

# 230

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1/16/2020

SENATOR STEVE WILSON

CHAIRMAN

SENATOR SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

SENATOR WILSON,

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER TO URGES THE SUPPORT OF HB 401. I AM A RESIDENT OF LYONS TOWNSHIP AND MY FAMILY AND I HAVE LIVED HERE FOR 35 YEARS. WE MOVED HERE TO BE IN RURAL AMERICA WHERE YOU ARE MORE FREE TO LIVE YOUR OWN LIFESTYLE. WE RAISE GRAM WITH ANIMALS AND GROW FOOD. THE HORIZON IS OPEN AND BEAUTIFUL. THIS WILL ALL CHANGE FOR THE WORSE IF YOU ALLOW OUR AREA TO BE RUINED BY THESE MONUMENTAL WIND TURBINES. 600 FT INDUSTRIAL BEHEMOTHS THAT POLLUTE THE AIR WITH SOUND, KILL BIRDS, ENDANGER EVERYONE WITHIN 3000 FEET OF EACH ONE, RUIN THE LAND AND DESTROY THE ROADWAYS IN THE AREA. THE EXPENSES AND RUIN THEY BRING ARE NOT JUSTIFIED BY THEIR 20-30 YEAR LIFE EXPECTANCY.

I PLEAD WITH YOU TO AT LEAST ALLOW US TO HAVE A VOICE IN OUR FUTURE. OUR REPUBLIC IS BASED ON MAJORITY RULE FOR THE MOST PART. PLEASE ALLOW US TO HAVE A SAY ABOUT WHERE WE LIVE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

John Wagner



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Clyde, Ohio 43410  
Ph: 419-547-0131 Fax: 419-547-9981

January 15, 2020

To the Attention of:  
The Honorable Senator Steve Wilson, Ohio  
Chairman, Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Dear Mr. Wilson,

This letter is written in support of SB234 which is intended to put the matter of wind turbine projects in the hands of the voting residents in those areas affected by these projects.

There are several reasons these projects should be subject to the scrutiny of the public in the areas where they are constructed as their presence affects all residents and most visitors living in their vicinity, not just the proponents of the projects.

The Sandusky County Regional Airport Authority is on record for not supporting wind turbine installations as have recently been proposed in Sandusky County and surrounding counties.

The Authority believes that any above ground structure poses a potential hazard to aviation operations. Due to their height above ground level, several hundreds of feet, and their relative proximity to the airport, wind turbines will present a tangible added hazard to aircraft operations where there were previously none.

The Sandusky County regional Airport Authority puts its trust in the ability of the people to make an informed decision about this matter.

Sincerely,

David S. Wadsworth, Manager  
Sandusky County Regional Airport

January 14, 2020

Dear Senator Wilson –

I'm not one who writes politicians very often. I am married to Bill Seaman (since 2003), and shortly before Bill and I were married we bought a home in Lyme Township in Huron County. Bill's sister was moving, and we wanted to keep the house in the family.

Our home is on Sandhill Road, one of the most beautiful roads in Huron County. I remember Bill getting calls and letters from APEX many years ago, but he did not sign up his farms in Huron County and Erie County for wind leases. Bill calls this "the best decision he never made."

I would greatly appreciate your support of Senate Bill 234 to give us a fair chance at preserving our land values, our eagles and our health in Lyme Township for us and our neighbors in western Erie and Huron County.

Bill knows that he is Don Quixote – tilting at the windmills (more accurately described as industrial wind turbines) which will be a mere 655 feet tall. We have committed time, energy and resources to fight these wind projects, with no guarantee of success.

Senate Bill 234 adds common sense safety standards and also allows for a local vote. While this annoys and offends APEX, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and others – frankly those folks don't have to live in the shadows of what now will become an industrial park – instead of the rolling countryside to which we have been lucky to enjoy together since 2003.

Thank you for your help in getting this bill passed, out of committee and on a floor vote in the Senate in 2020.



Donna Seaman

4584 SR 547

Bellevue, OH

44811

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January 15, 2020

Dear Senator Wilson –

I am writing you to urge your support for Senate Bill 234 (and its identical version in the House – House Bill 401).

I live in Huron County – out in the country – on the same property that my German ancestors moved to in 1847.

First, SB 234 adds a layer of safety for the residents of the rural townships that are under assault by industrial wind turbine developers. It requires a longer setback than is currently in place. In a common sense move, the setbacks would be lengthened to follow the safety distances recommended by the turbine manufacturers.

Since my older brother will be traversing fields close to several turbines – 300 or so more feet of a buffer is a common sense safety protocol.

Second, SB 234 allows for a vote in the townships – if the project is approved by the Ohio Power Siting Board [and thus far EVERY project has been approved by the Ohio Power Siting Board] – to go forward or to be stopped.

This part of the bill evens the playing field. On one side you have the wind developers, their practiced lobbyists, well paid lawyers, etc. Currently, on the other side you have concerned and educated citizens, with few resources who did not know their countryside was under lease for up to 10 years until after the required public meetings by APEX.

Some areas have welcomed wind development in Ohio (Paulding County) and others have turned against wind development (Van Wert County and Champaign County).

In Erie, Huron and Seneca County, counties which have more than twice the population of Paulding County and Van Wert County, there has been strong opposition from the time that the projects became public knowledge. For wind projects to be truly legitimate in our state, local control needs to be re-established. Frankly, our anti-wind side thinks we would win these votes, but no

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side really knows. If 51% of my neighbors want the project to go through, this is something with which I can live. However, as we speak only 38 families and LLCs in five townships in Huron County will potentially host an industrial wind turbine. This is hardly the broad support boasted by APEX.

My family left Germany in the late 1840s to come to a nation where you were not ruled by elites. Please support SB 234 and give real and true power to the people most affected by these projects.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely,



William Seaman

4584 SR 547

Bellevue, OH

44811

David N. Seaman  
3508 St Route 113 West  
Monroeville, OH 44847  
Oxford Township

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

My name is David N. Seaman. I am a land owner in Oxford Township and Lyme Township in the great state of Ohio. My family and relatives have owned parts of our family farm for approximately 170 years.

I am writing to you in favor of Senate Bill #234 and House Bill #401. Thank you for voting Senate Bill #234 out of committee and for a vote on the Senate floor. I am in favor of these bills because of many factors. The two most significant are safety of residents that reside in proximity to the proposed wind turbine sites, and most importantly local control. Local residents should have a voice, they should ~~a~~ vote on projects that dramatically alter the environment in which they live.

Thank you for your time, attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

David N. Seaman

