

Testimony of: J. Dian West

County: Seneca

In Opposition to: Substitute House Bill 114

Dear Chairman Balderson, Vice Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member O'Brien and members of the Committee,

I write to express my opposition to 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.

It has only been in the past couple months that I became aware of the projects proposed in and adjacent to Seneca County, Ohio. Like so many, I initially remained "on the fence" as I had very limited understanding regarding the "ins and outs" of industrial wind turbine projects. The more I began to educate myself, the more I realized that there are many concerns expressed by those adversely affected by these projects. I do not believe it is in the best interest for our county or the the State of Ohio to adjust the current law. My mother's house lies just outside one of the Apex Republic Wind, LLC project in Seneca County. This is the home my parents built when I was just a child. Due to the close proximity, I have become increasingly concerned about issues such as setback distances, shadow flicker, noise, impact on wildlife (including eagles, bats, and our many other wildlife critters), the impact for air ambulance transportation (which is heavily used in our rural farming community due to our community hospitals not being equipped to handle trauma), and the loss of property values just to name a few.

One of my major concerns is that of "setback distances." I am asking this committee to render the decision that the current setback from the property line at a distance of 1125' be maintained at this time. I am asking for the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources not to approve the Substitute House Bill 114 if it would mean the minimum setback distance is measured from my home rather than my property line. I am animatedly concerned for the safety, as well as the rights, of the non wind-lease holders to their property.

I again am asking for your attention and support to maintain our current setback distances at this time. Do NOT change the law and allow the distance to be measured from anything other than my property line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Dian West RN MBA". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

J. Dian West RN, MBA