

FILE



Power Siting Board

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Kim Wissman

January 22, 2014

Milan Carnes
4202 E. Broadway Road, Unit 73
Mesa, Arizona 85206-1061

Re: Scioto Ridge Wind Farm, Case No. 13-1177-EL-BGN
Scioto Ridge Wind Farm Substation, Case No. 13-1767-EL-BSB
Scioto Ridge Wind Farm Transmission Line, Case No. 13-1768-EL-BTX

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Mr. Carnes,

Thank you for contacting the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) regarding the proposed Scioto Ridge Wind Farm, Substation, and Transmission Line. Your correspondence in regards to the project will be docketed in the respective case numbers for each project.

It is noted that you are in support of the proposed project.

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

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the OPSB at (866) 270-6772. Again, thank you for your continued interest in this case.

Very truly yours,

Kim Wissman, Executive Director
Ohio Power Siting Board

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January 14, 2014

The Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Case No.: 13-1177-EL-BGN, 11-1767-EL-BSB, 11-1768-EL-BTX
Project: Scioto Ridge Wind Farm
Company: Hardin Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of EverPower Wind Holdings, Inc.

To The Board:

I am a third generation farmer from Logan County, Ohio. As you know, through the years there have been difficult economic times as well as good crops and good economic times for farmers. However, the best chance any farmer has for success is always tied to his land and his stewardship of it. With this in mind, I have researched several websites, watched videos, attended presentations and tried to educate myself regarding wind power uses and effects of wind turbines. Intentionally I have read both positive and negative opinions and tried to ascertain what facts were available to back either opinion.

Here are my thoughts using parts of articles or quotes I have read. From Wikipedia: Onshore wind is an inexpensive source of electricity, competitive with or cheaper than fossil fuel plants. Small wind farms provide electricity to isolated locations. Utility companies increasingly are buying surplus electricity produced by small domestic wind turbines. Wind power as an alternative to fossil fuel, is plentiful, renewable, widely distributed, clean, produces no greenhouse gas emissions during operation and uses little land. The effects on the environment are generally less problematic than those from other power sources. More than 83 countries around the world are using wind power to supply the electricity grid. The variables of the amount of wind are being managed by geographically distributed turbines, dispatchable back sources, plus exporting and importing power to neighboring areas which can greatly mitigate this problem. In addition, weather forecasting permits the electricity network to be readied for the predictable variations in production that occurs.

As the demand for energy is higher than ever before, the world needs new ideas for clean power generation. In the United States, a single megawatt is enough electricity to power about 250 homes. (National Geographic)

While this may not be huge, every option we have to produce energy is important and every option we have at this time was considered, in another era, "new", "potentially dangerous", etc. I think back to the beginnings of the "horseless carriage" where people believed it was never going to be anything significant, scared horses, was loud and just plain silly. Or, the era when electrical power lines were being built and people were frightened by the "buzz" and what the lines might cause in the way of tragedy in the family and the environment. We have largely gotten used to these power sources and while not perfect, they have totally changed our lives. Wind power has this potential as well.

Again as a land steward, I have tried to understand the opposition and not just disregard it. From National Geographic: "Some people think wind turbines are ugly and complain about noise the machines make. The slowly rotating blades can kill birds and bats, but not nearly as many as cars, power lines and high-rise buildings do."

From windwatch.org. and windpowerengineering.org: "Wind energy companies are targeting vulnerable rural communities and landscapes for construction." I would contend that the companies are not targeting but *providing* opportunities for these communities and the surrounding small towns. As a life-long conservative and a firm believer in "trickle-down" economics, I believe jobs (whether temporary or long-term) will be created, more dollars will be spent in the local regions from those jobs and therefore, more jobs created down the chain. Communities and townships receive dollars from not only these jobs, but dollars from the power itself. This enables them to improve roads and infrastructure plus provide services which the economic downturn of the last several years has negated.

From Environment Ohio Dec. 2013: "If state and federal officials commit to continued progress, Ohio could reduce the carbon pollution equivalent of more than 101,263 passenger vehicles, and save enough water to meet the annual water needs of nearly 9,854 people."

"The wind power industry is healing our environment and stimulating our economy," said Eric Ritter, Communications and Strategy Manager for LEEDCo, a Cleveland-based non-profit developing a six-turbine offshore wind project in Lake Erie known as Icebreaker™. "The State of Ohio is already #4 in the U.S. for wind industry employment. Continued support for local projects will help solidify Ohio's leading role in the global wind turbine supply chain."

And: "Wind energy is on the rise in Ohio and is providing huge environmental benefits for the state, according to a recently released report by Environment Ohio. Ohio's wind energy is already avoiding more than 597,613 metric tons of climate-altering carbon pollution - the equivalent of taking 124,503 cars off the road, while saving 267,007,000 gallons of water per year - enough to meet the needs of 10,602 people."

Proper sites and continued study are important in any power structure, but in my opinion, "the sky is not falling" and the potential for quality-of-life improvement merits the continued progress of wind energy. I urge you to support this endeavor in Logan and Hardin Counties.

Sincerely,



Milan G. Carnes
937-477-8652

