Powered	:	
Electric Generation Facility in Huron and	:	
Erie Counties, Ohio.	:	

**PREFILED TESTIMONY
OF**

Robert Holderbaum

**ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO,
POWER SITING DEPARTMENT**

STAFF EX. ____

September 21, 2020

1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Robert Holderbaum, and my business address is 180 East
3 Broad Street, 6th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.
4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) as a
7 Utility Specialist II within the Power Siting Department.
8

9 3. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

10 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science Pre-Law (2009)
11 and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Policy & Planning
12 (2012), both from Ohio University. I have been employed by the PUCO
13 since 2012. I have worked almost exclusively on power siting activities
14 during that time. I have provided analysis for over 150 cases before the
15 Ohio Power Siting Board (Board). My responsibilities typically include
16 application review and the preparation of analysis for major utility facility
17 applications in Ohio, including accelerated filings such as Letters of
18 Notification and Construction Notices. I have been the lead analyst for
19 more than 50 applications for generation facilities, substations, and
20 transmission line applications. I have also been responsible for the
21 preparation of staff reports and coordination of Staff review and field work
22 for major utility facilities.

1 4. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Ohio Power Siting
2 Board?

3 A. Yes.
4

5 5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

6 A. With my testimony, I am sponsoring a portion of the Staff Report of
7 Investigation (Staff Report). Specifically, I prepared the sections of the
8 Staff Report titled "Surface Water and Threatened and Endangered
9 Species."
10

11 6. Q. Are you testifying to any specific conditions in the Staff Report? If so,
12 which ones?

13 A. Yes, conditions 16-31.
14

15 7. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

16 A. Yes. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony as
17 described herein, as new information subsequently becomes available or in
18 response to positions taken by other parties.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of Robert Holderbaum, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Power Siting Department, was served via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 21st day of September, 2020.

/s/Werner L. Margard

Werner L. Margard
Assistant Attorney General

Parties of Record:

Christine M. T. Pirik (0029759)
Terrence N. O'Donnell (0074213)
Jon R. Secrest (0075445)
William V. Vorys (0093479)
Madeline P. Fleisher (0091862)
Dickinson Wright PLLC
150 East Gay Street, Suite 2400
Columbus, OH 43215
Tel: (614) 591-5461
CPirik@dickinson-wright.com
TODonnell@dickinson-wright.com
JSecrest@dickinson-wright.com
WVorys@dickinson-wright.com
MFleisher@dickinson-wright.com

James M. Lynch (PHV 21869-2020)
Adam N. Tabor (PHV 21870-2020)
Brian Knox (PHV 22157-2020)
K&L Gates
925 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2900
Seattle, Washington 98104-1158
Tel: (206) 623-7580
Fax: (206) 623-7022
jim.lynch@klgates.com

Philip J. Leppla (0089075)
Leppla Associates, Ltd.
2100 S. Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, OH 45409
Tel: (937) 294-5959
Fax: (937) 294-4411
pjleppla@leplaw.com

Michael B. Gerrard (PHV-21914-2020)
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, L.L.P.
250 West 55th Street
New York, NY 10019-9710.
Tel: (212) 836-7387
michael.gerrard@arnoldporter.com

Hillary Aidun (PHV-21990-2020)
Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
Columbia Law School
435 West 116th Street
New York, NY, 10027
hwa2108@columbia.edu.

Counsel for Tom Yingling and Kevin Erf

adam.tabor@klgates.com
brian.knox@klgates.com

Attorneys for Firelands Wind, LLC

Jack A. Van Kley (0016961)
Van Kley & Walker, LLC
132 Northwoods Blvd.
Suite C-1
Columbus, OH 43235
Tel: (614) 431-8900
Fax: (614) 431-8905
E-Mail: jvankley@vankleywalker.com

*Attorney on Behalf of Local Residents
and Black Swamp Bird Observatory*

Jacob S. Stephens (0098116)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Huron County Prosecutor's Office
12 East Main Street, 4th Floor
Norwalk, Ohio 44857
Tel: (419) 668-8215
Fax: (419) 663-3844
jstephens@huroncountyohprosecutor.com

*Attorney for Boards of Trustees of
Norwich & Richmond Townships, Huron
County, Ohio*

Heather Niedermeier Heyman
(0089270)
City of Willard Law Director
111 S. Myrtle Ave.
Willard, OH 44890
Tel: (419) 935-0171
Fax: (419) 933-2076
heather@hnattys.com

Attorney for the City of Willard

Randal L. Strickler (0034539)
Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney –
Civil Division
Huron County Prosecutor's Office
12 east Main Street, 4th Floor
Norwalk, OH 44857
Tel: (419) 668-8215
Fax: (419) 663-3844
rstrickler@huroncountyohprosecutor.com

*Attorney for Board of Commissioners of
Huron County, Ohio*

Gerhard R. Gross (0072214)
Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney-Civil
Division
247 Columbus Ave., Suite 319
Sandusky, Ohio 44870
Tel: (419) 627-7697
Fax: (419) 627-7567
ggross@eriecounty.oh.gov

*Attorney for Intervenor Board of
Commissioners of Erie County, Ohio*

Brett A. Kravitz (0069101)
Katherine A. Walker (0093850)
Assistant Attorneys General
Environmental Enforcement Section
2045 Morse Road, Building A-3
Columbus, Ohio 43229
Tel: (614) 265-6870
Fax: (614) 268-8871
Brett.Kravitz@ohioattorneygeneral.gov
Katherine.Walker@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

*Counsel for the Ohio Department
Of Natural Resources*

John & Missy E Eberle
9706 Bemis Rd
Bellevue, OH 44811
missyeb3@gmail.com

Pro se

Randell E & Della Ladd
7625 State Route 269
Bellevue, OH 44811
r_ladd@frontier.com

Pro Se

Joseph F & Pamela Jenkins
9413 State Route 99
Monroeville, OH 44847
baanc@aol.com

Pro Se

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

9/21/2020 4:54:47 PM

in

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

Summary: Testimony of Robert Holderbaum electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y Scott on behalf of OPSB