



Power Siting Board

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Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman

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July 11, 2013

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Ohio Senate

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Ohio Senate

Executive Director
Kim Wissman

Stephen W. Corthell
16800 Sharp Road
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Mr. Corthell,

Thank you for contacting the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding wind energy in the state of Ohio. As requested, your correspondence has been docketed in case numbers 13-0360-EL-BGA, 13-0197-EL-BGN, and 13-1177-EL-BGN.

The Board is a review agency responsible for implementing policy; it is not a policymaker. Our decisions are guided by the Ohio Revised Code, as dictated by the state legislature.

In Senate Bill 221 the legislature established Ohio's alternative energy portfolio standard which requires that, by 2025, at least 12.5 percent of the electricity sold within the state must be generated from renewable energy sources, including wind. The portfolio standard and other state and federal policies currently encourage renewable energy development in Ohio.

Again, thank you for your interest in wind energy in Ohio. Additional information about the Board and its process is available at www.OPSB.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman
Ohio Power Siting Board

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180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

(866) 270-6772
www.OPSB.ohio.gov

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July 3, 2013

Todd Snitchler, Chairman OPSB

180 East Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Snitchler:

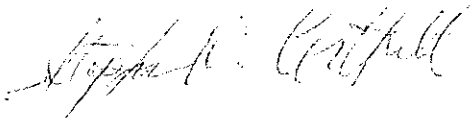
I am writing to each member of the OPSB to voice my concerns about wind farms. I live in Shelby County and even though Mainstream Renewable Energy has abandoned its project in my county, I still believe this letter needs to be written on behalf of all those still struggling to stop other projects. There are many reasons to oppose wind farms, and I imagine you are familiar with all of them; so I won't burden you with volumes of statistics and testimonials. Instead, I would like to focus on the OPSB Mission Statement, which is supposed to guide your decisions, as follows:

1. "Support sound energy policies"--Without the state mandate, PILOT funds, and various federal grants and subsidies, no wind farms would be built.
2. "Installation of energy capacity"--If the wind stops blowing, a full complement of traditional energy sources must still be available. Thus, wind contributes very little to grid capacity.
3. "Benefit Ohio citizens"—While developers and a few landowners may make money, the vast majority of our citizen will face higher utility bills, loss of tax dollars that could be better spent elsewhere, and those within the footprint of the wind farm will face a degraded life and reduced property value.
4. "Promote the state's economic interests"—High energy cost is a negative consideration in business decisions.
5. "Protecting the environment"--I hardly think that killing birds and bats, degrading the lives of our citizens and creating a serious eyesore is environmentally sound policy. Also, a big part of the "green energy" push is concern about CO2 build-up. If that begins to happen, the natural counter balance is increased plant growth!

I hope that in the future, that you will personally tour the area being considered for a wind farm. I hope you can find the time to visit such farms already in place (including at night!) and talk to some of those who have been impacted. Ask yourself if in all honesty, you would want wind turbines in your backyard. I hope you will use your mission statement to reject any further wind farm development until and unless it conforms to your mission statement. Otherwise, someday people will look back upon this time and ask "what the hell were they thinking?"

As an interested party in Case # 13-0360-EL-BGGA, 13-1177-EL-BGN and 13-0197-EL-BGN, I wish to make this letter part of the public record for these cases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen W. Cortrell".

Stephen W. Cortrell

16800 Sharp Road

Sidney, OH 45365