

TESTIMONY OF KURT S. LEASE
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 writing you today to voice my opposition 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.

My wife and I reside on a 98-acre farm that has been in my family for over 100 years. Like many of our family members, friends, and neighbors; we have spent a lot of time, sweat, and money to make our personal property into the paradise we hope to spend the rest of our lives enjoying. By changing the minimum setback requirements for industrial wind turbines from the current distance of 1,125 feet FROM A PROPERTY LINE to the proposed distances of 1.2 times the height of the turbine from a property line or 1,225 feet FROM THE NEAREST INHABITED STRUCTURE, would certainly allow for the safety zone around an industrial wind turbine to overlap onto my personal property.

With everything in our world today, there are safety guidelines set forth by the manufacturer for the proper use of the products you purchase. When an APEX employee was asked at a local Seneca County Commissioner's meeting on April 25, 2018 what the installation manual stated for a safety area around an industrial wind turbine, as stated in the manual, his reply was "those are proprietary trade secrets". If the number in the manual was anywhere near the same as what is being proposed with the changes in Sub H.B. 114, why wouldn't the wind companies be willing to disclose that information?

In doing my own research I have found numerous videos and articles about the negative effects of living near an industrial wind turbine. The negatives include infrasound, shadow flicker, water table disruption, vibration, air turbulence, wake, electromagnetic, electrical and radio frequency interference. In Wisconsin, there are areas of the state that medivac helicopters won't go to due to industrial wind turbines making it unsafe for them to reach them areas. <http://betterplan.squarespace.com/todays-special/2008/12/24/122708-h-is-for-help-what-did-the-ems-helicopter-pilot-say-a.html>

While I'm currently waiting on an official statement from our local medivac providers, I have had a phone conversation with the director of training with St. Vincent / Life Flight in which he stated they are concerned with being able to access areas since over 25% of their calls are landing in rural areas.

I feel there should be more local control in the approval of such wind projects WITH AN OPTION FOR A LOCAL VOTE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE AFFECTED TOWNSHIP, RESIDENTS THAT RESIDE IN UNINCORPERATED AREAS. The rural non-participating landowners are being asked to possibly give up the safe use of their personal property when the setbacks are measured from their inhabited structure

rather than the property line, and that infringes on the landowners rights as described in the
CONSTITUTION of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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