

FILE

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13-0990-EL-BGN

Irwin, Steven

From: Puco ContactOPSB
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 12:45 PM
To: Audrey Vogel
Cc: Puco ContactOPSB
Subject: RE: Greenwich Windpark - 13-0990-EL-BGN

Audrey Vogel
4902 Rome Greenwich Rd.
Greenwich, Ohio 44837

Ms. Vogel,

Thank you for contacting the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) regarding the Greenwich Windpark proposed in case number 13-0990-EL-BGN. Your continued interest in the case is noted.

Your correspondence will be docketed and made available in the public comments section of the online case record. It is noted that you are opposed to the proposed project.

The OPSB will convene on August 25, 2014 and, by vote, decide whether to certificate the project.

Again, thank you for your continued interest in the case.

Steve

Steve Irwin
Public Outreach Coordinator
Ohio Power Siting Board
614.466.2871
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RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
2014 AUG 18 PM 3:24
PUCO

From: Audrey Vogel [mailto:vogelja@frontier.com]
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2014 2:41 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB
Subject: Greenwich Windpark - 13-0990-EL-BGN

Aug. 15, 2014

Dear Members of the Ohio Power Siting Board,

document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician SM Date Processed AUG 18 2014

I am a homeowner in Greenwich Township whose property is being threatened by the proposed Greenwich Windpark (Case #13-0990-EL-BGN).

I am proud to live in Greenwich Township. I grew up here, and my husband and I knew we wanted to raise our family here. We would not have purchased this land if commercial wind turbines had been here in 1991. After twenty years of raising our girls, we fear that our quality of life here will deteriorate drastically.

The noise created by the wind farm is a major concern. The sound study conducted for the project was questionable. I say questionable because the study was completed in June when the noise of spring peepers (up to 80 decibels) can dominate the night. This is much noisier than other times of the year. Also, the company placed sound receptors near busy railroad tracks. Nice... way to sock it to this unsuspecting community. The sound study also shows the decibel levels projected at each home in the project area with turbines in operation. Mine is listed as the 6th loudest residence of over 900 homes. I do not live near the highway or near railroad tracks. However, after this wind farm is operational, I somehow live in one of the noisiest areas! I can expect loss of sleep, loss of use of much of my property, and loss of enjoyment of my home.

Noise from the commercial turbines situated too close to our home (and our neighbors' homes) has been a major concern of mine. I have raised this issue with Monica Jensen, who is employed by Windlab. She suggested I visit the Van Wert project, hoping it would alleviate my fears. My husband and I drove to Van Wert to view turbines similar to those proposed in the Greenwich project.

Standing amid those turbines, I was struck by the strange sound above me. It sounded as though a jet was constantly flying overhead. I have read anecdotal reports of life near turbines, but I wanted to actually speak to someone living near the turbines. We found one man out mowing his yard. When we asked about living near the turbines, he stated that he does not like living near them. His family must keep their windows closed at all times to lower noise levels in the home.

When we introduced ourselves to a second resident, he interrupted and said, "Fight 'em to the death!" before we could finish telling him that a wind farm is proposed near our home. He told us turbine noise changes in its quality and volume, making it impossible to get used to. He reiterated that windows must be kept closed at all times and that the red lights at the tops of the turbines are also annoying at night.

The most distressing conversation was with a man who told me he abandoned his home due to infrasound issues. His home was valued at \$67,000, and the bank bought the home for \$28,000 at the sheriff's sale. When the bank put the home back on the market, it was sold for \$16,700 (I verified all of the financial information by looking at county data and real estate transaction history). That means his home sold for about a quarter of its appraised value. After pouring love, sweat, and thousands of dollars into our home, will we only be able to sell our home for a quarter of its value if we live within a wind farm?

Greenwich Township residents want to be heard! In Monica Jensen's testimony dated May 9, 2014, she stated on page five that the "project has been warmly received in the community." I told her three days earlier that most people in Greenwich were uninformed about the project. I would not characterize the project as being "warmly received" now either. On Windlab's website, the company states, "A location that is effective for large scale wind turbines needs to satisfy four wide-ranging criteria. The site needs to: be windy, be located close to major electricity lines, **have community and landowner support**, satisfy environmental and planning considerations." Again, the company does not appear to be community support. How do we get our voices heard??

There are 26 landowners leasing land for this project. There are nearly 100 adjacent landowners who will be directly affected by the project. Over 90% of the adjacent landowners oppose the project. However, our voices do not seem to matter. Those who are not adjacent landowners tend to have their opinions completely dismissed by lawyers for the project. Therefore, only those 26 families have control. That seems downright undemocratic. We have petitioned the Ohio Power Siting Board to require Windlab to hold another public meeting to discuss our concerns and for our voices to be heard. However, no meeting has been scheduled.

Once again, I ask the Power Siting Board to require Windlab to hold another public meeting for our township.

Thank you for your time.

Audrey Vogel

4902 Rome Greenwich Rd.

Greenwich, Ohio 44837