

Testimony of Gail and Richard Miller
Seneca County, Ohio
In support of SB-52
Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
March 9, 2021

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schuring, ranking member Williams, members of the committee, we write as proponents of SB-52.

We would like to express our support for SB 52. As residents of Seneca County, Venice Township, we have been actively expressing our concern RE the proposed wind turbine projects for our county and for those in Erie and Huron counties as well. In our case we learned of the Seneca Wind project when being invited to attend a meeting given by the developer to explain the project details. This was “after the fact” as contracts had already been made with leaseholders, measurements had already been taken, the application had been submitted, and we were shown where the proposed turbines would be. We had no advance knowledge of any of this. We do not feel this is fair.

Our Country is to be one “of the people, by the people, and for the people”. A governing body of appointees who will not be directly affected by projects of this nature should not have the authority to make decisions for residents who will have to live with them. Our local residents need to have a voice in this matter.

Another concern is that of “distance”. The manufacturers of these turbines have made it very clear in their safety manuals just what the “safe” distance would be in case of fires or thunderstorms. Current set-backs do not represent this distance.

Property values certainly decline if a wind or solar project on a leaseholders land is within 1500 or 2000 feet from the neighbor who is trying to sell their home. Who would want to purchase a home with a 600 foot turbine that close.

Taking all of this into consideration we respectfully ask you to support SB 52.

Thank you.

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