

TESTIMONY OF JOE HUGHES

Logan County

IN OPPOSITION TO SC3504

Amendment to Revise Setbacks from Industrial Wind Turbines

Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chairman Manning, Ranking Member Skindell and members of the Committee, I am here to speak against any revision of the setbacks for industrial wind turbines that would measure the distance from my home rather than my property line. I also object to any reduction of the current 1,125-foot setback from property lines.

I kept thinking about that old phrase: "A man's home is his castle." I looked it up in the online American Heritage dictionary and the definition said:

"People enjoy the position of rulers in their own homes, and others have no right to enter without the householder's permission."

It went on to say that the legal doctrine is reflected in the Bill of Rights. "The right of people to be secure in their houses against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated."

The dictionary went on to say that this proverbial expression illustrates the principle of individual privacy which is fundamental to the American system of government.

My question is, "What are a bunch of Republicans and some Constitutional Conservatives doing proposing the seizure of the individual's land so that wind developers – many of them foreign corporations – can invade our property with nuisance noise and shadow flicker? "

Do they you think the term "secure in their own homes" means you need to stay inside where you are safe? Does it mean don't go out in the yard with your grandkids because the swingset might be within the setback zone recommended by Vestas as 1,300 feet?

The Hite setback amendment is a home invasion. It should be unlawful and I can't believe you are even here considering it. I ask that you reject the measurement of protective setbacks from my house. Respect my property line and leave me alone in my castle. As Americans, our family deserves nothing less.