

FILE

16-1871-EL-BGN

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Hello, my name is ~~JO~~ ~~Orzula~~ Orzula McVey and my ~~address~~ address is 4701 Perkins Ave in Cleveland Ohio. I am submitting this comment in regard to the 16-1871-EL-BGN Ice breaker Windpower case. I was not able to speak at the hearing yesterday because I got there too late and there was not enough time. I just want to provide you with some background information about how the "wind turbines kill all the birds" myth came into existence. This misconception stems from the Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area in California. Altamont Pass was established in 1982, early in wind energy development. It had the highest number and rate of raptor kills out of any wind farm in the entire world. This was a result of poor planning that allowed wind turbines to be built along a major raptor migration corridor. Turbines at Altamont Pass killed an estimated 880 to 1,200 birds a year. Bird kills at Altamont Pass happened in direct violation of federal and state wildlife protection laws as well as numerous California

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fish and game codes. In 2015 Altamont
Wind Inc. announced that it would permanently
close down all 828 of its outdated turbines
and replace them with 33 larger state of
the art wind turbines that kill far fewer
birds. So with it being known that the
wind farm which posed the greatest threat
to birds is no longer an issue, I would like
to talk about how many birds fossil fuels
kill. In 2009, before Altamont fixed its
problem, wind turbines in the United States
killed 46,113 birds. The fossil fuel industry
on the other hand killed 23,960,000 birds.
Ohio gets 83.94% of its energy from fossil
fuels. That is a lot of dead birds. The data
on bird deaths shows that for every ~~significant~~
energy that wind turbines generate 0.27 birds
die, while for every ~~significant~~ energy that
fossil fuels generate 9.4 birds die. The
math clearly shows that by switching to wind
in Ohio, we will reduce bird deaths in Ohio.
~~From~~ my sources for this information were
the center for biological diversity, the journal
for integrative environmental studies and

the Golden Gate Audubon Society.

I would also like to respond to some of the blatant ~~lie~~ lies and misinformation put forth by some of the people who spoke yesterday. One thing was that installing wind turbines would stir up some sludge at the bottom of the lake. While this may be true, that sludge is there ~~directly~~ because of our use of fossil fuels and by not committing to reduce our use of fossil fuels we are continuing to contribute to it. The other thing was that people kept mentioning Flint Michigan and Toledo's algal blooms. Algal blooms are caused by too much nitrogen from fertilizer run off ~~being~~ in the water ~~and~~ wind turbines produce no nitrogen. And Flint's water problem was caused by the city choosing not to add a corrosion inhibitor to their water, a move which saved them \$640 a day. This decision caused the pipes belonging to Flint residents to corrode, releasing lead and other heavy metals into their water. This crisis did not even have ~~anything~~ anything to do with pollution let alone wind turbines.

All that I urge is that you consider

Science and Facts when you make your
decision and think before taking into
consideration the opinions of the "citizen
scientists" who were filled with the
public hearings. Thank you.