

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
Senate Bill 234

Dear Chairman Wilson and Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

Please allow the citizens with the least to gain and the most to lose an opportunity to express their opinion on the matter of wind projects in their communities.

Seneca and surrounding counties have become the latest victims in Ohio of a flawed process for siting wind projects. The current process favors big wind corporations and those who would financially benefit. The citizens are otherwise left to live with the consequences of having these projects in their communities.

A home is a major investment for many individuals and to help protect these investments communities have established local zoning regulations and elected officials (Township Trustees and County Commissioners) to enforce these regulations. Ohio law does not allow our local zoning regulations to be considered when it comes to wind projects. What is the purpose of local zoning if it is going to be ignored by state agencies?

At the time of this letter, not only are a majority of the local citizens against the projects but all five of the townships affected by Republic Wind have passed resolutions in opposition, the Seneca County Commissioners have passed resolutions in opposition, the county has officially ended the alternative energy zone, and multiple county agencies and a school have expressed opposition to the project. Despite the people expressing their opinion on the matter through all these methods, why does the process still favor the wind companies and ignore the opinion of the people of Ohio?

The wind companies claim that wind energy and wind projects are "good for the area" and "wanted by residents" yet nearly all of the support for the project is from those who financially are benefiting or do not even live, work, raise children, or contribute to the area. If the claims of support are true, why do the wind companies and their lobbying organizations object to the local community voting on the matter?

Please allow the citizens of Ohio an opportunity to express their opinion on wind projects. Please allow these communities an opportunity to vote and approve or deny a project.

Sincerely,



Austin Caster  
7060 North Township Road 169  
Green Springs, OH 44836

January 21, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

I am writing you to get your support for Senate Bill SB234. I own a Garden center and Florist business in the Emerson creek project area. Two of the proposed windmills will be very close to the business and will have an impact on it. The process currently under way does not allow the local communities and residents to have a direct vote in determining what is placed in their direct areas.

Our voices have been muted and our rights have been diminished. The township Trustees can only recommend, the County Commissioners can only vote on the Pilot concerns and the OPSB is an unelected body who only views our area from a distance. This process is not Democratic it only seems to function for the Energy companies. We the people who live and work here are frustrated and angry. Please vote for Senate Bill SB 234 and help this process work for all involved.

Sincerely,



Daniel Riedy

January 20, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman  
Senator Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you because I am concerned about the Windmills that are being proposed to be put in our backyard. I am very concerned about this. I understand that we, as residents, are not able to have any say in this decision. This will have a great effect on us as landowners. I have lived in this area all of my life (77 years). We have 2 proposed windmills within 1/4 of a mile from my house. We started our family business, Russell's Farm Market in 1980, and it is still in business by our daughter and son-in-law. I feel that we deserve to have a voice in this decision. I am asking you as a board to vote for SB 234. Please give us a vote in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Russell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Janet Russell

January 19, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Dear Senator Wilson,

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill SB234. I am absolutely opposed to the windmills that are proposed for Erie County which is where I live. There are a number of reasons why I do not want them here but am very concerned about the Life Flight that fly through our area to the Toledo Hospital among others. I needed Life Flight during a previous pregnancy. Without this service, my daughter would not be here today. She needed to be flown to Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Because of Life Flight, my daughter will be turning seven years old next month. She is thriving because she was able to be flown to Cincinnati to receive the lifesaving medical treatment she needed. It was an hour and fifteen minute flight which would have taken us three and a half to four hours to drive. In medical emergencies, EVERY SECOND COUNTS!! Please sign this bill and allow us the opportunity to vote individually and let the people decide whether we want these windmills in our area.

Thank you for listening,



Karen Russell

January 21, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman  
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Dear Senator Wilson,

I am writing this letter to you because I am absolutely opposed to the windmills that are slated to be built in our county in Ohio. I live in Erie County and there are several proposed for our county and Huron County as well. We do not want them here for many reasons. I have talked to many people who feel the same way and I believe if we were afforded the right to vote on this Industrial Wind Farm project it would not be allowed to come into our area. I am asking you to give us that right to vote. Please support Senate Bill SB234!!

Sincerely,



Holly A. Shelly