

Public comments 17-2295-EL-BGN

I am a farmer in this community, and my family has been doing this work for generations. Farming isn't an easy profession, and many of us are worried about how we are going to keep the agricultural tradition alive. One thing that can help is a bit more economic security for our families. The Republic Wind project (case number: 17-2295-EL-BGN) could provide that kind of security. It won't impact our farming operation, but it will help bring a new stream of constant, reliable revenue to our family. This will help us keep our farm, and it will give my kids a reason to stay here. The way I see it, wind energy is just another crop I can grow on this land. My land is my opportunity to produce something to benefit society, while supporting my family. The Republic Wind farm will allow me to continue working my land so I can keep doing both. I ask that members of the Ohio Power Siting Board support this project and support our farmers.

Steven Bischoff

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Shaun Schumacher

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As a member of the community, I fully support Republic Wind (case number: 17-2295-EL-BGN) and urge members of the Ohio Power Siting Board to as well. Republic Wind is a major investment in Sandusky and Seneca Counties that will help improve the community for decades to come. Over a 30-year period, the project will deliver over \$50 million in local payments to improve our schools, roads, and entire community. Once completed, Republic Wind will produce clean, low-cost electricity to power approximately 59,000 homes. Its not often a local community gets an opportunity like this. Thats why I support Republic Wind and urge that the Ohio Power Siting Board move this project forward.

Kendall Stucky

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One of the most important investments we can make is our children. Our kids deserve a high-quality education, and having good schools with adequate resources are pillars to success. That's why I support Republic Wind (case number: 17-2295-EL-BGN). Unfortunately, one of the biggest challenges our schools face is insufficient funding. Luckily, our county has the opportunity right now to get a new, dedicated stream of revenue from the Republic Wind farm. When completed, Republic Wind will deliver about \$36 million to local schools. These resources could be used to hire more teachers, update our equipment, or help fund new facilities. This is a tremendous opportunity for our community. I ask that members of the Ohio Power Siting Board support Republic Wind and support our local schools.

Doug Newlove

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I continue to learn more about these planned industrial wind projects for our Seneca County. A lot of discussion has involved setbacks. Ohio regulation currently designates a setback as the distance between the turbine and the property line. I find it very peculiar that the wind company is working hard to lobby Ohio legislative representatives to change these setbacks to be measured from the turbine to residential structures (i.e. homes). The wind industry continues to “claim” that current Ohio setbacks are too restrictive and they are now asking that turbines be moved even closer to those who are not participating in a project as a wind-lease holder. All the while, Ohio’s neighboring states continue to require that the wind industry place turbines further from properties. One reason neighboring states have made the setbacks further is they continue to learn the impacts these massive machines have on those that live near them. Ask what is a “safe distance” from a turbine and you will find a variety of responses. My background in is engineering and safety is a critical aspect in any workplace. It is interesting that in Ohio the “safe distance” required for the employees to service these machines is considered “propriety information” and therefore protected and cannot be revealed. Meanwhile, Ohio’s neighboring states require that this information be revealed by the wind industry. Luckily, there are people who have figured this information out with some math and physics and to no surprise the “safe distance” the wind industry uses for its employees is further than current Ohio minimum setback distances. The current argument should not be to shorten setbacks, but instead to lengthen them. I am beginning to seriously question why our state and local elected officials would think that it is ok for the wind industry to protect its employees with “safe distances” but not protect the people they were elected to represent. It is for these reasons I ask that full disclosure be required of the wind industry. Considering that current minimum setback distances are arguably not appropriate for the proposed turbines in the Republic Wind, LLC and Seneca Wind, LLC I ask that these projects terminated.

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