



# ***Paulding County Economic Development, Inc.***

A 501c3 non-profit corporation

101 East Perry St., Paulding, OH 45879

Phone 419-399-8282 Fax 419-399-8284

*Timothy G. Copsey, Director*

*Email: [director@pced.net](mailto:director@pced.net)*

*[www.pced.net](http://www.pced.net)*

## Opponent Testimony of Senate Bill 52

Tim Copsey

Director, Paulding County Economic Development, Inc.

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

March 23, 2021

Dear Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Committee:

As Director for Paulding County Economic Development, Inc., I appreciate the opportunity to submit written opponent testimony on Senate Bill 118. For my testimony, I submit the attached letter from the Paulding County Commissioners, with their approval, that was sent to Representative Hoops recently regarding SB 118 and its companion House Bill 118.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Timothy G. Copsey, Director  
Paulding County Economic Development

### **Paulding County Economic Development Board**

**Larry Manz, President**  
Industrial/Business  
**Greg White**  
Mayor Association  
**Jeff Mumma**  
Financial Institutions

**Dennis Recker, Vice President**  
At Large Member  
**George Carter**  
Paulding CIC  
**Don Oberlin**  
Antwerp/Payne/Paulding Co CIC

**Sarah J. Noggle, Secretary**  
OSU Extension  
**Mike Kauser**  
Paulding Co Township Assn.  
**Ryan Whitaker**  
At-Large Member

**Jim States, Treasurer**  
Oakwood Development Company  
**Karl (Bud) Koenig**  
Paulding Co Planning Commission  
**Joe Burkard, P.C. Prosecutor**  
Non-Voting Member

### **Our Mission Statement**

**To assist Business, Industry and Local Government in developing job opportunities and prosperity in Paulding County**



# PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Courthouse - 115 N. Williams St. - Room B-1 • Paulding, Ohio 45879

---

February 24, 2021

Dear Representative Hoops,

We watched with great interest the Public Utilities Committee hearing and appreciated the questions you asked. We are very concerned not only the precedent being set by this bill but also the continuing erosion of our land owner rights, business environment, and the lack of attention given to us here in Paulding County. Paulding County is the leader in wind development, 213 turbines, five builds and the sixth build is close to construction. We have had turbines operating here since 2013, four which were built under the original setback rules.

Paulding County's population is 19,614 according to the 2010 census. Do we have one hundred percent of the citizens supporting wind and solar development, absolutely not, but almost all understand the huge benefits they bring to our county. Unfortunately, Senator Rob McColley and Representative Craig Riedel do not represent us on this bill. Our township trustees are also not supportive of this bill.

We have attached some general information in regards to the benefits here in Paulding County.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions and we welcome an in person visit, we would be pleased to show you and explain all issues and concerns.

Sincerely,

Roy Klopfenstein  
Paulding County Commissioners

Mark Holtsberry

Clint A. Vance



# PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Courthouse - 115 N. Williams St. - Room B-1 • Paulding, Ohio 45879

---

Paulding County, Ohio's leader in production of clean, renewable wind energy.

Clean, efficient production currently from 213 wind turbines with 505 MW. of nameplate capacity.

Our communities sixth project is under development, being downsized because of current set back rules.

Current investment in Paulding County of approximately 903 million dollars.

Pilot payments, (payments in lieu of taxes) and Service payments have improved the fiscal well-being of our community beginning with collections in 2013.

Paulding Wind Farm IV (5<sup>th</sup> project) to begin making payments in 2021.

There are eighteen taxing entities that will be receiving payments in 2020. Four townships, three school districts, library, hospital, OSU Extension, Senior center, County jail, MRDD, 911, Mental Health, Health Department and Paulding County General Fund.

Pilot and Service fees collected since 2013, \$ 15,471,000.00

Pilot and service fee to be collected in 2020, \$ 3,371,625.00

Contributed to County General Fund in 2020. \$ 645,377.00 of \$ 7,079,825.00 or 9.1% of 2020 general fund appropriations!

Property owner payment are approximately 122% of Pilot and service payments. 2020 estimated payment is \$ 4,113,383.00.

Good neighbor donations have helped fund Soil & Water Conservation Service, (SWCD) OSU extension, Bargain Bin Building Project, Vision Board, Park District, Scholarships, First Responders, Volunteer Fire and EMS services, just to name a few.

Every Paulding County resident has benefitted in some way from improved roads, capital improvements to county facilities, increased Sheriff services, county employee pay and benefits.

Wayne Trace Local Schools and Antwerp Local Schools have benefited in numerous ways that would never have happened without increased revenue from clean, renewable wind energy!

19,000 people with a great story, contributing to the success of Ohio's economy, creating a renewable energy in demand from consumers nationwide.

10/21/2020

---

Ph: 419.399.8215 • Fax: 419.399.8299 • E-mail: [pccommissioners@pauldingcountyoh.com](mailto:pccommissioners@pauldingcountyoh.com)

*This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.*



# PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Courthouse - 115 N. Williams St. - Room B-1 • Paulding, Ohio 45879

---

## Wind Farm Benefits to Paulding County Community

General fund expenditures (in part) that was possible with new revenue.

\*County employees received no pay increase from 2008 thru 2012; pay has been increased beginning in 2013 and each year since.

\* Health care costs to employee have went from them paying 52% of the cost to 20%

\*now funding a county DARE officer

\*increased funding to Sheriff office has given us a full time drug investigator, road patrol deputies of at least two per shift, vehicle rotation to a 5-6 year schedule, courthouse security, body scanner for jail, storage and training facility, body cameras, improved communication equipment, this is not totally inclusive of all the improvements.

\*increased spending to non-mandated funds such as SWCD, OSU Extension, Economic Development, Ag Society, EMA, Health Department.

\*Capital improvements such as courthouse sandstone restoration, interior painting of courthouse, floor covering repair and replacement, lighting upgrades, courthouse roof replacement, remodeling of law library, county parking lot, courthouse dome repair and preservation, purchase of building for secure storage and training for Sheriff office, purchase and remodel of building for County Prosecutor, replace roof on court annex, replace roof on Harrison Street office building, this is not totally inclusive but many would not be done yet without increased revenue from wind farm revenues.

\*over 70 miles of improved county and township roads

\*many, many improvements and benefits To Wayne Trace Schools, a report on its own.

\*nearly 100% community support, very understanding, not totally exempt from NIMBY, but no change is!

\*Paulding County cannot compete with neighboring community's tax abatements and gifts to attract business; wind is a nearly perfect economic development for our community.

**PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO**  
**WIND & SOLAR TAX BENEFITS**

ANNUAL PILOT PAYMENTS TO PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO ENTITIES\*

Taxing District	Year 2019, Collected 2020	Year 2020, Collected 2021	Total Revenue 2020 & 2021
Wayne Trace Local Schools	\$1,398,898.11	\$1,398,898.11	\$2,797,796.22
Paulding County General Fund, svc fee	\$474,450.00	\$474,450.00	\$948,900.00
Vantage Career Center JVS	\$234,729.28	\$234,729.28	\$469,458.56
Paulding County MRDD	\$224,296.87	\$224,296.87	\$448,593.74
Antwerp Local Schools	\$192,497.61	\$192,497.61	\$384,995.22
Paulding County General Fund	\$166,918.65	\$166,918.65	\$333,837.30
Blue Creek Township	\$80,069.65	\$80,069.65	\$160,139.30
Paulding County Library	\$78,243.09	\$78,243.09	\$156,486.18
Paulding County Jail Operation	\$70,418.78	\$70,418.78	\$140,837.56
Benton Township	\$69,709.81	\$69,709.81	\$139,419.62
Harrison Township	\$63,456.89	\$63,456.89	\$126,913.78
Paulding County 911 System	\$56,022.04	\$56,022.04	\$112,044.08
Tri-County Mental Health Services	\$52,162.06	\$52,162.06	\$104,324.12
Paulding County Health Department	\$41,729.65	\$41,729.65	\$83,459.30
Latty Township	\$41,357.54	\$41,357.54	\$82,715.08
Paulding County Senior Center	\$26,081.03	\$26,081.03	\$52,162.06
Paulding County OSU Extension	\$13,040.51	\$13,040.51	\$26,081.02
Paulding County Hospital	\$11,997.26	\$11,997.26	\$23,994.52
Paulding County Jail	\$7,824.30	\$7,824.30	\$15,648.60
Antwerp Village	\$1,287.49	\$1,287.49	\$2,998.08
Paulding Exempted Village Schools	\$211.55	\$211.55	\$423.10
Paulding Village	\$147.52	\$147.52	\$295.04
Paulding County Auditor Fee**	\$72,592.31	\$72,592.31	\$145,184.62
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,378,142.00</b>	<b>\$3,378,142.00</b>	<b>\$6,756,284.00</b>

\*These payments include the following projects: Timber Rd II (99.825MW/55 turbines), Blue Creek Wind (74MW/37 turbines), Timber Rd III (100.80MW/48 turbines), CMS (100MW/42 turbines), REA Solar (0.0583MW) and Antwerp Solar (0.6657MW).

\*\*Fees including processing and making payments.





# PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Courthouse - 115 N. Williams St. - Room B-1 • Paulding, Ohio 45879

---

## Paulding County wind footprint 12-2019

49759 acres leased in wind production area

213 turbines

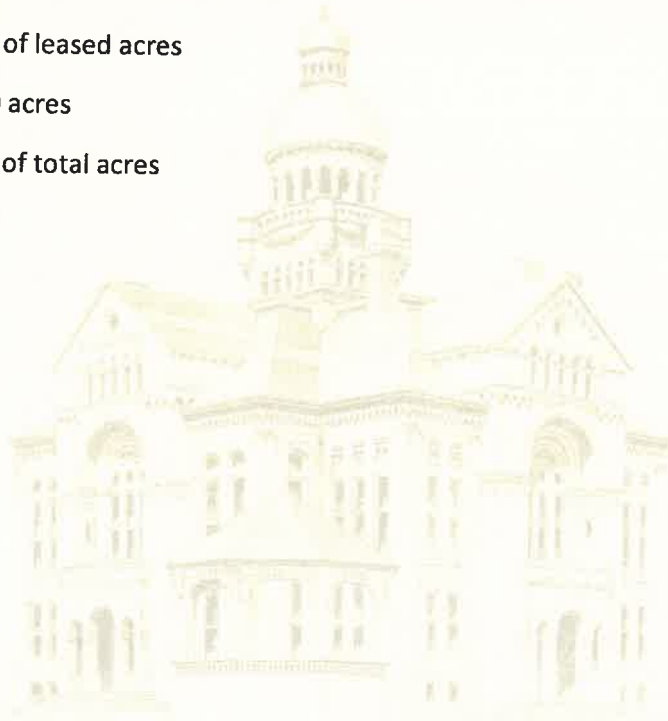
499 MW production

320 acres actual footprint

Footprint is .64 percent of leased acres

5 townships are 115200 acres

Footprint is .28 percent of total acres



---

Ph: 419.399.8215 • Fax: 419.399.8299 • E-mail: [pccommissioners@pauldingcountyoh.com](mailto:pccommissioners@pauldingcountyoh.com)

*This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.*