



## Power Siting Board

Mike DeWine, Governor  
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Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
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Ohio Senate

June 16, 2020

The Honorable Greta See  
The Honorable David Hicks  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street, 12th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Motion for Waiver,  
Case No. 20-0417-EL-BGN

Dear Judges See and Hicks:

On June 15, 2020, Grover Hill Wind, LLC (Applicant), filed a motion for waiver of Ohio Administrative Code (Ohio Adm.Code) 4906-3-03(B), in which it requested the Ohio Power Siting Board authorize the Applicant to comply with Ohio Adm.Code 4906-3-03(B) using an alternative approach. Applicant proposed that it will host both a live web-based and a live teleconference question and answer virtual public information meeting. The public would be able to submit comments and questions in advance, and the Applicant would afterward respond to any questions not addressed at the public information meeting. Applicant would also make a presentation document available on its website, and a hard copy upon request. In its motion, Applicant averred that its request is for good cause given the ongoing state of emergency, as the alternative approach will allow members of the public to learn about the project while staying home.

Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board (Staff) initially notes that on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Ohio signed Executive Order 2020-01D, declaring a state of emergency in Ohio to protect the well-being of Ohioans from the dangerous effects of COVID-19. Staff recognizes the unique nature of COVID-19 and the radically changed environment that has resulted from the response, which warrants an acknowledgment of the importance of social distancing. Although additional executive orders have been issued, there is still currently a ban on mass gatherings of ten or more people in the state, staying at home is still strongly recommended and social distancing is still in effect for the foreseeable future.

This being the case, Staff does not object to the requested waiver. Neither does Staff object to the granting of the requested waiver on an expedited basis.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Werner L. Margard".

**Werner L. Margard**

Assistant Attorney General

Public Utilities Section

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**On behalf of Staff of the Ohio Power  
Siting Board**

cc: Parties of Record

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

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

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**in**

**Case No(s). 20-0417-EL-BGN**

Summary: Response to Waiver electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y Scott on behalf of OPSB