

TESTIMONY OF ETHAN HOEPF
Seneca county
IN OPPOSITION TO Sub. H. B. 114

To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, > and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien 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 proposed reduction of the > current 1,125-foot setback from property lines.

Hello, my name is Ethan Hoepf. My family and I live in Seneca county. Our 4-acre property borders the Republic wind project. I firmly believe that these industrial wind turbines do not belong in the rural populated communities. They will negatively impact our way of life, our health, and also financially impact us and our neighbors.

These industrial turbines will impact our views that we moved from town to the country to enjoy. In less than two years of moving out of town we were informed of the turbine project. I moved my family out to the country, so we didn't have to listen to the busy roads and see flashing head lights. We wanted to listen to the frogs and crickets on > a cool summer night. We wanted to sit on our back patio and watch the beautiful sunset. We don't want to hear turbines spinning and see the flickering of our beautiful sunrises and sunsets.

I want my family to be able to sleep peacefully at night and not have to hear the thumping of the turbine blades. I don't want these turbines to disrupt my family's way of life. I do not want my family to suffer health effects from these industrial turbines. I don't want my family to suffer headaches and migraines from these turbines.

We are an outdoors family and we love playing outdoors and fishing in our pond. We don't want to have to pop our ears as if you're flying in an airplane when going outside. We don't want to be confined to our house. We are not a TV and game system family. We enjoy the outdoors. When it's cool outside we love to open our windows at night to let the cool breeze blow through the house and listen to the crickets. We only get a few cars and trucks down our township road so we enjoy the quietness of our location.

All of the things we love about our home is threatened by the proposed existence of these turbines. It frightens me of the possibility that my water quality from our well may be jeopardized from the turbine companies digging the 30-foot bases for these turbines. We have wells in the area only 15 feet deep. Thankfully mine is a bit deeper but I still don't want to take that chance. I do not like the thought of these turbines ruining our water quality, thus threatening the health of my family.

I don't want the negative financial impact from these industrial wind turbines. We don't want our property devalued because of unsightly turbines nearby. I don't want to see our rental property to become vacant because people don't want to live in this area. If so, we will then be paying taxes on an empty house that is providing no income. I don't want to have to lower the rent because the turbines made Seneca county an undesirable place to live. I don't want these turbines to have a negative impact on my family's financial well-being.

These turbines don't belong in a densely populated rural community, let alone right in people's backyards. I firmly believe that a situation with this much impact on people's lives should be placed on a ballot so those who will be affected most can have a chance to have their voices heard by a local township level vote.

I strongly support the any amendment that will give us the right to vote on these developments. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter because this is some of the reasons these industrial wind turbines do not belong in a heavily populated area like Seneca county.