

Public comment 17-2295-EL-BGN

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From: [hickoryknoll@wildblue.net](mailto:hickoryknoll@wildblue.net) [<mailto:hickoryknoll@wildblue.net>]

Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2018 8:17 AM

To: Puco ContactOPSB <[contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov)>

Subject: letter supporting Republic Wind Farm

Hello Members of the Siting Board:

Please find the attached letter in support of the Republic Wind Farm. I hope that you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Katherine Smith  
12199 E. Twp. Rd. 148  
Republic, OH 44867

[hickoryknoll@wildblue.net](mailto:hickoryknoll@wildblue.net)

I have lived in Seneca County my entire life and my husband's family has lived in the rural area of Seneca County, where the proposed Republic Wind Farm is located, since the 1830's, the era of Andrew Jackson. I can't imagine living in the 1800's with kerosene lamps and no running water. Our ancestors were innovative and persevered to make our area progressive and competitive. I imagine that in the 1930's when fewer than 10% of rural homes had electricity and that when those electric poles started bringing in power, most folks were probably thrilled, while a few were probably appalled at the sight of the wooden poles.

Just think of all the changes in the past 20 years. Most people have gained access to the internet and now are upset if it is too slow. Most rural people I know are happy to have towers dotting the countryside so that they can get phone service and internet faster and cheaper.

The Republic Wind Farm has been in the planning stages for a long time and the Apex Clean Energy folks have done studies to make certain that birds and the environment are protected. I recall several years ago, a study was facilitated in our woods at night to make certain that an endangered bat species was not in the area.

I have friends and neighbors who oppose the wind farms and I have to remind myself that this is a great country where we can disagree, but still remain friends. I am standing in support of the Republic Wind project because I think this is one way to produce clean, renewable energy. I also support solar energy and any other form of clean energy.

To me, having wind generators is very exciting and progressive. Did you know that China is the world's #1 producer of wind power and that it is making a huge difference in their economy? Also, most people realize the high usage of wind energy in the Scandinavian countries, especially Denmark.

The county, schools, landowners, companies who will be hired to build roads, etc. stand to gain from the wind farm, but I believe this is minor compared to the progress for our society. I like to think about future generations looking at the windmills as normal, just as we look at the wooden telephone poles as normal.

Sincerely,

Katherine Smith  
Thompson Township

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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