

PUCO EXHIBIT FILING

Date of Hearing: 11-27-12

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

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

VOLUME X

List of exhibits being filed:

Per Michael Settineris Request

STAFF - 8

PUCO

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**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of	:	
<b>Champaign Wind, LLC</b> , for a Certificate	:	Case No. <b>12-160-EL-BGN</b>
to Construct a Wind-Powered Electric	:	
Generating Facility in Champaign County,	:	
Ohio.	:	

**PREFILED TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEREK F. COLLINS  
ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

**STAFF EX.** 

**November 5, 2012**

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

2 A. My name is Derek F Collins. My business address is 180 E. Broad St., 6th  
3 floor, Columbus, OH 43215-3793.

4  
5 2. Q. By who are you employed?

6 A. I am employed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and  
7 perform assigned duties in investigations of applications filed with the Ohio  
8 Power Siting Board (OPSB), including assisting in preparing staff reports.

9  
10 3. Q. What is your present position?

11 A. I am employed as a Utility Specialist 3 in the Department of Energy and  
12 Environment, Division of Facilities, Siting, and Environmental Analysis.  
13 In this capacity, I review applications and prepare recommendations of a  
14 geological and hydrological nature that affects the construction, as it relates  
15 to generation facilities electric and gas transmission facilities, wind facili-  
16 ties and, gas transmission pipelines, and other associated infrastructure.

17  
18 4. Q. What is your educational background and work history?

19 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Ohio University  
20 (1980). I have worked in both the public and private industry. Starting in  
21 1979, I worked as a soils consultant with Pittsburgh Testing Laboratories  
22 (PTL) working throughout northeast Ohio on various road and building

1 construction projects. I later worked for Herron Consultants, also in the  
2 Cleveland, Ohio area, as an engineering technician continuing my work in  
3 the building and road construction field. Right before starting with the  
4 State of Ohio, I worked for 10 months in 1985 with Elon Mickels and  
5 Associates as a project inspector on a 1.2 million dollar sanitary/stormwater  
6 sewer line improvement project in Struthers, Ohio.

7  
8 From May of 1986 to August of 1987, I worked for the Ohio Department of  
9 Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation as an environmental scientist I  
10 with project inspection and construction management duties over nine (9)  
11 counties in the coal bearing region of southeastern Ohio reclaiming aban-  
12 doned mined lands under the oversight and program administration of the  
13 US Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and  
14 Enforcement (OSM). In 1987 I transferred into Columbus, employed as an  
15 environmental specialist 1/geologist 3, continuing work in the Abandoned  
16 Mined Lands (AML) Program, Special Studies Section conducting envi-  
17 ronmental reviews and complaint investigations under the Surface Mining  
18 Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA), National Environmental Policy  
19 Act (NEPA), Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, etc., regarding  
20 regulations and compliance issues. Complaint (subsidence) investigations  
21 related to underground mining was done in cooperation with the Ohio Mine  
22 Subsidence Insurance Underwriters Association (OMSIUA). I have

1 attended numerous trainings, conferences, and workshops on topics such as  
2 hydrology, geotechnical engineering applications, soils, mine subsidence,  
3 groundwater, drilling, permitting and hydrology, and construction man-  
4 agement sponsored by the OSM, US Environmental Protection Agency,  
5 Ohio Department of Transportation, National Ground Water Association,  
6 US Army Corp of Engineers

7  
8 In 2010 after 24 years of work experience with the Ohio Department of  
9 Natural Resources, I began working with the Public Utilities Commission  
10 of Ohio. I have been employed by the PUCO and OPSB in my current  
11 capacity for the past two years.

12  
13 5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this case?

14 A. I am testifying in support of the Staff Report of Investigation in this case.  
15 Specifically, I am testifying in support of portions the Public Services,  
16 Facilities, and Safety Sections of the Staff Report I authored. The specific  
17 areas I authored that I will be discussing are Public and Private Water Sup-  
18 plies and Roads and Bridges. These areas appear at pages 29 - 30, 56-58 of  
19 the Staff Report.

20  
21 6. Q. Describe your process of investigating potential impacts to public and pri-  
22 vate water supplies?

1 7. A. Applicant has a waiver in place to delay subsurface drilling and any site  
2 specific work until the final selection of the wind turbine locations. How-  
3 ever, I have reviewed a random number of potential wind turbine site loca-  
4 tions and cross checked these address locations with a search of the water  
5 well logs on file with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division  
6 of Soil and Water Resources.

7  
8 8. Q. What did you conclude with regards to potential impacts to water supplies?

9 A. Based on the best available information during this review, I would concur  
10 with the Applicant that the proposed wind turbine facility will not have any  
11 effect on the groundwater or surface water within the project area.

12  
13 9. Q. Describe your process of investigating potential impacts to roads and  
14 bridges in and around the project area.

15 A. The process involved a review of the Buckeye II Wind Farm Application  
16 for Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, for Exhibit  
17 E Route Evaluation Study. The purpose of the review was to identify fea-  
18 tures that might potentially restrict movement of oversized vehicles.  
19 Additionally, the review also identified potential impacts to the roads and  
20 bridges as a result of the anticipated movements. In reviewing this exhibit,  
21 I found that the applicant adequately identified potential impacts to the pub-  
22 lic roads.

1 10. Q. What are some of the potential impacts to roads and bridges in the project  
2 area?

3 A. Potential impacts to roads and bridges include vertical clearance of utility  
4 lines and poles, poor pavement conditions, insufficient cover over drainage  
5 structures, and inadequate bridge capacity.  
6

7 11. Q. Did you recommend any conditions that would help minimize potential  
8 impacts to roads and bridges?

9 A. Conditions (31), (32), and (33) require the Applicant and local highway  
10 authorities to work together to address potential impacts to all roads used to  
11 support Project activities. This will be done through a Road Use Agree-  
12 ment as discussed in Condition 33.  
13

14 12. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

15 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testi-  
16 mony as described herein, as new information subsequently becomes avail-  
17 able or in response to positions taken by other parties.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of Derek F. Collins, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board, was served via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.

/s/ Devin D. Parram

**Devin D. Parram**  
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**In**

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

**Summary: Testimony of Derek F. Collins submitted by Assistant Attorney General Devin Parram on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board. electronically filed by Kimberly L Keeton on behalf of Ohio Power Siting Board**