

Ohio Siting Board,

I would like to file a public comment urging the OPSB to enact rules that require industrial wind turbine operators report incidents to the Board (OPSB) and that you also adhere to local building codes. I live in a township that has zoning laws in place for a reason. All residents of my township are to adhere to these codes. When we build a structure or make changes to our property we follow the zoning rules. This should be the same expectation of industrial turbines. The keyword here is "industrial". We are not zoned for industrial and the height exceeds what is listed in our townships codes along with other codes the turbines would be violating. I also feel the public and OPSB should be made aware of wind turbine incidents for our safety.

Sincerely,

Dawn Hoepf

Sirs: Please vote to have wind turbine agencies mandated to report any incidents occurring from wind turbine accidents. More importantly just strike down any wind turbines operating or future operations in the whole state of Ohio. We, the ordinary people of Ohio, do not want any turbines in our state. Please listen to us. Thank you for supporting the little people. Kenn Rospert, 10318 St. Rt. 269 N., Bellevue, OH Erie County Groton Township

Members of the OPSB

We feel it is pertinent that Wind Companies be required to report incidences relating to turbine failures/accidents. Must we wait until a fatality occurs before they are forced to report?

Our family farm is in Eden Township, within the footprint of the Seneca Wind proposed project.

The 650+ foot industrial wind turbines being proposed, never at this height built within a residential area, is setting up a perfect storm for serious incidences to occur.

We are asking the board to enact rules that require industrial wind turbine operators to report incidents to the OPSB and also adhere to local building codes.

Ken and Linda Hetzel

Eden Twp, Seneca County

Tiffin, Ohio

To Ohio Power Siting Board,

At the recent wind turbine blade throw workshop, the OPSB was presented documented evidence of blade throw fragments as heavy as six pounds flying several hundred feet farther than the current setback distance set by the Ohio Legislature. Some of these incidents occurred at wind projects currently operating in Ohio. Such information is alarming to say the least and it would be remiss for the OPSB not to require that such incidents be reported to regulators. This is a policy that should have been in place since the beginning of OPSB oversight on wind projects.

As further data is gathered and added to the incidents already in evidence it would be unconscionable for the OPSB to allow new projects to be constructed with turbine setbacks from non-participating property lines any less than the longest blade throw fragment distance on file plus a standardized safety factor. There are many things to consider in construction of a massive wind project but public safety must be the number one priority.

The Legislature has written a setback distance into law which, as labelled, is a prescribed minimum. Political pressure is constantly being applied to the Legislature to shorten the distance to allow project developers to install turbines on smaller tracts of land. The blade throw workshop has brought the inappropriateness of such a political method of determining safety distances into full view.

In the interest of public safety the OPSB should most certainly obtain and preserve full and accurate records of any kind of incident that could cause injury and the distances that danger spreads from the turbine. In addition, OPSB has the authority and should not allow any turbines to be constructed close enough that any such danger could intrude across a non-participating property line.

Indeed, most citizens and public officials have been under the assumption that the OPSB has always had a watchful eye on such matters and that its regulations and design codes were already fully taking into account public safety. It is very disconcerting to discover that only now is the issue being dealt with.

I trust that the OPSB will update its policies to ensure public safety near wind projects as it should have been doing since the inception of its regulation.

Respectfully,  
Jim Feasel  
Seneca County OH

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