

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 16-1871-EL-BGN [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GlcVS:ref]
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:28:21 PM

Dear Ms. Mertz,

My name is Jane Fairburn. I'm a long time Toronto resident and author of *Along the Shore: Rediscovering Toronto's Waterfront Heritage*. *Along the Shore* examines the history, people and landscape of the Toronto waterfront. Though a lawyer by trade, I have another project on the go, *Longing for the Land*, which explores the deep cultural and spiritual connection between people and the natural world.

All of us are influenced by our early experiences. One of my dearest childhood memories is piling the picnic basket and the blankets into the car and making the seemingly endless journey with my Grandmother from the north shore of Lake Ontario in Toronto to the north shore of Lake Erie at Point Pelee National Park. She insisted we do it in spring, when the beach and near shore waters were teeming with hundreds of species of birds making landfall on the great promontory of sand that extended miles out into the water, as far as the eye could see. It was pure magic.

Lake Erie is deeply compromised now. Toxic sludge oozes from the bottom of her dark interior while neon algae floats over her surface and washes ashore in the hottest months. Industrial wind farms in the lake, though demonstrably proven to be an unreliable form of energy, promise further environmental degradation and death to rare and threatened bird species. Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" is upon us, yet decision makers fail to listen.

In the Province of Ontario, we have industrialized much of our pristine countryside north of Lake Erie. Our American friends to the south propose to give way to corporate greed and industrialize the lake itself: the source of our drinking water and the fulcrum of the delicate ecosystem that hangs in the balance.

It is ironic that during this time of environmental degradation, we have never collectively longed more deeply for the land and our near shore waters. Will successive generations of children ever know the miracle of a bluebird? Will they stand on the shore of Point Pelee and watch the regal Monarch float across the lake? And what of their reverence for the natural world? What of their inheritance?

It is wicked to place massive industrial wind turbines in the middle of migratory bird and butterfly routes. You have the power to make an ethical, reasoned decision that gives the environment a fighting chance, while honouring the generations of North Americans that come after us.

Yours truly,

Jane Fairburn



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