

**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment 19-0778 [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KDhc1:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 1, 2019 3:57:34 PM

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My name is Gary Hoepf I am writing to tell you that I feel it is only common sense that the general public be made aware of any problems with turbines. I feel it is your job to protect the general public from all the negative effects of the industri...



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**From:** [Puco ContactOPSB](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Case No. 19-0778-GE-BRO  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 2, 2019 1:20:57 PM

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re incident reporting/adhering to local building codes:

Incident reporting: Since public safety is involved, we were quite surprised incident reporting by turbine operators is not already mandatory to OPSB and affected entities (i.e. property owners, township trustees, county public safety officials, etc).

Incident reporting systems already improve public safety in many industries. They are proven methods to reduce and address public safety issues. How would you ever pick up sooner than later a common problem if not with open mandatory reporting?

In Seneca county there are farmers in the fields, mowing crews, bikers and walkers that would all like to know when blade failure has showered "shrapnel" in their path. There's a lot of opportunity for things to go horribly wrong that could have been avoided.

Local building codes: Here is another common sense process that should have been in place long before now. One would think using local building codes is standard in the industry.

Who better than the locals to know the terrain and quirks of an area, and have building codes to accommodate such. We assume oversight and accountability would be in place.

Thank you for inviting input on OPSB revision of rules that address public safety, accountability, and good stewardship.

Respectfully,  
Diane and Joe Hudok  
6300 TR 151  
Tiffin, Ohio 44883  
419-443-0533

**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [PucO Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Case No 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEjRK:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:07:04 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

This should go without saying, but I would like to make a request to the Ohio Power Siting Board. RE: your proposed revision to your rules for wind turbine operators. Please make it explicitly known that all wind turbine operators report any and all incidents occurring with a turbine AND also make it explicitly clear that turbine operators MUST adhere to all local building codes. There is much mistrust in these wind turbine companies and the majority of people in rural areas do not want them in our backyard...we don't want to roll out the welcome mat and let them think they can get away with anything they want....including disregard for our safety.

Thanks

Donna Honsberger  
2041 West County Road 52  
Tiffin, OH 44883  
419-937-0828 

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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Case No. 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEiMs:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 11:55:09 AM

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OPSB Staff,

I would like to go on record as being supportive of revisions to your rules to make it explicit that wind turbine operators report incidents occurring with a turbine and to make it explicit that turbine operators adhere to local building codes.

Reporting incidents occurring with industrial turbines should be mandatory in order to track those incidents and determine if there are health, safety or design issues that need to be addressed by turbine manufacturers or operators.

Also, building codes should be adhered to by all entities. Those codes are put in place by local government to protect the health, safety and property values of local residents. There are procedures in place for variances to the codes that should be used so that local government and residents are involved in the process. We purchase property based on knowing our property value has protection based on local building codes. The codes and related variance procedures should apply to everyone.

Sincerely,

Stephen Corthell

Eden Township Resident

Seneca County 

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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [PucO Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Case No. 19-0778-GE-BRO. [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEjJz:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:05:06 PM

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**My name is Linda Morsher, my husband Chuck and I reside in Seneca County, Ohio. Apparently Apex Company is attempting to put wind turbines within a 1/2 mile of our home. These turbines are to be over 600 feet tall. For a point of reference, the Arch in St. Louis stands over 630 feet tall. Can you imagine having a monstrosity of this magnitude outside your home? For many reasons we are opposing the Republic Wind project; noise, shadow flicker, possibility of ice throws in the winter, health concerns and especially for the decrease in our home value.**

**My purpose in contacting you today is to simply ask a question? Why would the wind company not be required and mandated by law to report blade throws and turbine incidents and also adhere to the local building codes that only makes sense, doesn't it? PLEASE REQUIRE that the Wind company are held to high standards concerning the wind turbines that will possibly be within a 1/2 mile from my home.**

**Respectfully,  
Linda and Chuck Morsher  
7355 Township Road 81  
Bellevue, Ohio 44811**



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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEnyR:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:14:37 PM

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I agree with the proposed rules issued by the OPSB in regards to wind powered electric generation facilities. There have been documented instances of blade shear of 1500 feet presented to the OPSB in April 2019. I feel the wind industry needs to be transparent and accountable and that all instances of turbine failure, blade shear , ice throw etc need to be reported and monitored.

Chris Popa 

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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [PucO Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEImN:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:11:12 PM


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Dear Sirs:

It is my opinion that turbine operators need to be required to report any incidents occurring with industrial wind turbines which may affect the safety of workers and any other individuals nearby. Blade throw incidents should be included in this reporting, and records need to be kept. (Most people assume this is already being done.)

Safety standards should be in compliance with safety standards already established by OSHA, and any potential hazards unique to the wind industry should be added to the industrial rules already in place with OSHA. Records need to be kept and analyzed to see if there are trends in safety breaches, and records should be used to establish good safety practices and safe minimal distances from the turbines for any individuals needing to be near them.

Sincerely,  
Linda Coffman

6851 S State Rt 231  
Tiffin, OH. 44883  
Seneca County 

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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEktQ:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:09:22 PM

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current setback distance is 1200 ft. This was the distance for 300 ft. turbines. manufacturers recommend a distance of 1600 ft. Debris has been known to travel 1500 ft. from these larger turbines. most distances around the country and in other nations are being lengthened to protect the safety and well being of the citizens

Bernard Good 

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**From:** [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)  
**To:** [PucO Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** public comment for 19-0778-GE-BRO [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0KEj1k:ref ]  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 12:02:09 PM

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Dear Sirs,

I attended the blade shear workshop on April 30, 2019 and have reviewed the proposed addition to OAC 4906-4-10 and changes to OAC 4906-4-09.

I agree with all the proposed changes but offer these potential additions for consideration. I offer these recommendations as a career law enforcement officer, who responded to incident scenes, the majority of which were outdoors, for nearly three decades.

1. The most critical evidence available when investigating any incident is physical evidence. This evidence speaks for itself, and must remain in place until the investigator arrives. OAC 4906-4-10 A1 indicates wind farm operators are required to report all incidents involving a wind turbine within 30 minutes, "unless notification within that time is impractical under the circumstances". I submit that with today's available communication technology there is no circumstance which makes notifying local law enforcement, fire departments and the OPSB "impractical". A simple cell phone call to 911 handles it all. Giving wind farm operators the ability to have discretion on when to notify, eliminates the most crucial point of oversight and accountability. The phrase "unless notification within that time is impractical under the circumstances" should be eliminated from the proposed rule.
2. OAC 4906-4-10 D1 indicates "staff shall" investigate every incident that results in a report being submitted. I am making an assumption the words "staff shall" mean someone from OPSB is going to physically respond to the site to maintain the integrity of the evidence available and supervise documenting the evidence according to established procedures. Other language in this section leads the reader to believe that a personal site visit by OPSB will occur, but doesn't specify when. If OPSB staff is not going to respond in person, you are again relying on the fox to guard the hen house as far as evidence is concerned. I recommend that wording be inserted in this section to clarify that OPSB staff will respond and emphasize the local wind operator must hold the scene until they arrive.

From my attendance at the blade shear workshop, and personal research on the topic, it seemed apparent to me that the OPSB was considering this rule making for a legitimate reason. I got the feeling that members at the workshop were concerned they were not receiving all the information they expected to get, and that possibly they felt they were being left out of critical information due to the lack of reporting of incidents. This is always a danger when you let any industry "self-report" incidents. The information is vital to the board when making decisions on applications for industrial wind turbine projects, and the information being provided regarding the safety of these machines by the wind industry was being called into question. Since the wind industry continues to maintain that these types of incidents are "rare occurrences", there should be little need for OPSB staff to respond to incidents.


The most important role of government is providing an environment which maintains the safety and security of citizens. I commend the Ohio Power Siting Board for taking a proactive approach to a potentially hazardous situation. Actual data gathered by an unbiased third party will give the OPSB the information they need to make intelligent decisions of these

controversial projects.

My wife and I live in the footprint of the Emerson Creek Wind Farm project in Huron County. This is personal to us and many of our friends and neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Walt Poffenbaugh 

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

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**7/8/2019 4:17:40 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 19-0778-GE-BRO**

Summary: Public Comment (9) received via website electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.