

9 Feb 2020

TO: Ohio Senate, Energy and Public Utility Subcommittee

FROM: Roger & Kathryn Walters, 6556 N. SR 18, Clyde 43410. 419-937-8577. Rkwalters76@yahoo.com.

RE: HB 401 (SB 234), the Anti-Wind Bill.

For full disclosure, I have land leased to Apex, but would not had have had the opportunity to have a wind turbine located on this land in any case.

To put it bluntly, I am steamed about this process. The anti-wind folks have used fear, intimidation, and harassment in an effort to wipe out this wind project. They are rabid. They spread half truths and innuendo. Their speils are in some cases far too technical to be their own. They have commandeered township trusteeships and county commissions. Some of the responses to pro wind editorials come from half way around the world. Unbelievable. I firmly believe that this anti-wind effort has deep roots, deep pockets, and begins in far away places.

There are fewer farmers as farms get bigger. And there are more of the anti's as they move to the country. The pro wind people are simply outnumbered. IT IS NOT A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD. How about voting based on source of tax revenue (from farm land)? How about consideration for the revenue that will recycle itself through our communities as a result of the wind projects? How about consideration for the rights of landowners? Our farm has been in the family for over 100 years. So whose rights are violated. How about consideration for increasing the diversity of types of energy sources available?

We have been to the Van Wert-Paulding County area to see wind farms. If I am looking for ugly things that I don't want to look at, turbines would be far down my list. Standing right under a turbine, the 'whoosh' is barely noticeable. To be fair, we were unable to hear the noise made when the turbine turns or brakes its rotors. Property values were of no concern to those we talked to. The farmers auger 1500 ft away made much more noise, as did the trucks 2 miles away. Shadow flicker? I haven't noticed any yellow sign homes with yards full of tree stumps because they have become aware of 'shadow flicker'. Birds also succumb to cell towers, vehicles, electrical wires and vehicles. We saw no dead animals under that tower.

Alternative forms of renewable energy are important, as is the revenue which would result.

Why should the wind industry have to withstand regulatory headwinds that all industries do not?

What good is the OPSB if legislators can be pressured into doing what amounts to overturning their decisions?

And lastly, what country do I live in? We aren't a socialist country.....yet. How about the rights of the property owners who want to participate in a wind project?

Please have the fortitude to vote against HB401/SB224.

Thank you.