

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Bill 234
Testimony of Support

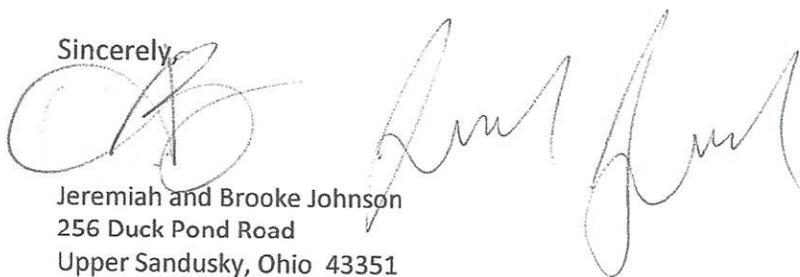
Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, we are writing to express our support for Senate Bill 234.

Every citizen deserves a voice and a vote when it comes to deciding on whether an industrial wind project is a good fit for their community. Even though we do not reside in the footprint of a planned industrial wind project, we strongly uphold that our system of government is supposed to be "of the people, by the people." Industrial wind projects are a massive change for any community. Unaccountable agencies in Columbus are in no position to decide what is best for Ohio's communities.

Several of our friends and neighbors have become the victims of Ohio's flawed siting process that favors wind corporations. These same friends and neighbors are now asking that Ohio improve the siting process to allow them to decide for themselves the fate of their communities. We strongly support such a desperately needed change.

Please give Ohio's communities a voice in the process and approve Senate Bill 234.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah and Brooke Johnson
256 Duck Pond Road
Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351

**Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Bill 234
Proponent Testimony**

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Williams and Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, I write to ask that you please support Senate Bill 234 and allow every member of a community a voice when it comes to siting of industrial wind projects in Ohio.

Although I do not presently reside within a current or planned industrial wind project, I firmly believe that the decision on whether such a dramatic change in a community should occur MUST include meaningful input from all members of that community. The most democratic method of determining whether such a change in a community should occur would be to allow the people that live, work, and might otherwise be subjected to the consequences of such a change the ability to vote on the matter.

The current siting process for industrial wind projects does not include enough meaningful community input. Please help improve the current siting process by allowing the people to vote on industrial wind projects and have a voice in what occurs in their communities.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Price



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Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Bill 234
Proponent Testimony

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Williams and Members of the Committee, I write to ask that you please support Senate Bill 234.

I have witnessed the civility of my community negatively impacted with the introduction of these industrial wind turbine projects. Neighbors are pitted against neighbors and families are split over the issue.

The current process for siting wind projects in Ohio favors the wind companies at the expense of citizens in the community. The wind companies and their supporters will argue the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) program is local control. However, as witnessed in Seneca County and other communities around the state, the wind companies will continue to force the development of their projects on communities even when no PILOT exists or the PILOT has been rejected. The PILOT program is NOT local control.

It is time for real local control to be a part of the siting process and allow every member of a community the ability to express their approval or disapproval of a planned industrial wind project by having a vote. No one can decide what is best for a community other than those that live in the community.

Please support Senate Bill 234.

Thank You,



Lewis D. Gillig
465 Second Avenue
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
567-220-6509

**Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Bill 234
Proponent Testimony**

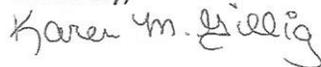
Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Wilson and Members of the Committee, please support Senate Bill 234.

It is inappropriate that wind companies are allowed to hide the information of the turbine safety manuals. Other states require disclosure of this information. What are the companies trying to hide? Why is the safety of wind turbine employees more important than the safety of those who must live with industrial wind turbines?

The safety of Ohio citizens should be a priority! Please demand transparency from the wind companies seeking to build their projects in Ohio.

Say yes to Senate Bill 234!

Sincerely,



Karen M. Gillig
465 2nd Avenue
Tiffin, OH 44883
567-220-6509

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Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Bill 234

Dear Chairman Wilson,

We ask that you and members of the Energy and Public Utilities Committee please support Senate Bill 234. Citizens living in areas affected by wind projects should have a voice in the process and the ability to determine the future of their communities.

Several wind projects have been announced for Seneca County. The projects will impact many of our friends and neighbors. Only after the first wind project was officially announced did most of the citizens realize wind projects were even being considered for the region.

Once residents understood the details of the wind projects, a majority of the citizens have firmly expressed their opposition. A majority of the townships in the footprints of these projects have declared that they are against them. In contrast, those few townships that did not immediately express opposition were controlled at the time by a majority of trustees that were leaseholders. Residents in such townships have instead expressed their opposition by replacing such trustees at the next opportunity with different leadership. In the last election, for example, one of these townships removed a leaseholder trustee and after the new trustee took office, the board immediately passed a resolution against the current wind project and all future wind projects.

The Seneca County Commissioners have also passed resolutions against the wind projects and have voted to end the "alternative energy zone" and the "payment in lieu of taxes" programs. Even though our local elected officials have repeatedly expressed the consensus opinion of the citizens by voicing opposition to the wind projects and by ending these programs, the companies continue to force projects into our area.

Having witnessed what our friends and neighbors have had to go through and the apparent lack of any meaningful local voice in the process, it is clear the current siting of wind projects in Ohio must be addressed. The best solution to the absence of local input is to allow the local residents an opportunity to express their opinion on a wind project by a vote.

Please support Senate Bill 234 and give the residents a meaningful voice in the process.

Thank You,

Lewis Nye

Sharon Nye

Louis and Sharon Nye
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Tiffin, Ohio 44883