

November 15, 2019

Dear Chairman Nino Vitale, Energy and Natural Resources; and Naomi del Guidice - Committee Clerk

Re: HB 401 Reineke referendum

I'm contacting you to show my support for HB 401 that allows voters in individual Ohio townships to vote on industrial wind turbine projects which have been approved by the Ohio Power Siting Board for the areas in which these local voters live. Giving the OPSB the power to curse home owners with a wind turbine project that will devalue their property, subject them with unwanted noise, threatens their drinking water and many more negatives - is grossly unfair and takes away municipal home rule. In many wind projects the owner and developer is a foreigner that has never visited the targeted wind community and developer/owner could care less about the many negative impacts thrust upon it's residents.

Any PILOT agreement is an extremely poor idea because by agreeing to this plan - the town or county accepts a payment (instead of a fair tax) that amounts to a fraction of what taxes would normally be if assessed at 100% taxable value. Ask yourself if it's fair to permit a person building a \$500,000 new home to pay only taxes based on 20% of its value - this is what a PILOT does.

Examine the history of the OPSB and note that they rarely reject wind turbine projects. The OPSB does not have the resources to adequately research and examine wind projects and consequently they accept questionable data provided by the wind developers themselves.

Wind developers have the financial power to overrule most community resistance and this must be fought hence giving the community the right to a vote keeping unwanted industrial projects, like wind factories, out of their community - is a fair and just action. Wind factories are industrial plants that should have no place in rural areas or communities.

Ohio's HB 401 should be amended and include the Lake Erie offshore wind Icebreaker project and ALL offshore wind projects planned in Lake Erie!

There must be hundreds of private homes along the Lake Erie lake shore that don't want the Icebreaker project to interfere with their view, threaten their drinking water, bother them with flashing red strobe lights at night, foghorn & maintenance noise, and basically devalue their property - just to name a few things. HB 401, if passed, will then be able to protect their lake from being inundated with hundreds or thousands of additional offshore wind turbines in Lake Erie - this massive offshore wind development is what Icebreaker Windpower Inc. President Lorry Wagner and other wind zealots are planning for Ohio's future and it must be stopped. This Icebreaker project is located entirely offshore within Cuyahoga County, Ohio and at least the people in the towns that border Lake Erie in Cuyahoga Co. should have a say in their future and be able to vote offshore wind in Lake Erie into oblivion to protect themselves and their property.

The OPSB should not approve any wind project (terrestrial or offshore) until after the vote on legislative vote on HB 401 takes place. The state of Ohio should place a moratorium on all wind energy projects including offshore in Lake Erie - until HB 401 is acted upon.

Canada's Ontario province placed a moratorium, in Feb. 2011, against offshore wind in Lake Erie (Canadian side) which is still in effect today.

I am a Lake Ontario riparian and deeply concerned that if Ohio's Lake Erie becomes the victim of offshore wind energy projects - it won't be long before the idea expands to our Lake Ontario and other Great Lakes.

Please - please amend HB 401 to include wind factories in Ohio's Lake Erie!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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copy to: Ohio Representative Bill Reineke