

Dear Chairman Hoops and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee

I am Dominic J. Miller, I live at 1582 St. Rt. 4, Bellevue, Huron County, Sherman Twp., Ohio. I live in the footprint of the proposed Emerson Creek Wind Project. I am writing this in support of House Bill 118.

Here in Huron, Seneca, Erie, Sandusky, and Crawford counties we currently have SIX Industrial Wind Turbine projects in various stages of development. They are Emerson Creek Wind, Emerson Creek West, Greenwich Wind Park, Republic Wind, Buck Springs Wind, Honey Creek Wind, and now also the Wheatsborough Solar Project. If all these projects get approved and built, we will have well in excess of 300, 490ft. to 657-foot-tall (or taller) Industrial Wind Turbines and a solar project mixed in for good measure in our rural farm communities, successfully transforming our tranquil, scenic landscape into a sprawling Industrial Zone, twice the size of Columbus, that will NEVER be the same again. Beautiful sunsets will be obstructed forever.

I have lived at my current residence for 40 years with my wife, Diane. We have raised 2 sons, who are married and have moved on, but still live in the area. We have built our property from the ground up on my wife's family farm and are very proud to call this HOME. I have just retired and plan to enjoy our property. There won't be much to enjoy if these projects get built with Turbines flickering, blinking, and making noise. The quality of life as we know it will never be the same. We sure didn't ever intend to move; this is our home. We love it here. We also cannot afford to lose the equity we have built up in our property at this point in our lives. If you are naïve enough to believe the pro Green Energy smoke that they are blowing that Industrial Wind Turbines and Solar Projects do not affect property values, then we have a serious issue. Just answer these questions: If **YOUR** home was surrounded by 657-foot-tall Turbines just some 1400 feet from your property line, or surrounded by solar panels, would your home be worth the same as it is today????? Would **YOU** still want to live there????? Would **YOUR** children or grandchildren be safe playing in the yard????? Be honest. This is just plain common sense.

The local vote proposed by this bill would to be our only chance to stop these projects. Every card in the deck is stacked against us. I have been personally involved in, and provided testimony against the Seneca Wind, Republic Wind and the Emerson Creek Wind projects, The Republic Wind Project had their Adjudatory Hearing at the Ohio Siting Board in early November, 2019. This just appears to be another sham. Republic Wind Representatives continuously talked in circles and would not answer a simple yes or no question. Their "Expert" witnesses seemed to just be travelling professional Big Wind cronies that do not know very much about this project or the area. The members of the Ohio Power Siting Board were missing in action at all three Hearings and also at the Public Hearings. It seems to me that if they are really going to do their job to the best of their ability of siting these projects, they would be there in person to see what is going on in living color. You cannot get the full effect of the heartfelt testimony of residents from a Staff Report, if in fact any of these testimonies even matter, or is this just

another box for the OPSB to check off in the process? The whole OPSB process is an antiquated dinosaur that is only geared to site energy projects and has **nothing** to do with protecting the safety of the citizens of Ohio or if there actually is a “Public Need” for this power. And to throw insult to injury the Emerson Creek Project hearings were all held virtually. Another major disadvantage for rural areas with poor internet service. There is new evidence worldwide every day on all the health issues created by Industrial Wind Turbines and Solar Panels. No one seems to listen to the residents’ concerns who will have to live with the decision of the seven members of the OPSB. The OPSB only appears to have one rubber stamp for all wind projects so far, and that is a big “YES”. Solar is not any different. I have listened to several OPSB meetings where they have approved several Solar projects in less than five minutes each with NO discussion and never a single no vote.

Big Wind, Solar and their lobbyists have infiltrated and bought off every level of the Governments all over the world to promote this giant scam. Sherman Township, where I live, has two of the three Trustees who have been signed up, one as a lease holder and one as a “Good Neighbor”. The third trustee’s Mother, Father and Sister are all lease holders. This leaves us with no local intervention in the Emerson Creek Wind Project. This seems to be another Big Wind tactic, get as many local officials on board before the public even knows that there is a project, so they can not object to anything. My Trustees have been advised by the County Prosecutor that they cannot vote on or even discuss anything to do with this Project. I am 100 percent certain that our Trustees now regret signing these leases because they fear that the Township roads will be destroyed if this Project gets built and they cannot do a thing about it. According to Apex’s estimates, Sherman Township will receive approximately \$30,000 per year for the life of the project. It costs approximately \$80,000 to repave one mile of a one lane road. The Trustees do not believe for a second that the Wind Company will correctly repair all the roads that will be destroyed so they last past the one-year window that is promised. Our Township has very little income now, but they realize that the promised \$30,000 per year is a drop in the bucket for the long-term damage that will be caused. This will not bode well on their reputation as very good Trustees in the past. This is a very good example of why I oppose including any input from the Trustees in the process of the Referendum. We have other local residents that had signed leases approximately ten years ago when the Wind Developers signed up these leases, promising them, 200-foot-tall turbines, lots of money, and that it will probably never happen, just sign here, your neighbor did, and get free money. There have been many who have since become educated and regretted signing and cannot get out of their leases and not for the lack of trying. If we can get a local vote, this will give all these individuals, who have had a change of heart, a voice that the wind companies cannot stop because of a gag order in their leases.

PLEASE support this bill and put it on the fast track to approval as time is of essence for us to have a chance to stop the ruination of our beautiful area. Please take a moment to put yourself in our shoes, would you have these 675-foot-tall Industrial Wind Turbines or Solar Panels built around **your** homes, around **your** families, based on only a few local residents

getting paid to love them and some paid off politicians thinking they are going to save the planet only to pad their pockets? We have had to raise thousands of dollars to pay lawyers' fees and spend countless hours away from our jobs and families trying to fight multi-million-dollar companies who are not even from Ohio and who could care less about the people that live here. They are only here for one thing, **THE STIMULOUS MONEY!!** I firmly believe that there are two categories of people who support Green Energy. The first are those who are paid by or are making money from Green Energy lobbyists or leases. The second is people who choose not to get educated on all the negatives of Green Energy. If you do not support this bill, which category do you fit into? Currently our only voice is a one-time Public Hearing with the Siting Board who doesn't even show up. We desperately need to have this one chance to have a voice that actually counts, OURS, the people who live in the project, not someone with an office in Columbus, who will never see these projects unless they are going to Lake Erie or Cedar Point. If a majority of the residents in the Township votes for the Project, then we know that the majority of the Township residents actually want to live in a sprawling Industrial Zone. If this bill passes, this vote would be the one single most important vote these people in their Township would EVER cast. Isn't that the way a Democracy is supposed to work?

You may think that this is the typical NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) excuse. It very well may be, BUT what if this was indeed in YOUR backyard. Think long and hard about that before you cast your vote. Please vote in favor of House Bill 118.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Dominic J. Miller