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Attn: Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman, Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of the state of Ohio concerning the importance of local residents having a vote on items which will impact all of our living conditions in the area where we all live. I feel these wind farms are being shoved down our throats...they are sited where big government is not, people have to pay to defend themselves against their intrusion into their daily lives. These are huge monstrosities that big money wants to bring due to the leftover Obama era tax credits still available that should have been outlawed already. They are inefficient eyesores, cost millions to build, don't last very long, and leave the townships bankrupt when they fail.

My sister and her husband live in Huron county. If the turbines are built, she will be looking at one out her front picture window from the home she and her husband built in 1967 before they were married. Her property values will go down, houses will become vacant as people die off, no one will want to live in that line of fire. Please allow SB 234 to pass to allow these people to have a say in what goes on in these townships where they have made their homes for decades. Please do not allow the big money of the wind project to sway your opinion that you forget the people that you represent! How would you feel if it was in your own back or front yard?

I live in Berlin Heights, Erie County, Oh. I am married, three grown children, 64 yrs old. It has taken me all of 60 years to finally see bald eagles in Erie County. All the DDT when I was a child almost wiped them all out. I am finally seeing them locally! I am so afraid these huge wind turbines will kill these noble birds and other lesser birds. Again, please, allow SB 234 to pass to allow locals to vote on local issues. Thank you for your time. Sincerely,

Barbara A Ogden

11603 Bellamy Road
Berlin Heights OH 44814

Erie County, Berlin Heights Village

Attn: Senator Steve Wilson, Senate Energy and Public Utilities
Committee

I would ^{like} you to consider SB 234 to pass to allow local people to vote on what can happen in their communities. It isn't fair that the big wind turbines have such big money backing them that they can buy their way in to these rural towns and counties. The Ohio Power Siting Board gets to decide for the good of everyone and I don't trust people to make decisions for me and my family. Especially when none of those people live here. Please give us some hope to control our future.

Thank you

Donald P. Opfer

Donald P. Opfer

Berlin, OH Ohio

Erie County

Melissa Roeder

01/11/2020

As a citizen of the United States I have grown more appreciative of our republic and the freedoms that we, as citizens, get to enjoy. Over the years, as I age, I understand how important it is to stand for what you believe in, to have a voice and advocate for yourself and your community. It is unbelievable that the local residents of Huron County do not even have a voice in the wind turbine project. I am disappointed that voting for the people we feel best represent us in how we think and feel in our community have failed us by not allowing a local vote on the wind turbine project. **No local vote by Ohio Law!** For information to consider, we have Bald Eagles perching in the trees that surround the proposed sites of wind turbine project. On a personal note, the wind turbines would be in direct eyesight from our front porch. It is appalling that a project is being greenlighted in Huron County without our local consideration. A vote to determine the local majority needs to be established. It is the American way and the way that our forefathers constructed. Majority should rule and the way to determine majority is establishing a local vote.

Melissa Roeder

4320 Meade Rd
 Monroeville, Ohio
 Lyme Township
 Huron County

201

JUDI BOLLENBACHER

3131 TOWNLINE ROAD 32
MONROEVILLE OH 44847
419-681-0587

January 18, 2020
Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman

Dear Senator,

I am a resident/home owner/ landowner in Lyme township in Monroeville, OH; Huron County. I am writing to inform you that I do NOT want wind turbines in our area. I believe all residents need to have a voice in the landscape of their area. Please Pass HB 401 (Reineke Referendum) and SB 234 so that all affected may have a voice; not just the few landowners, many which do not reside in the area being affected.

Thank you,

 1-18-2020
Judith G Bollenbacher

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ANNE SOUTHWORTH, ESQ.

4141 WILLIAMS ROAD
MONROEVILLE, OH 44847

January 18, 2019

Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, First Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Senate Bill 234

Dear Mr. Wilson:

A referendum is the only chance for residents to counter Apex's power.

I am in total support of SB234. I know what it's like to have a project developed in secrecy appear in my neighborhood with absolutely no input from residents. Big Wind blew in, signed up lessors, swore them to secrecy and did not hold a public meeting for ten years. They only held a meeting then because it was required in order to file their application with the power siting board. Although it was entitled a "public meeting" it was a "here's what we're going to do meeting."

You live in a small town/rural area as I do, and I think you can imagine the impact of an industrial wind farm towering over your neighborhood, sinking 30 x30 x10 concrete pads into prime farmland, and reconfiguring country intersections for the huge trucks that bring in huge 655' turbines. Of course Apex says it's going to return the intersections to original condition, and if you believe that, I've got a bridge to interest you in.

My great-great grandfather came to Lyme Township in the 1830s. While Apex was signing up lessors in secrecy, I bought back two acres of the ancestral land and built a new house, not knowing that four or five turbines would be less than a quarter mile away.

I suppose that some people dismiss our opposition by calling us NIMBYs. This is not a back yard project no matter how its viewed. This is an industrial wind farm overlaying a rural/residential area. The project runs through our historical Firelands counties like a long bowling alley. I can't believe that Apex isn't able to find a big rectangle of vacant land to hold a wind farm. Of course, were it not for tax breaks and subsidies, Apex wouldn't exist at all.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Anne Southworth

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To: Senator Steve Wilson, Chairman

January 15, 2020

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee

Re: SB 234

Senator Wilson:

Remember, if you will, times that you spent with your grandparents, especially, your grandfather. He was the patriarch, the one to whom you turned for learning the essentials of life. Visiting his home was special. Thanksgiving was the most relevant time as he sat in the chair at the head of the table and carved the turkey. And, after dinner, he relaxed in the big comfortable chair that no one sat in because it was Grampas's chair. His home, his chair at the table, the carving knife, the easy chair. So special, because they were his PLACE.

You, too, now as a patriarch of your own family, own the home to which you return each night. It is your PLACE. And, you will protect it with all the power you have.

I live in a recycled barn that was built in 1863, and is located in Sherman Township, Huron County. My husband and I (both of us college professors) sold our home in Sandusky, bought two acres in Huron County on which sat an old barn, and, with blood, sweat, toil, dirt, aching muscles, and every dime we had, recycled the barn into a home, and worked the former clover field into our homestead. We sat in the lawn swing and considered the beauty, the tranquility, the history, and the environment in which we retired to be where we wanted to spend the rest of our lives. It was, and is, our PLACE. We paid for it.

Unlike you, I cannot defend our PLACE, because Apex stepped into the world of Sherman Township, Huron County, and decided it was going to erect 88, 655 ft wind turbines in and about all over our townships and counties... like an apopleptic string of Christmas tree lights! And, we, and all of our neighbors in Seneca, Erie, and Huron counties are at their mercy. We know little particulars, other than that several of our neighbors, secretly, agreed with Apex that they would destroy our PLACES, so they might earn enough money to help pay their farm bills. The rest of us have no recourse but to have our lands desecrated, our roads destroyed, our peace and quiet destroyed, our eagles and vultures eliminated, and, when, sitting in our lawn swings, or gazing out of our front and back windows, see huge wind turbines rather than the clouds we have looked at for years. Sen. Wilson. Only two buildings in Cleveland, in all of Ohio, are as tall as or taller than these turbines.

My husband and I bought our land and barn 28 years ago, but the majority of people who live in the counties have lived for generations on the same land. Farmed the land. Provided food. Produced cattle that produced milk. Many of the home owners are senior citizens (as I am, my husband died in 2017). Their generations of people who settled this part of the FIRELANDS, built these counties, and are buried in this historic land.

ALL OF THIS WILL BE GONE. RUINED. DESTROYED if Apex is allowed to construct these metal monstrosities that will ruin our environment, and, lower the property values of our

homes and properties, just so some greedy few will have money to help pay their farm bills.
Sen. Wilson....NO ONE is available to help the remaining people take care of their properties.

Sen. Wilson. I am not angry. I am furious!!!! Furious that our area will be invaded, and that we are at the mercy of people sitting in comfortable chairs deciding whether or not we have a right to our destiny! How can there be an unbiased vote when the senators have not been here, talked to the residents, or who have not read the imploring letters, and dismissed us as nay-sayers afraid of progress?

You hold the future of our future in your hands. Senate Bill 234 has to be passed. You, and all the people who sit far away in Columbus and talk about and discuss whether Apex should be allowed to desecrate these sacred lands of the FIRELANDS. Should the effort be made to build these monstrosities near your neighborhood or near the neighborhoods of the people who will vote on this bill, you all would shout and fight and say, NO, NOT IN MY BACK YARD! Envision your area with dozens of these towers. These towers will go through our three-county area, not around it!

Sen. Wilson. I am not opposed to an industrial wind farm located far away from inhabited areas, but Apex's plan is to build an industrial wind farm planted here and there, winding in and out between barns, farms, and woods. That makes absolutely no sense, and I cannot comprehend how men and women who serve as our state representatives cannot see how destructive this project is. It's not in their back yards, so it must be easy to not pass the bill.

Sen. Wilson. This Is OUR BACK YARD!!! People who sit in the chairs with you took oaths to protect the rights and welfare of the people in your counties. How in the world is NOT allowing us to have a right to vote against this travesty protecting and looking after our welfare? I sat in the gallery last year and watched the people of the House deciding to voting on the HB6. People strolled around chatting, left the room, returned, and plopped in their chairs. Many read their cell phones while floor discussions occurred, and paid absolutely no attention to the process. And, I presume, Sen. Wilson, behavior is no different in the Senate. OMG! I don't people like this voting on life-changing situations! It is NOT THEIR BACK YARDS. But, IT IS OUR BACK YARDS, our PLACE, and we deserve all the attention and service of our elected officials, and we deserve the right to vote whether we want these turbines in our counties!

Please understand what I have told you. HB 234 MUST be passed, otherwise, it seems the leaders of our State Government care more about interloping businesses and money. This is an issue of integrity. And, it's up to you to protect Ohio home owners. I, like so many of the folks who are active in stopping this project, have little or no faith in my State and Federal governments. Should this bill not pass, and, we are not allowed to vote on this project, it will probably cement the negative attitudes, and, that is sad, indeed. Our PLACE will be gone.

Very truly yours,



Patricia M. Olsen, Ph.D
6700 St. Rt. 547
Bellevue, Ohio 44811