

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comment 18-1607-EL-BGN
Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 12:33:55 PM

From: Taylor Christian <taylorchristian724@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN)

Members of the Ohio Power Siting Board:

I am writing you today in support of the Emerson Creek Wind Farm (Docket No. 18-1607-EL-BGN, Emerson Creek). This project will help our state economically, provide increased resilience for our farmers, and decrease our dependence on outside energy.

Renewable energy is the future of power. There are billions of dollars being invested into these developments. These investments will create jobs and they will increase revenue for our local governments without requiring more government spending. This means our schools will be able to provide better programs for young Ohioans. Our townships will have more money for improved roads and better-equipped first responders. Our counties will be able to improve the many services they offer.

If this project is approved, it will send a signal to the renewable energy industry: Ohio wants investment. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, new jobs and increased revenue should be welcomed in Ohio. If the project is not approved, that will tell a multi-billion-dollar industry that we do not want the benefits that come with renewable development.

In addition to the boon for local governments, renewable development is great for farmers. Those that lease their land to these projects gain an extra pillar of stability. The people that provide food for all of us are often at the mercy of the growing season. Leasing a portion of their land will give them a source of guaranteed income to serve as a buffer against hard times. For the rest of us to eat, farmer stability is vital. Approving this project is one way to ensure that this generation of farmers can continue serving as this country's backbone.

Along with food security, energy security is vital. The more we depend on out-of-state and out-of-country sources for our energy, the worse we will end up in a time of need. If we increase our energy output, we will be better equipped to handle any future energy shortages that may occur. If neighboring countries and states decide to contract and keep their energy within their own borders, we will need energy. Why prevent a project that will make the state more resilient?

For the reasons outlined above, I support the Emerson Creek Wind Farm project. If you, the Members of the OPSB, support economic improvement, farmer resilience, and energy independence, you will award a permit to this project. I am unable to attend in person, so please take this letter as my written testimony in support of this project.

Regards,

Taylor Christian
Salem, Ohio

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Summary: Public Comment of Taylor Christian, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing