

FILE

4

Irwin, Steven

13-0990-EL-BGN

**From:** Kevin Ledet <kaledet1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 09, 2014 12:02 PM  
**To:** PUCO ContactOPSB  
**Subject:** Sound survey, Case number 13-0990-EL-BGN  
**Attachments:** Crossing whistle.docx; scan0002.pdf; scan0003.pdf

To the OPSB staff,

Would you please give this information to the voting, non voting members of the OPSB and the public comments section. I'm attaching emails and correspondences between myself and various entities concerning abnormal locomotive air horn usage in the northern area of the Greenwich windpark from February 2013 until October 2013. There are roughly 80 to 100 trains a day that travel this main line. I believe that the ambient sound measurements that were taken in the project area, especially at sound measurement locations 4 and 5, are corrupted. The ambient measurements were taken in June 2013 during the time that the CSX railroad was blowing their air horns at this location. The liability law was changed in the biannual budget and signed into law in June 2013, but didn't take effect until ninety days later. The CSX didn't inform their crews to discontinue air horn usage until late September or early October 2013. My concern is that the ambient noise level is set to high and therefore doesn't truly represent the actual value.

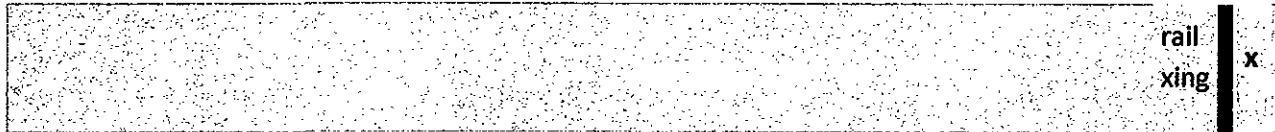
In attempting to determine the impact of noise on adjacent properties it would be prudent to have correct data. In Van Wert, Ohio at the Blue Creek Windfarm project there are 162 industrial wind turbines in operation. I've looked through the documents pertaining to noise levels in that project. To the best of my abilities it would appear that there are 1,188 homes that are referred to in their impact statement. That represents a ratio of 7.33 homes per turbine. In the proposed Greenwich Windfarm there are 25 industrial wind turbines impacting 906 homes. That represents a ratio of 36.25 homes per turbine. There are 5 times as many homes per turbine, being impacted in Greenwich than in Van Wert. Greenwich's area obviously has a far greater population density. More people will be directly impacted if the OPSB allows this project to continue.

At the minimum, I believe that another ambient sound assessment should be taken and that the new setback requirements be applied to this project. Thank you Kevin Ledet

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV  
2014 JUL -9 PM 2:45  
PUCO

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Technician SW Date Processed JUL 09 2014

Crossing whistle



Kevin Ledet <kaledet1@gmail.com>

4/9/13

to  
TellCSX

My name is Kevin Ledet, and there is a private rail crossing in the township of Greenwich, Ohio; QI 51.43 reference # 918299L leading to my woods. I've owned this property since 1975 and have never had this noise issue before. Within the last month in a half, train traffic began to sound a grade crossing whistle at this crossing. This crossing is used mainly in the fall to get firewood. It is marked on both sides with a stop sign for farm equipment. I can clearly see train traffic from both directions. I worked for the NS railroad and am now retired with 38 years service. I don't understand why the CSX railway would now require this crossing to be treated this way. I'm hoping that you can put me in touch with the authority that made this decision so I could talk with them and resolve this issue between us.

Please contact me, Kevin Ledet

3205 Omega RD

Greenwich OH 44837

417-921-6821

kaledet1@gmail.com



1-877-TellCSX  
TellCSX@csx.com  
[www.csx.com](http://www.csx.com) > Contact Us

April 8, 2013

Mr. Kevin Ledet  
3205 Omega Road  
Greenwich, Ohio 44837

Dear Mr. Ledet:

You recently contacted CSX regarding the sounding of train horns in your area.

We have forwarded your concerns to the appropriate department within CSX and expect to follow up with you shortly.

Under Ohio law, railroads have a requirement to sound locomotive horns when approaching designated private crossings. Should you have questions about the current legal requirements of railroads operating in Ohio, feel free to contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and/or your elected State Representative and Senator.

CSX will continue to comply with Ohio law as has been interpreted for horn requirements at private crossings, even if it is a private road with limited access.

Thank you for contacting us.

Very truly yours,

TellCSX Team

jks

Ref: 393v8843080

443-632-5819

4/12

Matt Sander

*When it's on our rails, it's off the highway.*



## Public Utilities Commission

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Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman

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April 19th, 2013

Mr. Kevin Ledet  
3205 Omega Rd.  
Greenwich, Ohio 44837

Mr. Kevin Ledet,

My name is Randall Schumacher and I am the Rail Division Supervisor at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. I am writing you in response to your email regarding the sounding of train whistles at the private crossing on your property. I understand the frustration this must be causing but from the way you are describing the situation, it would seem CSX Transportation is in fact complying with the State of Ohio's law regarding the sounding of whistles at private crossings. The specific law being, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4955.32, included at the end of the letter. I understand your concerns and they will be noted. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio does not create law rather, that is left to the State of Ohio Legislators. I recommend contacting your state representatives and state senators and informing them of the problem this is creating for you.

If you wish to discuss this issue further please feel free to contact me at the numbers listed below. I am always happy to answer questions. I have also sent this message to your email address listed in your message.

Respectfully,

Randall S. Schumacher  
Supervisor, Rail Division  
Transportation Department  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Office: (614) 644-1661  
Fax: (614) 995-5535  
PUCO.ohio.gov

Dist 57 State Rep Terry Boose 614-466-9628  
Dist 13 State Senator Gayle Manning 614-644-7613

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