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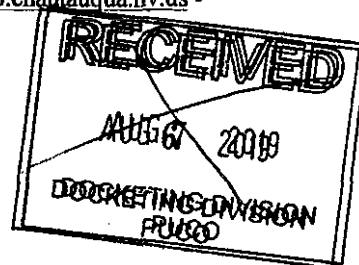
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GEORGE M. BORRELLO
County Executive

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

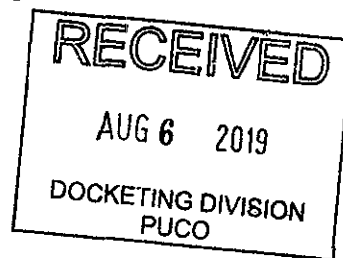
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July 26, 2019

Mr. Sam Randazzo, Chairman
The Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

16-1871-EL-BGN



Dear Chairman Randazzo,

Greetings from Chautauqua County, New York!

Enclosed you will find a motion passed at our July Legislature meeting opposing the construction of a wind turbine farm on Lake Erie.

Lake Erie is an important asset that we share with the State of Ohio, as well as other States, and Canada. Not only is this a source of drinking water for millions, it is also a key economic driver for all of us. The enclosed motion is being sent out to NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo and other elected officials to show our unity in opposing wind turbines.

We hope the Ohio Power Siting Board will consider the unpredictable risk and damaging effects that even a test project like the one proposed will bring. The Icebreaker project off Cleveland is an unnecessary and wasteful boondoggle endeavor.

If you would like to discuss this further, I welcome you to contact me.

Sincerely,

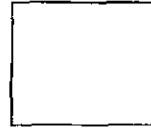
George M. Borrello
Chautauqua County Executive

Enclosure

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Technician A Date Processed 8/7/19

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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
MOTION NO. 7 -19



TITLE: In Opposition to Construction of Wind Turbine Farms on Lake Erie

AT THE REQUEST OF: Legislators Bankoski, Muldowney, Hemmer, Niebel, O'Connell, Odell, Scudder and Starks:

WHEREAS, recently the state of Ohio has partnered with private business to construct wind turbines along the shore of Lake Erie with the approval of the federal government and this has spawned discussion in Chautauqua County's lake front communities over the impact of such development along our coast; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has passed a resolution titled "Opposition to Construction of Wind Turbine Farm on Lake Erie in response to representatives of the Town of Evans meeting with a company looking to install wind turbines in Lake Erie; and

WHEREAS, there are unquestioned benefits to the development of wind farms, including the production of clean energy, creation of an electrical grid that is less reliable on non-renewable resources, and increases in energy sources that are entirely domestic. There are, however, several issues that need to be resolved through extensive environmental impact studies and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that wind turbines inadvertently kill birds and bats especially those with large migratory ranges. The American shore of Lake Erie is an important stopping ground for many migratory birds, including Canadian Geese and ducks, which are important migratory game birds that provide tangible economic value to local communities across New York and Canada. Small migratory birds, like the ruby-throated humming bird, migrate from southern Ontario across the Great Lakes and down to Central America. Even large birds of prey, like the American Bald Eagle, call the Great Lakes their home for a portion of the year; and

WHEREAS, the widespread construction of wind farms not only pose a direct threat to individual animals, but may even alter migratory patterns taking them out of our region altogether. Such a tragedy would impose not just economic losses related to migratory hunting tourism but also decrease the regional biological diversity; and

WHEREAS, the wind farm development taking place in Lake Erie off the shore of Cleveland, Ohio, expects to place a significant number of turbines on the lake itself. Construction of wind turbines on the lake could negatively impact not just migratory birds, but could also impact fishing waters through the destruction of spawning grounds, leaks of hydraulic fluids from the turbines themselves, and creating new physical barriers to fishing vessels; and

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WHEREAS, the Lake Erie Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2016 to sustain and protect the waters of Lake Erie, has taken a position in opposition to the wind farm development off the shore of Cleveland, stating "...the negative environmental effects on Lake Erie, along with economic losses to tourism, spending, jobs, waterfront home values and taxes, appear to outweigh the several hundred jobs that his project claims to create. For these reasons, the Lake Erie Foundation opposes the Icebreaker Windpower, Inc. proposal to build wind turbines in Lake Erie."; and

WHEREAS, Lake Erie currently supports the largest commercial fishery in the great lakes, with fish stocks including the American eel, blue pike, carp, lake sturgeon, lake trout, and lake whitefish. Our region has spent much of the latter half of the past century cleaning up local waters following the damage left behind from what are now all but abandoned factories. It would be foolish to rush back down a path that could potentially put such a valuable industry at risk; and

WHEREAS, potential contamination from the construction of wind turbines in Lake Erie could pose a risk to a major drinking water supply to the people of the northern Chautauqua County region that is drawn from Lake Erie at the City of Dunkirk; and

WHEREAS, many property owners consider wind turbines to be an eyesore at best. Waterfront housing is among the highest valued real estate in our region, which generates additional revenue to taxing municipalities and personal wealth for residents. When considering the location for new wind farms along the shores of Lake Erie, or even on the water in the lake, care needs to be taken to limit the impact on sightlines for property owners in the surrounding areas; therefore be it

KNOWN, That the Chautauqua County Legislature, in recognition of the threat posed by significant negative environmental and economic effects, is hereby opposed to the construction of any new wind turbines along the shores of or in Lake Erie; and be it further

KNOWN, That the Chautauqua County Legislature urges the federal government and New York State, prior to any construction of wind farms along the shore of or in Lake Erie, conduct public review of the full environmental impact of the development, as well as engage in extensive debate with residents who live in and around any potential construction site; and be it further

MOVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Motion to the Western New York delegation to the U.S. Congress, the Western New York delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly and all others deemed necessary and proper.

David J. Gaskin *Paul W. Miller* *Rep. Kelly*
Tony Michel *David E. Wright* *John W. Hemmer*
Ken O'Leary *W. J. P.* *Chris*
Paul D. W. Ford *Chris*
Scott C. C.