

18 January 2009

Attention: Senator Steve Wilson, Chair  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Dear Committee:

I support SB 234 allowing local voters in individual townships to vote on industrial wind turbine projects. The township voters, in a free country, need to be given the opportunity to be heard on matters of land use and environmental impacts. Home rule of Ohio's constitution should be applicable to townships, just as it is to municipalities.

So much information regarding wind turbines is hidden from the general population, which should not be. How is it a secret from a potential buyer of rural land can be forced into a contract for land use that he/she was never informed about? What happened to open policy?

Land owners and land buyers need to know the purposes of any land, and businesses selling these industrial wind turbine projects need to stop hiding the information of the impact on their land, from all information, not just one-sided, before signing, and without the 'silence' clause. Landowners need to know the arguments for and against installing wind turbines before coming to logical decisions, rather than just the 'pros'. These wind turbines, if installed, along with the alternate energy source required for each wind turbine, should be clear, and not impact a neighbor's property, no matter what decision is made.

Township voters need the right to vote on these matters, that impact all in so many ways.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Alice Williamson".

Mary Alice Williamson

5 A Fox Run Cv  
Norwalk OH 44857