

**Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee**  
**House Bill 401**  
**Proponent Testimony**  
**November 19, 2019**

Chairman Vitale, Vice Chairman Kick, Ranking Member Denson and Members of the Committee, please allow every member of a community a voice in the siting of industrial wind projects by supporting House Bill 401 (Reineke Referendum).

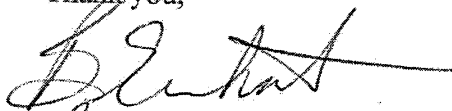
I have lived in the community for a number of years. I was completely surprised when the first industrial wind project was announced in the county. I was later disappointed to learn that this project was in the works for more than ten years. At no point during those ten years was I ever given an opportunity to vote on this matter. Since this project announcement, I have witnessed the continued deterioration of civility in my community. Neighbors are at odds with neighbors because those who stand to financially benefit want to do so at the expense of others who have to live with the impacts of these projects.

I have heard the wind project developer tout the so called "benefits" for the community. I am very skeptical of these so called "benefits" and find it very suspicious that these benefits are pushed AFTER the project has been developed and filed. I seriously doubt anything stated by the wind project developers given their behavior in the community. I do not approve of the wind projects in my community. I find it ironic that I am told the wind project is "good" for the community by an out of state company only after the company had paid off landowners, bought off township and county officials, and hired numerous lawyers all in an effort to force their project through the Ohio Power Siting Board and onto unwilling communities.

I will continue to support my fellow community members who have to fight the wind company at the Ohio Power Siting Board. It is sad all this could have been handled in different manner by allowing every community member to vote and approve or disapprove of a wind project.

Do not allow others to decide what is best for my community. It is time to put the matter of industrial wind projects to a vote.

Thank you,



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