

Ohio House Bill 401
Proponent Testimony
Dennis Schreiner
Erie County, Ohio
November 19th, 2019

Chairman Vitale, Vice Chairman Kick, Ranking Member Denson and members of the Committee:

My name is Dennis Schreiner, I reside in Erie County and am an abutting property owner to the proposed Emerson Creek Wind Farm. I am here to provide support for House Bill 401 and would like to speak to the provision on giving impacted communities a voice in the development of wind projects.

Not all areas or townships are so keen on the development of wind farm. Only the people who will be directly affected that can accurately assess the impact and determine whether or not the risk outweighs the “proposed” benefits.

In order to be brief, the following “Bullet List” is offered for your consideration with the hope that you will ask follow-up questions as needed.

- Non-Leaseholder Residents are notified late in the process
- Ohio Power Siting Board Process requires very quick turnaround with respect to time for local resident input
- Working residents often cannot attend County Commissioner Meetings, Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) hearings and meetings such as this during core working hours. Vacation time is often used to support family events and other personal needs.
- Local input at a meaningful level requires securing an attorney at considerable expense that is not reimbursed in any way.
- Township trustees and County Commissioners can voice opposition on behalf of residents but opposition of local officials cannot be acted on by the OPSB as basis of denial.

- In evaluating the application for a wind farm, the de-facto standard is that the wind company experts are right – local residents must prove them wrong/unsafe.

Why Target Wind Farms?

- Low Power density – 20000 acres per 300 MWe and a distraction 24/7.
- The movement of blades and flashing of night lights makes them impossible to ignore – affecting drivers, wildlife, and residents.
- Significant source of Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI) and Radio Frequency Interference in areas of high population density