

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Champaign Wind LLC, for a Certificate)	
to Construct a Wind-Powered Electric)	Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN
Generating Facility in Champaign)	
County, Ohio)	

NOTICE OF FILING APPLICANT'S SEPTEMBER 18, 2012
RESPONSES TO STAFF'S DATA REQUESTS

On September 18, 2012, Champaign Wind LLC ("Champaign Wind" or "the Applicant") submitted responses to Staff's August 28, 2012 set of data requests. Copies of the Applicant's September 18, 2012 responses to Staff are attached hereto for filing on the docket.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Michael J. Settineri
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Michael J. Settineri (0073369)
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing document was served by electronic mail upon the following persons this 18th day of September, 2012.

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September 18, 2012

VIA COURIER

Don Rostofer
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215-3793

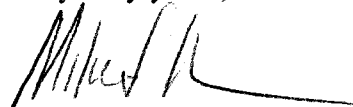
Re: Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN

Dear Mr. Rostofer:

Please find enclosed Champaign Wind LLC's responses to Staff's August 28 data requests. Also enclosed is the material in electronic format referenced in Champaign Wind's responses to data requests No. 2 and No. 10.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Michael J. Settineri

MJS/drd

Enclosures

cc: Stephen Reilly (w/ encl.)
Devin Parram (w/ encl.)

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1. Attachment P., Shadow Flicker, 3.0 Methods, pg. 3, unmarked bullet point five.

Regarding wind rose data used in shadow flicker modeling. Champaign Wind LLC is referenced as having provided the wind rose data. Please further provide the source(s) e.g. met. mast names/locations and the respective source date range(s).

RESPONSE: The meteorological tower mast height was 61 meters located at latitude 40.11461 N and longitude 83.64869 W. The data was collected from August 2007 through Dec 2011, but the frequency distribution was normalized for 8,760 hours for the year.

2. Please provide the WindPRO files used in preparation of Attachment P. to Staff, for review, via CD or similar electronic means.

RESPONSE: The WindPro files will be provided to Staff separately in electronic format.

3. 4906-17-05 (3) (d) pg. 43, second paragraph, last sentence

How can the cumulative impact of both projects generally result in "similar" levels of visual impact, when the proposed Project intends to add up to 56 new turbines (nearly as many as approved the original 08-0666-EL-BGN Certificate) to the view shed? This sentence also seems to contradict the earlier sentence, within the same paragraph, which states that: "...the change in visibility resulting from the construction of both projects would be a change in degree...". A "change in degree" and "similar", as used here, do not seem to relate. Yes, the addition of one turbine could be considered a "change in degree"; however 56 turbines are proposed additions to the view shed and while they are not a change in "kind" they are definitely a "change in degree" and that is what is most important here. Please clarify.

RESPONSE: To provide the proper context for the last sentence, second paragraph on pg. 43 of the Application, please refer to the same (and complete) sentence on pg. 82 of the Visual Impact Assessment (Exhibit Q), which states:

"In general, the cumulative effects of both projects result in similar levels of contrast and visual impact as either project by itself: the greatest impact typically occurs when numerous turbines are visible and/or where the turbines are close to the viewer." The sentence that follows on pg. 82 of Exhibit Q states:

"In the opinion of edr, the cumulative effect of constructing both projects is negligible relative to the effect of introducing either project as a visual component of the landscape."

With respect to the earlier sentence on pg. 43 of the Application, the full sentence states:

"The results of the cumulative viewshed analysis (see Figure 21 in Exhibit Q) are very similar to the results of each individual project: turbines would be visible from the majority of the area within 5 miles."

As explained in Exhibit Q, a viewshed analysis defines areas of potential Project visibility (i.e., that portion of the study area where any portion of a turbine could potentially be seen). It is not a means of evaluating visual impact (i.e., what do the turbines look like and how do they contrast with the existing

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landscape). The word "similar" in the sentence quoted above indicates that the geographic extent of potential turbine visibility is comparable when considering either the Buckeye II Project or the combined Buckeye I and II Projects (i.e., roughly 95% of the respective study areas, ignoring the screening effect of vegetation and structures). The sentence that follows states:

"The change in visibility resulting from the construction of both projects would be a change in degree (i.e., number of turbines visible) but not a change in kind (i.e., whether or not turbines would be visible) from any particular vantage point."

In reference to the viewshed analysis, this statement is accurate and consistent with the sentence that proceeds it.

The remainder of the referenced paragraph discusses photographic simulations of the combined projects. Unlike the viewshed analysis, these simulations allow for an evaluation of the visual impact (contrast) of the combined projects on the surrounding landscape and viewers. The remaining statements included in the paragraph relate to cumulative visual impact, rather than cumulative visibility.

The results of the cumulative viewshed analysis and cumulative visual simulations are presented as separate discussions in Section 5.4 of Exhibit Q.

4. **08-0666-EL-BGN and this Project are separate. Having said this: Are there landowners who were considered "participating" for the 08-0666-EL-BGN shadow flicker review (but were under 30 hours per year), but are not "participating" in the 12-0160-EL-BGN Project and are, as a result of cumulative impact, now over 30 hours per year? If so, please identify these residences and provide further dialog. Further, are any of the identified residences within Appendix P., Tables 3 & 4 "participating" in 08-0666-EL-BGN?**

RESPONSE: As noted in the Application, 11 structures on properties not under agreement with Champaign Wind or its affiliates will have cumulative shadow flicker impacts that exceed 30 hours per year if the Buckeye I and Buckeye II projects are constructed. As of this date, agreements have been entered into with the owners of five of the 11 structures (structures 789, 719, 662, 725 and 10308). Note, landowners are not separated by project, i.e., participating in Case No. 08-0666-EL-BGN or Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN. Landowners are designated as participating landowners based on the terms of the agreement with the landowner.

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5. In coincidence with the above and regarding all studies within the Application; if a person were a "participant" within 08-0666-EL-BGN, were they automatically considered a "participant" to 12-0160-EL-BGN or were new leases and permissions required/obtained for properties affected by both Projects?

RESPONSE: Participants in the Buckeye I project are by virtue of their agreements, participants in the Buckeye II project.

6. Please provide the rotational speeds (RPM) and blade pass frequencies (Hz) for all turbines within the Application.

RESPONSE: Please see the attached table.

7. Please provide the sound power levels for the G.E. 100 & 103 turbine models, including values within their "noise reduced modes" and please provide literature that shows how the "reduced modes" affect power output, respectively.

RESPONSE: Please see the attached table.

8. 4906-17-08(A)(6) Page 85: "It should be noted that of these 11 structures, seven are classified...as "pending"...". Please provide the latest participation status for these seven residences; as Staff characterizes "pending" residences to be non-participants until introduced as a participant.

RESPONSE: The seven structures listed as pending were structures 662, 719, 725, 789, 799, 6538 and 10308. Five of the structures are now located on participating parcels. Those structures are 662, 719, 725, 789 and 10308. The remaining two structures (799 and 6538) remain pending, and are appropriately classified by Staff as non-participating until further notice from the Applicant.

9. While on a site visit Staff noticed and commented upon interconnection line routing. It was noted that these did not follow access roads etc. The Applicant noted that these routes would be updated and would prefer this to occur at a pre-construction conference. As the Board certifies what is shown within the Application; this would be unacceptable to Staff. Please update these maps and routes contained therein to show the actual interconnection routes you are wishing to pursue – and not just a line on the map between two points. Please provide this to Staff and the case docket.

RESPONSE: Micrositing of collection lines may occur during the final design phase of the project. No substantive changes are proposed at this time to the collection lines locations.

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- 10. Tables 08-6 & 08-7: (08-6) Structures 789, 799, 833, & 10308; (08-7) Structures 747, 750, 812, 3426, & 8224. Please provide photos and descriptions of the obstacles which created the listed reductions in shadow flicker.**

RESPONSE: This information will be provided to Staff separately in electronic format.

- 11. Please explain "worst-case" as it pertains to shadow flicker/noise impacts and how these related to the proposed turbine models.**

RESPONSE: As indicated in the Project Shadow Flicker Report (Exhibit P), the shadow flicker analysis could be considered a "worst case" assessment of potential impacts because it is based on the following conservative assumptions.

- (a) No allowance is made for wind being above or below generating speed. Blades are assumed to be moving during all daylight hours (when the sun is more than 3° above the horizon).*
- (b) The possible screening effect of trees and buildings adjacent to the receptors were not taken into account during the initial phase of the analysis. Field review and follow-up analysis indicated that in many locations adjacent trees and structures will substantially block or obscure perceived shadow flicker.*
- (c) The exact number and/or orientation of windows at receptor locations are not taken into consideration. All residences are assumed to have windows on all sides of the house, and thus shadows from all directions can be perceived, which may or may not be the case.*

The Application uses the GE 2.5 – 103 to determine the worst case impact because it has the greatest rotor swept area (and therefore will cause the largest shadow) of any of the turbines being considered, and would therefore have the greatest impact. Modeling based on the GE 2.5 - 103 ensures that impacts of any turbine that is ultimately selected will not exceed the impacts described in the Application.

For noise impacts, the worst case impact would occur at the wind speed where the difference between the background noise levels and the turbine sound level is maximum. The Applicant uses the Nordex N100 to determine this worst case impact because it emits the highest sound of turbines being considered and would therefore have the greatest impact. Modeling based on the Nordex N100 ensures that impacts of any turbine that is ultimately selected will not exceed the impacts described in the Application.

- 12. Please provide any outcomes of conversations/agreements with Ms. Carolyn Flahive regarding her concern over potential telephone interference.**

RESPONSE: Assuming this question relates to Ms. Flahive's former representation of the Champaign Telephone Company, any conversations regarding resolution of any issues raised by the Champaign Telephone Company are confidential. The Applicant will notify Staff of any resolution of issues with Champaign Telephone Company.

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- 13. Please explain "worst-case" as you (the Applicant) define it; pertaining to shadow flicker, noise and the turbine types listed within the Application.**

RESPONSE: See the response to question 11.

- 14. What does the Applicant believe "micro-siting" entails? As in, how specific are the locations of the turbines provided within the Application and how much of a shift does the Applicant believe would constitute an Amendment to the Application?**

RESPONSE: Micro-siting is common to the wind power industry, and is generally described as minor changes to the layout of project facilities that result when full engineering designs are completed and/or the Balance of Plant contractor is engaged for construction. The Applicant would consider amending the Certificate if shifts would result in exceedence of "impact thresholds" as proposed in the Application (e.g. 30 hours of shadow flicker at any non-participating occupied structure). The locations of the turbines provided in the Application are very specific and the Applicant would expect only very minor changes.

- 15. Are all of the leases provided to landowners the same? If not: Do they contain a "favored nations" clause?**

RESPONSE: As stated in the Applicant's August 21, 2012 responses to Staff's July 26, 2012 data requests, the Applicant's form lease will be made available to Staff for review.

- 16. Do the leases address impacts from shadow flicker and noise stemming from turbine operation? If so, what language is provided? In signing, are the landowners waiving their right to complain, or file suit against the Applicant/operator? Under what penalty are the landowners held? Does their participation/signing a lease preclude them legally, or in your mind, from being able to complain to the Applicant and OPSB via a complaint resolution procedure?**

RESPONSE: The above questions cannot be answered because they call for legal conclusions or seek a written disclosure of the confidential lease terms. Again, the Applicant's form lease will be made available for Staff to review.

- 17. Please provide a copy of a lease. Separately, if the leases are not the same for everyone: Please list any variances, by signee, which occur and list the variance(s).**

RESPONSE: Answering this question would be extremely burdensome given the number of leases in place for the Project. Instead, the Applicant is willing to make available to Staff its form lease.

- 18. How will the turbines impact the view shed at: Goshen Park, Mechanicsburg, Ohio? Mechanicsburg Schools? Cemeteries within the Project area and/or view shed?**

RESPONSE: Please see the visual impact assessment included in the Application.

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19. Specifically list the 38 full-time jobs which are expected to be created by the Facility.

RESPONSE: As stated in the Camiros study, "... The economic analysis is based on reasonable assumptions of future expenditure patterns for constructing and operating the proposed wind farm. Findings from the analysis should not be taken as precise projections of future performance. Rather, the values included in this report provide insight into the likely economic impact of the project" (Camiros 2012). As noted in the Application, Exhibit G, page 11, seven full-time positions directly supporting the wind farm operations will be created. Fifteen jobs are expected to be generated by the indirect purchases from vendors that provide supplies and secondary services to businesses working directly on the project. Sixteen jobs are estimated to be created through induced impacts which is a result of household spending. General types of job fields resulting from indirect purchases include financing, accounting, manufacturing, distribution and transportation. Induced impacts would include jobs in commercial services, such as retail services and personal services.

20. Does the Applicant plan to file an amendment for Buckeye I (08-666-EL-BGN) prior to constructing either Project? If so, how will this affect the cumulative impacts and when would the Applicant plan to file such updates?

RESPONSE: The Applicant is not aware of any changes to the Buckeye I project that would affect the cumulative impact estimates contained in the Application for the Buckeye II project.

21. Regarding "need": Why is this Facility needed within Ohio when Senate Bill 315 just opened the door for other, not traditionally renewable, generation resources to be considered "renewable" and/or "advanced"? Can these "other" facilities not meet the Senate Bill 221 requirements, since there is not a specific wind "carve out" included therein?

RESPONSE: Wind energy remains a qualifying technology under Senate Bill 221 and can be utilized to fulfill the requirements of the state Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard. Senate Bill 315 did not offer any limit on the number of renewable energy credits that can be offered in the market, or utilized by Ohio CRES or utilities. Also, Senate Bill 221 increases the number of renewable energy credits annually until 2025.

22. How does the Applicant plan to finance the Project(s) at this time, when a power purchase agreement is not in place and the above is considered? Is this Project ever going to be constructed?

RESPONSE: The Project will provide low cost, non-emitting energy and RECs that will be available for sale in what is a very liquid power and REC market (Ohio is part of the PJM RTO). The Applicant believes that the project will present a valuable investment opportunity. Financing will likely occur through a combination of debt and equity funding. Funding participants will be secured once the Project is fully permitted.

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- 23. How has the litigation (Buckeye I 08-666-EL-BGN) affected the potential financing, or likelihood of getting financing, for construction of this Project?**

RESPONSE: The Buckeye I project is a separate and distinct project. There is currently no pending litigation related to Buckeye I, Case 08-0666-EL-BGN.

- 24. Has the Applicant had any conversations with, or provided potential Buckeye II turbine locations to the Med Flight (helicopter) company whose local operations are based out of Grimes Field, Urbana, Ohio? If so, please provide the results. If not, please contact them, provide coordinates and work with personnel in drafting a summary of potential impacts to their operations from Facility placement/operation. If they are not receptive to contact or cooperation, please let Staff know.**

RESPONSE: The Applicant has received no correspondence from Med Flight. All turbine locations included in the Project have received a Determination of No Hazard from the FAA and the turbines do not require a permit from the Ohio Department of Transportation, Aviation Division.

- 25. Has the Applicant had any conversations with the personnel at Grimes Field Aviation Museum (Randy Kemp and others) regarding potential impacts to the Mid Eastern Regional Fly-In (MERFI) event (which provides a boost to the economy of Urbana) held at Grimes Field? If so, please provide the results. If not, please contact them, provide coordinates and work with personnel in drafting a summary of potential impacts to their event from Facility placement/operation. If they are not receptive to contact or cooperation, please let Staff know.**

RESPONSE: The Applicant has received no correspondence from the Grimes Field Aviation Museum. All turbine locations included in the Project have received a Determination of No Hazard from the FAA and the turbines do not require a permit from the Ohio Department of Transportation, Aviation Division.

- 26. Has the Applicant had any conversations with the personnel at Grimes Field flight operations/ownership (City of Urbana) regarding potential impacts to flight operations, "minimums" etc.? If so, please provide the results. If not, please contact them, provide coordinates and work with personnel in drafting a summary of potential impacts to their operations from Facility placement/operation. If they are not receptive to contact or cooperation, please let Staff know.**

RESPONSE: The Applicant has received no correspondence from Grimes Field. All turbine locations included in the Project have received a Determination of No Hazard from the FAA.

- 27. Has the Applicant had any conversations with the personnel at Weller Airport flight operations/ownership (Christopher Cook) regarding potential impacts to flight operations, "minimums" etc.? If so, please provide the results. If not, please contact them, provide coordinates and work with personnel in drafting a summary of potential impacts to their operations from Facility placement/operation. If they are not receptive to contact or cooperation, please let Staff know.**

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RESPONSE: The Applicant has received no correspondence from Weller Airport. All turbine locations included in the Project have received a Determination of No Hazard from the FAA.

- 28. On page 144 of the Application, it is stated that "...operation of the proposed facility is not expected to have any significant impact on these airports.... Please provide for "significant" as it appears here; how you define it, and what impacts are to be expected.**

RESPONSE: The term "significant" is intended to reflect that turbine construction and operation will not have substantive impacts on any of these airports, and that all turbine locations included in the Project have received a Determination of No Hazard from the FAA.

- 29. Exhibit Q., Figure 21: This Figure accounts for topography only, however the non-cumulative modeling accounted, as a separate output, for both topography and vegetation. Please provide an additional modeling output/sheet like Figure 21 which takes into account vegetation and topography.**

RESPONSE: As indicated in the Project VIA (Exhibit Q, Section 5.1), factoring mapped forest vegetation into the viewshed analysis for the Buckeye II Project resulted in only a minor reduction in potential visibility (approximately 11%). As stated in Section 5.4 of the VIA, given the similarity of the cumulative viewshed analysis to the comparable analysis for each individual project, it is reasonable to assume that the vegetative viewsheds would result in comparable reduction of visibility (or lack therefore) for the combined project.

- 30. What is the difference is between 'signed' and 'participating' as entered in the attributes table of the 'receptor' GIS data?**

RESPONSE: There is no difference. A signed landowner is considered a participating landowner.

- 31. Please confirm that the abandoned property, standing within the minimum habitable structure setback, is slated for demolition. Is any documentation available confirming that the owner of this structure has no intention of restoring/inhabiting it?**

RESPONSE: The owner of the abandoned structure approximately 613 feet from Turbine 120 has removed all wiring from the structure and does not have active services to make it habitable. The owner has also informed the Applicant that the structure will be demolished. The Applicant has not received any documentation from the owner of the structure.

- 32. Are there any major natural gas or petroleum transmission pipelines within the project area?**

RESPONSE: The Applicant is not aware of any natural gas or petroleum transmission pipelines in the project area.

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- 33. If there are any major natural gas or petroleum transmission pipelines within the project area, then please provide the distances to the closest wind turbines.**

RESPONSE: The Applicant is not aware of any natural gas or petroleum transmission pipelines in the project area.

	NRO Mode*	HH	Rated Power	Wind Speed at 10m (m/s)						RPM	Max Blade Pass Frequency (Hz)	
		(m)	(MW)	4	5	6	7	8	9			10
MM 100	0	100	1.815	97.8	102.7	104.2	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	7.8 - 13.9	0.695
MM92	0	100	2.05		101.7	103.4	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	7.8 - 15.0	0.75
N100	0	100	2.5	99	101.5	105	106	106	106	106	9.6-14.9	0.745
N100	1	100	2.5	99	101.5	104.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	NA	NA
N100	2	100	2.5	98.5	101	103.5	104.5	105	105	105	NA	NA
N100	3	100	2.5	98.5	101	103	104	104.5	104.5	104.5	NA	NA
N100	4	100	2.5	97.5	100	101	102	102	102	102	NA	NA
V100	0	95	1.8	96.4	100.7	104.4	105	105	105	105	9.3 - 16.6	0.83
V100	1	95	1.8	95.7	99.7	103.4	105	105	105	105	NA	NA
V100	2	95	1.8	96.4	100.7	103	103	103	103	103	NA	NA
G97	0	100	2	96	100	103.4	105.8	105.8	105.8	105.8	9.6 - 17.8	0.89
GE100	0	100	1.6		95.4	100.2	103.9	104.9	105	105	9.75 - 16.2	0.81
GE103	0	98.5	2.5		96.8	101.9	105	105	105	105	4.7-14.8	0.74

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Case No(s). 12-0160-EL-BGN

Summary: Notice of Filing Applicant's September 18, 2012 Responses to Staff's August 28, 2012 Data Requests electronically filed by Ms. Miranda R Leppla on behalf of Champaign Wind LLC