

TESTIMONY OF JAMES HOFFERT
Seneca County
IN OPPOSITION TO Sub. H. B. 114

Chairman Balderson, Vice Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Committee, I am a resident of Seneca County and I am against the proposed reduction of the property line setbacks for industrial wind turbines in Sub HB 114. My name is James Hoffert and I am a life- long resident of Seneca County and 3rd generation farmer.

I signed the Good Neighbor contract specifically to help my brother so that his property would qualify for the Wind Lease program. My brother needed the income from two proposed turbines given his failing health. My brother has since passed away.

I feel that I was misled by employees of Atwell who were managing the Good Neighbor program for Seneca Wind as I only wanted two of my three parcels to be included in the contract. The third parcel is where my home is located and includes 54 acres. I did not want any wind turbines located near my home. I felt pressured by my brother and Atwell and unfortunately, I made a mistake and signed the contract that does in fact include all three of my parcels.

Since the good neighbor contract included the Setback Easement clause, the adjacent property owner to my west is now able to locate his turbines just across my property line which is what I wanted to avoid.

If I could reverse my actions, I definitely would. Given the distrust that I have with the Wind Farm companies, I am now 100% against the idea of having wind turbines in Seneca County and I strongly encourage the committee to reconsider reduced setbacks as I feel it infringes on the rights of non-participating land owners.

Thank you for the opportunity to consider my feedback.

James Hoffert
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