

## Power Siting Board

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Re: Buckeye II Wind Farm Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN

Ms. Rucker,

Thank you for your input regarding the proposed Buckeye II Wind Farm. I have docketed your letter in the public comments section of the record in case number 12-0160-EL-BGN.

November 20, 2012

The adjudicatory proceedings of the case began on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at the Board's offices in downtown Columbus. Discussions about the facility, including turbine setbacks, will be addressed during the hearing.

Ohio law establishes a minimum "setback" of wind turbines from habitable residences and property lines (Ohio Revised Code 4906-20). Turbines must be located at least 750 feet from the tip of the turbine's nearest blade to the exterior of the nearest residential structure located on adjacent property at the time of the application. Additionally, turbines must be located at least 1.1 times the total height of the turbine, from its base to the top of the blade at its highest point, from the wind facility's property line.

To view all activity pertaining to this case, siting application, and/or rules governing the installation and operation of wind energy in Ohio, visit the Ohio Power Siting Board's website at <u>www.OPSB.ohio.gov</u>.

Again, the Board thanks you for your interest.

Very truly yours,

Kim Wissman, Executive Director Ohio Power Siting Board

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November 18, 2012

Buckeye II Wind Project –Case No.:12-0160-EL-BGN Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Ohio Power Siting Board,

This letter serves to express my opposition to the proposed Buckeye II Wind Project in Champaign County.

I am not a person with money or a person with power, but I am one person with a voice. If this project is approved, an industrial wind turbine will be erected just down the road from our home of 38 years. Many will be erected on land within my daily travel into Urbana.

On information and belief, it appears that community members did not ask Everpower to come to Champaign County. If I am incorrect, I stand corrected. The influence upon our home has come from the outside. Money has been offered to those that have become leaseholders and **industrial** wind turbines will be erected on these properties if the Ohio Power Siting Board approves this project.

These are not small wind turbines that serve an individual home in this community, as the one on RT. 245 just outside of Mingo. This small turbine does not disturb the beauty of the landscape and environment, and serves to provide energy for that one home.

Whether anyone wants to call these massive turbines industrial or not, a huge wind turbine is a huge wind turbine. The impact of not one, but two wind projects in Champaign County is of major concern.

Safe setbacks have been the topic of much conversation. How can safe setbacks even be determined if the company has not even chosen a specific turbine? To determine a safe setback wouldn't a company have to know what is stated according to engineering specifics for that specific turbine as to what would be safe for their own employees to approach that turbine in the event of ice throw, etc.? With so many unanswered questions, non-specific language, absence of guarantees, how can the Ohio Power Siting Board approve a project in as populated an area as Champaign County.

Many citizens of Champaign County have established homesteads and businesses long before the wind industry approached area property owners to sign land leases. On information and belief, those property owners and businesses have much at stake! Many have invested their life savings and a lifetime of work in their property. I have never heard an answer as to who would be libel for damage to property, the environment or individual health of Champaign County residents living in the footprint area. There are more questions than answers. No guarantees have been given as to whether Champaign County residents would be hired for the so-called permanent jobs created by Everpower. There are no guarantees that this company, or any other company that may buy this company in the future, will pay for all the damage done to roads, property, etc. If in the future I am unable to live in my own home and cannot sell it because of its location and/or health issues or injuries, who is responsible for compensating me? On information and belief, the Ohio Power Siting Board cannot turn a blind eye to these issues. There needs to be a level playing field here.

**No guarantees** have been made by Everpower as to how much even the lowest figures would be as to monies brought into Champaign County.

This project should not be approved just because there has never been a project turned down. This project should not be approved just because someone will reap benefits at the expense of their neighbor. This project should not be approved because there are too many unanswered questions, and not enough research and specific answers.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I opposed the first Buckeye Wind Project, and I oppose the Buckeye II Wind Project in Champaign County. I cannot fathom how a decision can be made on the Buckeye II Wind Project in Champaign County when we have no idea of what effect the original project will have on Champaign County.

Respectfully,

Janet Rucker Janet Rucker 4419 Flatfoot Road Cable, OH 43009 (937)652-3315