

Public comment for 16-1871-EL-BGN

From: ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us [mailto:ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us]

Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 1:41 PM

To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>

Subject: Icebreaker

From: webmaster@puco.ohio.gov

To: PUCO ContactThePUCO

Subject: PUCO CONTACT FORM: 115906

Received: 12/11/2017 5:11:52 PM

Message:

WEB ID: 115906 AT:12-11-2017 at 05:11 PM

Related Case Number: 16-1871

TYPE: Comment

NAME: Mrs. Sarah Taylor

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COMMENT DESCRIPTION:

Out of the hundreds of comments that have been received by the OPSB, regarding the Icebreaker project, probably the majority of them express negative feelings. Some of the opposition appears to come from individual citizens, but many of the submitted comments have been gathered and sent in by Canadian and U.S. anti-wind groups of various kinds. These include the North American Platform Against Wind Power (NA-PAW), Great Lakes Wind Truth, Save the Eagles International, Citizens Against Lake Erie Wind Turbines, and National Wind Watch. Much of the expressed derision for wind power claims that the expense and inefficiencies associated with turbine installation and maintenance are not worth the benefits of this new, clean source of power. These objectors make no mention of the huge environmental costs of our current dirty and/or dangerous power sources, nor do they acknowledge the large government subsidies benefiting those suppliers. The most strongly expressed concerns are about environmental issues. Close examination, however, reveals that a collection of moneyed self-interested organizations

and corporations are to be found lurking behind those conjured fears. For instance, there are certainly connections between some of the above-mentioned groups and the existing sources of electrical power in Ontario (where 60% of it currently comes from nuclear energy), and in Ohio (where 85% of electrical energy comes from fossil fuels). Some environmental groups, while not expressing open opposition to the project, are attempting to delay its approval by calling for additional studies. One can only conjecture about their motivation for demanding inclusion in the approval process at the expense of progress in replacing polluting power sources with clean renewables. One of the recently expressed concerns about the effect of the Icebreaker project on the environment was that the area of the Lake in which the turbines will be sited is a particularly densely trafficked area for birds, and therefore a key part of the Lake to avoid. However, a couple of years ago, when some of these same groups successfully prevented a wind turbine from being installed at Camp Perry, near Toledo, the argument made then was that the western part of the Lake was the key region to avoid. A direct link between one of these so-called environmental groups and the fossil fuel industry can be read in a couple of articles on the Windustrious Cleveland website. In addition, another one of those organizations claiming to care about bird survival makes significant income from waterfowl hunting! Presumably nearby offshore turbine installations are opposed, because birds might shift their migratory paths to regions less accessible to the murderous hail of buckshot that now greets them. Some of the most recent comments opposing the Icebreaker project have come from boaters. The points raised appear to have their origin in a series of misleading articles by members of groups such as the self-styled Great Lakes Concerned Citizens, who worry that wind turbines on the lake will act as lightning conductors, and interfere with weather forecasting. No concern is expressed at all for the much more damaging effects on our environment and climate caused by the use of fossil fuels. And the fear that fishing will be harmed by the presence of turbines, is in apparent ignorance of European studies showing that turbine bases have actually attracted pelagic plant growth and fish. In summary, many of the objectors to the development of offshore wind on Lake Erie appear ill-informed, while some are vulnerable to the accusation that their motivations may not be as pure as they superficially appear.

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-----Original Message-----

From: pyronautical@aol.com [<mailto:webmaster@puc.state.oh.us>]

Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 8:35 PM

To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>

Subject: OPSB-ContactUs

Submitted: Dec 9, 2017 8:34 PM

CONTACT_REASON: Comment

TITLE: Mr.

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COMPANY_NAME: Captain Canvas

CASE_NUMBER: "Icebreaker Wind Project Case no. 16-1871-EL-BGN I

COMMENTS: Hello, I am a retired Warren City Fire Captain/Inspector. I am 62 years old, with a wife and four children that we raised more on the shores of Lake Erie than at our home in the city. My reason for writing this comment is economic and precautionary with a plea to preserve the natural beauty of our lake Erie.

When the Geneva State park marina opened twenty some years ago, My family enjoyed a rented dock there every summer and was witness to the most beautiful lake shore boating and recreation imaginable. Geneva Marina situated right on the lake has one of the most awesome views of the entire lake with stunning sunsets. When you build these huge windmills off shore you will destroy that look of the lake forever. They are a noisy moving eyesore that will detract any enjoyment that one could get from the peaceful quiet of a summer sunset.

Lake freighters and most boaters have navigation systems on board to run their autopilots for steering and are dependent on GPS systems. Will the electromagnetic fields in these generators interfere with them? Will they interfere with phone use from ship to shore? interfere with ship to shore radios? All these questions should be answered during planning.

Some of the more pressing issues of building off shore include but not limited to are the following. First the building and most of all maintaining these machines will be a logistics nightmare. I have sailed on Lake Erie most of my life. Wind, waves, and massive amounts of Ice in the winter will make these structures untenable much of the time. All of these factors will make building and maintenance more expensive.

Have you ever seen a windmill involved in a fire? Google it. They self destruct with many of the flying parts launched who knows where, along with all of the pollution created from the burning of all the electrical components falling in the very water that is home to some of the best freshwater fishing on

the planet. Then lets consider that a lot of water departments get their drinking water from the same lake.

One other consideration would likely be the Morton Salt Mine under the lake bed. Stinch one hundred windmills into the bottom of the lake/ceiling of the caves emptied of the salt, consider the stress and vibration that can be set up on the bedrock with the power of mother nature applied times 100!

I do not have anything against having this renewable energy source, However I believe the decision of their location off shore is a bad one. Sincerely Curtiss C. King

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 16-1871-EL-BGN

Summary: Public Comment electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing