

February 9, 2020

Senator Steve Wilson, Chair
Energy and Public Utilities Committee
The Ohio Senate
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Wilson,

Hello, Senator Chairman Mr. Wilson and members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee. Thank you for allowing me to appear today to voice my opponent testimony on Senate Bill 234.

My name is Deb Fritz. My husband and I are landowners in Norwich township of Huron County.

We want to paint the big picture for everyone to understand wind power in our rural community.

Passing this township referendum is a slippery slope to let someone vote on our land rights and change our way of life. Will you let us vote on how all our neighbors use their land? We have the right to use our land as we see fit. No one else can tell us what we can have built on our land. We pay taxes on our land to have the right to do what we see fit. What is next? Will these fine citizens issue a referendum for monster grain elevators and monster grain bins, or animal facilities we can spot on all our land? Just imagine the possibilities that can be put up to a vote. What a slippery slope!

As we age, we do not like change either, but we can not repeat the same mistakes. The wind is here to farm. Our rural community can prosper, the schools, the libraries, the senior enrichment facilities, the counties can fix bridges, the townships can use that money for everyone.

WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT WIND. We normally do not like to express our opinion. We are forced to open your eyes and ears to listen and understand. My children are proud of our heritage. They enjoy our journey with wind. GO MOM. GO DAD. GO WIND. This referendum you intend to pass is a slippery, slippery slope on our community, property rights and our way of life. Apparently, our passion has raised eyebrows. A coincidentally event happened when our property was projected a site for a wind turbine. Our mailbox was smashed. Bags of garbage, car tires and even a couch was dumped on our property. If these fine citizens truly care about our neighborhood, they would quit littering and spend a couple of times a year picking up after everybody. Get your head out of the clouds and look at the ground once and awhile. Do you want to give these fine citizens the right to vote on what I do on my property?

Furthermore, we drive around our township to the fine unincorporated community of Centerton, where numerous condemned buildings, junk vehicles are setting around and other numerous eyesores. And you want these fine people to vote what I do on my property. Do we get to vote on this lifestyle? Truly a slippery slope!

We also have fine neighbors who have a salvage yard in their front yard. Do we get to vote on their lifestyle? Truly a slippery slope!

Another fine neighbor has a truck depot across from my front yard that I look at every time we walk in our front yard. Starting at all hours of

the day and night we can hear loud noise, clanging, banging and loud exhaust. Do we get to vote on their lifestyle? Truly a slippery slope!

We have another fine neighbor that has outbuildings that are falling down and in total disarray. Every time, the wind blows we pick up parts of their buildings in our field. The house has boarded up windows and should be condemned. Do we get to vote on their lifestyle? Truly a slippery slope. So, you see looking around the township, property values are not declining because of projected wind turbines but of our fine neighbors' lifestyles. This is truly a slippery slope.

Why are we picking on wind? We are placing roadblocks for other businesses to consider investments in our great state of OHIO.

Who is the Ohio Power Sitting Board? They were established for a reason. Aren't they all qualified to determine if a wind farm could be developed? Don't they have regulations and standards that they must follow? So, why add another step to this process?

Once you empower people to inflict their will on others a Pandora's Box is opened; never to be closed again. Truly a slippery, slippery slope!

In closing, we would highly recommend everyone to write a letter to your grandchildren, and future great grandchildren and future great, great grandchildren and let them know how you felt today and apology to them that you can't embrace change! Let them know that due to others within their township, possibly their neighbors' ancestors, allowed their emotions to get involved and not allow the area to be developed by wind. Let them know that the reason the roads and infrastructure within their township is failing is due to those individuals who were just scared and didn't like change. Let them know that their schools are failing financially because of the fear of the unknown. We must embrace change and we must welcome any and all development

that would increase the revenue within our communities. We encourage you to vote NO on Senate Bill 234.

Thank you for listening today and allowing me to testify.

Respectfully,

Deb Fritz

Cc: Members of the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee