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**Comments with attachments
to the Wind Energy Resource
Zone Board at it's Public
Hearing held on August 24,
2009 in Bad Axe, MI**

**By: Valerie McCallum
6064 Dufty Road
Caseville, MI 48725
(989) 856-7485**

Comments to the Wind Energy Resource Zone Board, August 24, 2009

I am the Clerk of Lake Township. I am here to speak from the perspective of a public official.

Lake Township does not have any wind farm yet. However, the anticipation of a commercial wind energy development within our township has ruptured our community into two factions, creating divisions not only at the Township meetings, but between neighbors, friends and families. This same division has happened in communities across the country and is occurring simultaneously in other Michigan communities.

The Lake Township Planning Commission has been ridiculed by one side for taking its time and doing the research and praised by the other side, only to be sideswiped by the political machine of the Township Board after two years of work and a wind ordinance that would protect the health and safety of the people of Lake Township.

We are all familiar with the saying, "politics corrupts". After serving for ten years on the Lake Township Planning Commission and nine years as Township Clerk, I have seen the worst side of politics in the last year.

Your job today is to listen to public comments on your proposal to designate this area as a suitable wind energy zone for the State of Michigan

Huron County has 93 miles of shoreline. Based upon recommendations of the Great Lakes Region of the USFWS, commercial wind turbines should not be located within 3 miles of a Great Lakes shoreline. On what basis did your Board arrive at a one mile buffer?

Your report, on pg. 61, states:

"The amount of land zoned as residential in the identified regions is unknown and gathering such information is beyond the scope of this analysis."

The rural/agricultural area of Huron County has varied uses with numerous residential homesteads which makes commercial scale wind development impossible to achieve without impacting our residents health, safety, property values and quality of life. These wind farms are industrial machines and they are being located haphazardly next to residential dwellings. This goes against common zoning protocol of separating incompatible land uses.

On pg. 50 your report states:

"The board also found that there is the potential for wind energy to be a commercial source of generation in the state, and particularly in these regions. The board's assessment does not consider, however, site-specific issues that may affect the viability of any particular location to support the commercial wind systems. For example, local zoning, social factors (such as public acceptance) or site-specific environmental features could prohibit wind energy development or make it uneconomical or infeasible to site turbines in any particular area."

As to local zoning, townships and county governments do not have the expertise or the financial resources themselves, nor the political will to require the developers to pay for independent qualified experts to conduct studies necessary to ensure appropriate and adequate zoning regulations. And in the case of Lake Township, when our Planning Commission spent two years doing their own research based upon existing information to create a wind ordinance specific to Lake Township and its natural features and existing development, they were attacked by DTE for not being conducive to wind energy development and the Planning Commission has been requested by the Township Board, two members of which have a financial interest in the development of wind energy within the Township, to rewrite the ordinance with the assistance of DTE, the wind energy developer. This flies in the face of common sense and rational prudence and

reeks of impropriety – or put more simply – it's letting the fox guard the hen house.

Your report also mentions social factors such as public acceptance. What about public health? We only have to look at our neighbors in Ubley and Elkton to know that what has been done in Michigan Wind I and Harvest Wind was done wrong. There are problems that are not going to go away. There are people suffering who will continue to suffer as long as the turbines keep turning. What if it was your family suffering? What if it was your home, your life investment?

The Michigan Public Service Commission should not be designating wind energy zones when problems are already apparent and studies need to be done, **especially human health and impact studies.** Otherwise, the Public Service Commission is putting the cart before the horse.

Don't let the foolishness of Lansing's politics tear apart our communities, harm the health of our residents and destroy the value of our properties by foregoing long term planning.

The recommendation of a wind energy zone by this Board, based upon the lack of information obtained for your own analysis and report and the obvious problems within our two existing wind farms, is unconscionable.

Valerie McCallum
Lake Township Clerk
Huron County, Michigan
6064 Dufty Road
Caseville MI 48725

Hartsell to serve on Lake Township Planning Commission

By Kate Hessling, Tribune Staff Writer

Published: Thursday, December 18, 2008 11:24 AM EST

LAKE TOWNSHIP — During the new township administration's first regular board meeting this week, officials made some changes to the local planning commission.

The board voted to appoint Trustee Dale Hartsell to the Lake Township Planning Commission, a seat formerly held by Lake Township Clerk Valerie J. McCallum, and have Trustee Robert Hyzer keep his seat on the Lake Township Zoning Board of Appeals.

"We wanted the planning commission to go in a different direction," said Lake Township Supervisor R. T. Smith to the more than 30 residents in attendance at the meeting.

Planning Commission Chairman Louis J. Colletta asked if change was needed, then why wasn't Hyzer removed from the zoning board of appeals.

"Why is only one half changed?" Colletta asked.

Smith replied, with a "new board (comes) new changes." While he went on to conduct other business, many of those in attendance during Monday's meeting would not let the matter drop.

"To replace her at this point is a bit irresponsible," said Tim Lalley, Lake Township Planning Commission member. Lalley said the planning commission has been working on a wind ordinance that's very close to being finished. He asked the board to consider keeping McCallum on the board until the wind ordinance is complete and ready to be presented to the township board for adoption.

Lake Township resident Bill Osborne, who was appointed to the Board of Review during the meeting, said Hartsell, who once chaired the Caseville Planning Commission, has the experience and knowledge to serve on the township's planning commission.

"I can't see any reason why he shouldn't be on the board," he said, adding it might be a good idea for the township to keep McCallum on the board in an advisory position with no voting power until the wind ordinance is completed.

One resident asked if it was possible to poll the audience about the matter, while others asked if the board could rescind its motion to remove McCallum from the planning commission.

Smith said it wouldn't be a good idea to rescind the motion and the board was going to stick by its decision.

"It's the end of it," he said.

When asked how he felt everything went after the meeting was adjourned, Hartsell said he thinks he will be an asset to the planning commission.

"We're just trying to move forward and do the right thing," he said.

Also during the meeting, the township board discussed the termination of Lake Township Zoning Administrator Arnold Russell. The basis for that termination was because some on the board said Russell can't read blue prints; it takes too long to get building permits; and the planning commission is doing the majority of Russell's work.

"When the planning commission does half of (Russell's) job, there's a problem," said Lake Township Treasurer Dorothy Fischer.

However, many in the audience refuted the point that it takes a long time to get permits, and some — including McCallum — were concerned of a possible lawsuit if the board fired Russell for taking some work to the planning commission because Russell was doing that per a township ordinance.

"To fire (Russell) for doing his job is opening the township up to litigation," McCallum said.

The board decided to table the matter until a later time.

"We'll leave it until we change the ordinance," Fischer said.

In other business during the meeting, the board:

- Discussed access to files in the township hall. Some files are locked because they're supposed to only be accessible to authorized persons, said McCallum and Deputy Clerk Kathleen Bolton;

- Voted to purchase two fireproof filing cabinets at a combined cost of \$5,300;
- Adopted a hazardous material ordinance recommended by the Caseville Area Fire Protection Association (CAFPA);
- Approved the payment of bills in the amount of \$9,216.49.

The board's next regular meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19 at the Lake Township Hall.

Kate Hessling • (989) 269-6461 • khessling@hearstnp.com

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Lake Twp talks wind

Smith wants ordinance draft ready for May public hearing

By Kate Hessling, Tribune Staff Writer

Published: Wednesday, February 18, 2009 1:04 PM EST

LAKE TOWNSHIP — Officials said Tuesday there should be a public hearing regarding the township's drafted wind ordinance sometime in May.

The discussion was held during the Lake Township Board's budget workshop held Tuesday, which was a continuation of the board's Monday meeting. Monday's heated meeting was adjourned after Supervisor Robert T. Smith said he wanted more time to review the prepared worksheet.

While Monday's meeting was filled with outbursts and much disorder, Tuesday's meeting went smoothly, with officials cooperating to hash out a proposed 2009-10 budget.

The planning commission's May deadline to have a public hearing to review the proposed ordinance was discussed while the board was working on the planning commission's budget.

At that time, Smith said he wanted to decrease the \$2,000 allocation for legal fees.

The reason for that, he said, is because he doesn't think it's right for one board to have that much money to spend with no further approval from the township board.

In addition to the legal fees, the planning commission has a \$2,000 allocation for consulting fees.

Planning Commission Chairman Louis Colletta said the funding is necessary as the board has spent more than a year conducting research and crafting an ordinance for wind turbines in the township. He said the consulting has been vital to research efforts, and the lawyer fees have been crucial in order for the township to have the best attorney-approved ordinance.

"This windmill thing ... is the biggest thing we've ever done," Colletta said. "... We're going to have to make sure we have an ordinance that's done correctly."

Lake Township adopted a one-year moratorium on wind energy development in March 2008, so the planning commission would have time to study issues dealing with siting, noise effects, health concerns, possible property value decreases and other problems the board fears could arise if not properly addressed in a township ordinance the planning commission has been creating.

Colletta said much progress has been made on the creation of a township wind ordinance.

"The way it's going now, I should have something by May," he said.

Township Clerk Valerie McCallum noted the planning commission has never abused the way the board spent legal and consulting fees in the past. According to a workshop she prepared, the planning commission spent \$1,000 in consulting fees between April 2008 and February 2009. The board didn't spend any of the budgeted consulting fees between April 2007 and March 2008.

Regarding legal fees, the board spent \$775 between April 2007 and March 2008, and \$500 in legal fees between April 2008 and February 2009.

Because the wind ordinance currently is in the stages of being reviewed by an attorney — and more review is necessary within the next few months — McCallum

stressed, now more than ever, it's important the planning commission have funding for legal and consulting fees budgeted for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Smith was agreeable to budgeting the legal and consulting funding at the same levels as years past. However, he noted he wants to see a drafted ordinance this spring.

Colletta said before the planning commission can present the township board with a drafted ordinance, a public hearing has to be held for public input. He said it is foolish to have the public hearing in early spring because many residents don't return to the area until the summer.

That is why, Colletta said, it was his intention to request a three-month extension on the wind turbine moratorium, which ends March 31.

"I personally think you're going to have a tough time getting an extension," Smith said.

Instead, the planning commission needs to have the ordinance ready for a public hearing in May, he said.

"It's getting to the point where something's got to happen," Smith said, adding if a hearing is not held in May, the township board "will start looking" at other avenues to take regarding this issue.

At first, Smith wanted something ready for the township board to vote on by the board's May meeting. However, both Colletta and McCallum said that would not be possible as there has to be time for a public hearing, then more time for the drafted ordinance to be approved by the Huron County Planning Commission and then Huron County Board of Commissioners.

Smith asked why it's necessary to have the ordinance go through the county, and Colletta replied that it's a courtesy and point of formality.

Huron County Commissioner Steve Vaughan told Smith it will take at least four to six weeks for the ordinance to go through the county's building and zoning department.

"If it's not sent to the county, it will not be approved," he said during Tuesday's Lake Township board meeting.

"At some point, you want the county to scratch your back too ... and you'll want to keep us informed," added Huron County Commissioner Kurt Damrow.

When asked Wednesday morning to confirm the above information, Russ Lundberg, Huron County Building and Zoning director, said state law requires township planning commissions that have drafted a new zoning ordinance/amendment to hold a public hearing. Then, the township planning commission makes a recommendation to adopt the ordinance, and that recommendation and other pertinent information goes to the county planning commission for review and comment.

"It's a cursory review," Lundberg said. " ... Say the county disagrees with something in the ordinance, the county does not approve or disapprove of the ordinance, (county planning commissioners) comment only."

Once the county planning commission has reviewed the ordinance, it goes back to the township for the board of trustees approval, he said.

Because the county planning commission meets once a month, Lundberg said it takes about one month for the county planning commission to review and comment on submitted township ordinances/amendments.

"It doesn't take long to review it," he said. " ... If (Lake Township) has a public hearing in March, we could have an answer April 1."

Lundberg stressed a township zoning amendment/ordinance, such as Lake Township's wind ordinance, does not go to the county board of commissioners for approval.

"It's also a fallacy that the county planning commission has any power to change or approve a township planning commission recommendation," he added.

Local Wind Overview

- Lake Township ranks 70th for wind development in Michigan.
- If a wind zoning ordinance were in place, Lake Township would rank 45th (because townships with zoning ordinances are easier to develop than communities with no zoning guidelines).
- Lake Township ranks 28th in the state for acres of agricultural land swept by class 3 or above wind.
- Lake Township's coastal zone is not currently feasible for wind development.

Information compiled by Michigan State University's Land Policy Institute

Were they blown away?*Lake Township presents wind ordinance draft***By Kate Hessling, Tribune Staff Writer**

Published: Friday, April 24, 2009 10:48 AM EDT

LAKE TWP — A drafted wind ordinance that's been in the works for more than a year was unveiled Wednesday during a local planning board meeting.

But whether all provisions included in the draft will be adopted remains to be seen, as some of the conditions in the proposed ordinance may be interpreted as too restrictive.

"We are disappointed with what we heard at the Lake Township Planning Commission meeting regarding the draft wind turbine zoning ordinance," said Matt Wagner, DTE Energy wind site development manager, in an e-mail Friday morning. "While we haven't had the opportunity to review the document in its entirety, it appears that the draft ordinance would make it difficult — if not impossible — to site commercial wind turbines anywhere in the township."

DTE Energy representatives weren't the only ones to walk away from Wednesday's planning board meeting with those sentiments.

"As I understand it ... it's an anti-wind ordinance and it's overly restrictive," said Russ Lundberg, Huron County Building and Zoning director, in an interview Thursday.

Lundberg explained he looks at wind zoning from a farmland preservation point of view, which is the basis of the county's wind zoning ordinance.

"We don't want to put wind turbines in locations that aren't going to preserve the agricultural heritage of Huron County," he said.

Lundberg said he's made recommendations in the past that Lake Township (A) adopt a wind overlay ordinance allowing wind developments by agricultural land in the township's southeast corner, and (B) adopt standards similar to those in the county's ordinance that would be consistent with standards adopted by neighboring township.

By doing so, turbines would be sited away from natural preserves and the township's shoreline, and in agricultural areas near other townships, Lundberg said.

The case for consistency

Using standards similar to the county's and nearby townships creates a coordinated planning approach for wind farms because standards would be consistent from one township to another (and a wind farm then could be constructed in an agricultural area encapsulating more than one township), he explained.

There already are standards in place in the townships surrounding Lake Township that make such a coordinated planning approach feasible, Lundberg

noted.

To the south is Chandler Township, which adopted the county's standards (with the exception of a setback from residential structures that is 1,320-foot minimum, rather than the county's 1,000-foot standard).

Hume Township, which is to the east of Lake Township, is county-zoned.

And while Mead Township has its own wind zoning standards, it is Lundberg's understanding that the provisions included in Mead's ordinance are compatible with the county's standards (and hence also with Hume and Chandler's restrictions).

But the provisions included in the draft ordinance presented during Wednesday's Lake Township Planning Board are no where near compatible with the standards in place in nearby areas, Lundberg said.

"The standards utilized in (Lake Township's) draft are much more restrictive," he said. "It (the ordinance) eliminates any area in Lake Township to have any semblance of a wind farm that we see elsewhere."

The call for revisions

"I don't want to sound like I'm being critical of Lake Township, it's just that from what I've seen, the standards are the same across the township — whether it's a residential zone or an agricultural zone," Lundberg said. "And from an agricultural preservation (point of view), it doesn't make any sense."

Some Lake Township officials, including Supervisor Robert T. Smith, also felt the proposed ordinance is too restrictive.

"Basically what I think is, 65 to 70 percent of it is great ... 30 percent of it is too restrictive," Smith said. "... It needs some work, and I'd rather they do the work now, before it comes back to the (township) board."

No adoption any time soon

Before the proposed ordinance can be sent to the Lake Township Board for adoption, a public hearing has to be held and the Lake Township Planning Board has to make a final recommendation.

Once that recommendation is made, the proposed ordinance has to be forwarded to the Huron County Planning Commission for review and comment, which is then forwarded to the Lake Township Board for adoption.

While Smith set a May deadline for a public hearing to be held regarding the proposed wind ordinance, he said a hearing likely will not take place until July.

The reason for the possible time extension is more revisions have to be made, though Smith said he feels the public hearing will be the catalyst for changing many of the provisions that may be considered too restrictive.

"The public hearing will take care of a lot of it," he said. "The public will let them know what they think is too restrictive."

In the meantime, Smith said he's going to send the proposed ordinance to the

township attorney for review.

Prior counsel endorses restrictive ordinance

Lake Township's proposed ordinance already has been reviewed by two other attorneys, first by Glenn M. Stoddard, of Eau Claire, Wis., and most recently, by Susan Topp, of Gaylord.

Both attorneys noted the proposed ordinance were quite restrictive. However, each added they believe having such a restrictive ordinance is generally a good thing because there have been many problems when commercial wind turbines have been sited too close to homes, roads, nearby property lines, businesses and sensitive environmental areas.

While the two proposed drafts, which were obtained by the Huron Daily Tribune Thursday through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, are quite similar, there are some differences.

One of the most notable differences between the two drafts is height restrictions, which vary from 275 feet in the draft reviewed Dec. 10, 2008 by Stoddard, and 175 feet in the draft Topp highlighted during Wednesday's planning board meeting.

In a Dec. 10, 2008 written review, which the Tribune obtained Thursday through a FOIA request, Stoddard recommends the township increase the height restriction to 300 feet, because "275 feet is low for today's large WT's (wind turbines)."

"This could be challenged as exclusionary zoning or regulation," Stoddard writes. "I think 300 feet is more reasonable and, thus, less likely to be challenged."

During Wednesday's planning board meeting, Topp said a height restriction of 175 feet is more than reasonable, considering wind speeds are greater near the shoreline and, because of that, turbines don't have to be as tall as they do inland to capture wind speeds.

Topp also cited a U.S. District Court ruling that upheld a 30-foot turbine height maximum in Bay Township because, "communities frequently regulate height limitations, such as for advertising billboards, to preserve aesthetics and protect the community's general welfare."

In that case, Topp said, the court also found the township desired to preserve and protect tourism and property values, which are legitimate matters of governmental regulation.

Planning board defends draft

Following the presentation of the proposed wind ordinance, there were some questions as to the legitimacy of legal counsel provided, as well as to the previous studies and current guidelines Lake Township used to formulate the draft.

Board members stressed they spent more than a year researching issues to prevent problems arising from noise disturbances, shadow flickering and decreased property values.

In regard to any changing guidelines — particularly those by the U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service (USFWS), which both officials from DTE Energy and Topp said currently are being revised — the board said the ordinance was crafted with the information that was available at the time board members were conducting the year-long research efforts.

“How are we supposed to create an ordinance out of something we don’t know?” Planning Board member Tim Lalley said in response to a question about the relevance of the current USFWS guidelines that currently are being revised.

On Thursday, Louis Colletta, Lake Township Planning Board chairman, said while it’s not possible to know what kinds of state and/or federal guidelines may exist in the future, it’s important to be prepared in the form of having an ordinance that can prevent problems from arising in the future.

“What we’re trying to do is take a proactive stance, if you will,” he said.

Colletta said there may be some revisions made to the draft, depending on public input that’s received at a future public hearing.

“That’s what the public hearing is all about – to see what the public views are,” he said. “Last night, the only questions (from the public) were directed to the lawyer who helped put the ordinance together. Now we’d like to hear from the people.”

Wind draft fuels mixed reactions

By Kate Hessling, Tribune Staff Writer

Published: Thursday, June 25, 2009 10:44 AM EDT

LAKE TWP — While some expressed support for the Lake Township Planning Board's wind ordinance draft discussed during a public hearing Wednesday, others felt the proposed regulations are too restrictive.

"It boils down to no turbines in Lake Township," said Lake Township resident Mark Krebs.

Many of those who opposed the draft because the proposed ordinance makes it impossible for any sort of wind development to be constructed in the township. These people favored a less-restrictive ordinance that would allow wind developments while at the same time protecting area residents from problems caused by turbine noise or shadow flicker.

Others supported the draft because it is so restrictive.

"Lake Township needs to be protected," said Lake Township resident Charlie Henry. "... I'm in favor of the ordinance ... and I would like to see it supported."

Numerous public comment was given during the planning board's more than three-hour long public hearing.

The board, however, would not let anyone give comment in regard to the economic impacts the turbines will have for Lake Township, including local farmers and other landowners who have land easements with DTE Energy for a potential wind park.

DTE: Draft is unreasonable

Representatives from DTE Energy had asked to give a presentation regarding their take on the proposed ordinance, but that request was denied. Instead, company officials were given five minutes to speak, just like any one else who wanted to speak during Wednesday's public hearing.

In their brief addresses, representatives noted the draft ordinance has many unreasonable provisions within it, and wind developers will not want to be subject to the unreasonable provisions.

Some of the provisions DTE Energy took exception to include the ordinance's complaint provisions, which allow not just residents of Lake Township to complain, but anybody within the country, and the ordinance states it is the township's presumption that a claim is valid.

Also, the ordinance states fines are doubled each day, so after 12 days, a fine could be as much as \$3 million. The problem with this provision is some problems cannot be fixed immediately because it's virtually impossible to mobilize and erect a crane to make major repairs in less than three weeks, according to a document outlining DTE Energy's concerns, which was distributed to the board and then those in attendance following the meeting's adjournment.

DTE Energy also was concerned that agricultural zoned land in six different sections in the township are excluded from being able to host wind turbines, even if they meet the eventual setback criteria of the final ordinance and have concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

"To summarily prohibit the landowners in sections 33, 32 and 31 from making their own decisions on hosting or building wind turbines is unfair, and will put them at an economic disadvantage compared to farmers elsewhere in Lake Township and Huron County," DTE Energy's documents state, particularly in comparing the restrictions the draft imposes in Lake Township, compared to restrictions in neighboring Chandler Township.

Regarding the ordinance's reliance on the 2003 USFWS interim guidelines, DTE Energy reported there are new guidelines currently being drafted, and the 2003 guidelines state conducting appropriate wildlife surveys is the best way to determine where, what and how wind turbines can be built and operated.

Also, the ordinance states turbines will not be allowed within 5 miles of bald eagle nests, of which there are two in Lake Township. But an expert who has been studying area wildlife for the past two years reported Wednesday there is no evidence of bald eagle nests in Lake Township. He said he contacted USFWS to get the location of the two the agency previously reported to Lake Township, and USFWS had nothing to verify the existence of two bald eagles nests in Lake Township.

Regarding the ordinance's noise requirements, an acoustics engineer contracted by Lake Township reported the draft ordinance's noise regulations are not based on science, and will not address the issue of low frequency problems caused by turbines that the draft was intended to avoid.

The ordinance's height restrictions for turbines also is too restrictive, DTE Energy stated. That is because a 175 foot turbine will have a capacity of about 0.1 megawatts (MW), which is 5 percent of that of a 2 MW commercial turbine. Because shorter turbines have less wind speed and smaller blades, its energy output is only 3 percent of the taller 2 MW turbine. It takes 33 175-foot turbines to generate the energy produced by one commercial sized turbines.

"It would require over 1,100 175-foot turbines to get the same energy as a 35 commercial turbine wind farm," DTE Energy reported.

DTE Energy asked the township board to establish a wind task force, with balanced representation of the shoreline and agricultural interests, including those interested in wind energy development, to formulate a new ordinance that balances the shoreline and agricultural heritages, while allowing for responsible, commercial wind development.

Key reasons to rewrite the draft, which were cited in DTE Energy's written comments distributed Wednesday, include:

- Prohibiting commercial wind development in Lake Township eliminates a tremendous opportunity to generate taxes and revenues that can benefit Lake Township.

- The current draft has unreasonable financial and operating requirements that would prevent a potential wind developer from getting funding.
- The language in the draft is confusing, with requirements that are difficult or impossible to enforce.
- The restrictions are arbitrary and lack scientific basis.
- The draft ignores the legitimate interests of the agricultural sector of Lake Township, as wind energy is very compatible with agricultural use, and 64 percent of the land in Lake Township is zoned agricultural.

Visitors urge caution

Some of those who spoke during Wednesday's public hearing included three different residents from the Michigan Wind 1 development near Ubly, and one resident from the Harvest Wind Farm near Elkton, who reported experiencing problems following the erection of wind turbines near their homes.

Those residents reported sleep deprivations, heart palpitations, headaches, nausea and other symptoms.

"It's not an isolated issue," said Bingham Township resident Curt Watchowski. " ... Study the birds all you want — we're the ones that pay."

Frank Peplinski, a resident who lives roughly 1,300 feet away from one of the turbines in Ubly, gave a brief outline of experiences he and his wife have documented. In one instance, he said he was woken up in the middle of the night with steady pounding in his head and chest.

As for his wife, she was cleaning out a closet once recent June day and was suddenly struck with an intense pressure in her head, and felt shaky. She left the area of the home where she was working, and the feelings went away after a few hours when the wind direction outside had changed.

But there were reports from the other side of the aisle from residents who haven't experienced any problems from turbines on land they own elsewhere in the county.

Planning board members noted they wanted the draft to protect the minority.

Draft will be reviewed

Many residents expressed issues with the fact that they weren't able to give input about the ordinance till after it was unveiled in May. While there were opportunities to give public comment during board meetings prior to its unveiling, residents and DTE Energy said they couldn't specifically give comment about the ordinance because its language was not drafted in public sessions.

Lake Township resident Neil Rohner said it appears the past two years the planning board have spent creating the ordinance have been a waste of time and money, because it bans any type of wind development.

"Don't make it so exclusive so no one can build a wind farm," he said.

Prior to the meeting's adjournment, planning board members agreed to sit down with DTE Energy representatives and Lake Township board members to possibly reach some middle ground as to what restrictions would protect residents, while at the same time make development at least somewhat possible.

That meeting will be open to the public. It's set for 6:30 p.m. July 20, and more than likely will be hosted at the Sleeper State Park Outdoor Center, located at 6435 State Park Road in Caseville.

Kate Hessling • (989) 269-6461 • khessling@hearstnp.com

Elaine Laming
5050 Bad Axe Rd.
Udly, MI 48475

September 2, 2009

Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Julie,

I am writing in response to the Wind Energy Meeting on August 24, 2009 at the Expo Center in Bad Axe, Michigan. I think that there should be a moratorium set forth on developing any new Wind Parks in Michigan until the Harvest Wind Park and Michigan Wind Park I can do more research. A project that is this big and will affect so many people needs to have done all the research possible to find out if the towers are really worth putting up. After experiencing all the negative effects of the wind towers, I do not think it is a good idea to put up these towers so close to peoples' houses.

This whole situation with the wind towers is such a nightmare for the citizens and our State is allowing it. I didn't know the health issues I was having was all related to the turbines. I've been living by large dairy operations for 19 years now. They just do whatever they feel like doing without thinking about how their neighbors will be affected. It's the same as these big wind towers. The people involved with the wind towers will do whatever they feel like doing and we will not have any say in the matter.

I never thought these towers were going to affect me in the way in which they have. Then, Sheridan Township voted to put them up. Now I have to live with the towers for the rest of my life. The noise that these towers create is a constant noise that is 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I have to take a sleep aide just so I can get a good nights sleep, because the noise keeps me up. The blades also create a shadow flickering in the house when the sun hits them just right. Even when all the shades are down and the blinds are pulled, it still goes right through. It's so bad that it gives my family and I headaches. I don't feel that I should have to leave because this is my home, but the only way to escape the turbines is to go in an area that does not have them.

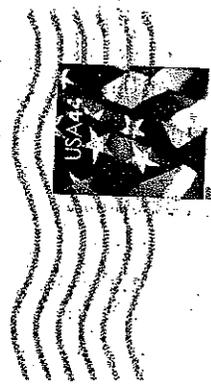
Our Commissioners went to New York and supposedly didn't hear the noise that these towers made. Apparently they didn't question anybody about it either. When I found out towers would be put up on the property surrounding my house, I went to the Wisconsin sight to do some research. After discovering my findings, I knew we were in trouble. It took our own citizens to do the research that our commissioners should have done before the towers were even put up. Our commissioners shortchanged the citizens of Huron County.

I know that more towers will not affect me because I have them all around my house. If I can do anything to prevent someone else from going through the hell that I have been going through I will. The wind turbines do not belong in a residential area where so many people are negatively

ELAINE LAMING
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JULIE BALDWIN, BOARD SECRETARY
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

4850547721



Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
 Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
 Comment Card

Name: Erwin Holey Huron County Board of zoning Board
 Affiliation (optional): NA my address 4744 Farming Rd Sebunmy MI 49759

Do you wish to speak today? Yes: No

Do you wish to provide written comments today?
 Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @ <https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

My observation over last year - had almost high tower wind energy. These
 opposing have no hand on which to stand - wind generators on it also
 (As) appears to be a lengthy issue with some who would like to have more
 the best applicants provided very little usable product info
 I believe some of the issues and you're pushing people away
 prepared and valuable info for the wind energy possibilities and
 opportunities
 The amount of land needed to energy companies on their part
 in Huron County speaks well for the acceptance
 as for Lake Township - most of a building needed over the first
 year I enclose an article from our local paper - should be of interest to you.

4490 Fabing Rd
Secaucus, N.J.
08079



SACUNAWA, MI 48868
28 AUG 2009 PM 3:17



Tate Barberie
Co and Secretory
Mich. Public Land Comm.
PO Box 30221
Lansing, Mi 48909

9890987721



✓
September 8, 2009

Dear Michigan Wind Board,

As a life-long resident of Huron County, I am requesting that your board recommend a halt to wind development in Michigan if we cannot ensure the safety and welfare of our rural residents. The safety and welfare of our residents must be prioritized.

Respectfully,

Dan Depner
5945 Griggs Rd.
Caseville, MI 48725

✓
Point Hope N.
Aug 31-09

Comm. members:

Good job at the Bad Cape hearing. I was afraid that things might get out of hand. It is obvious that your commission has a daunting task before it.

The health of our neighbors must be an overriding concern, but we need factual guidelines and test numbers - not opinion and emotion. We need a structured, simple and fair complaint process.

Here are my thoughts:

1. Wind energy is good: free & clean. What could be better?

2. Neuron Co. is obviously a good site.

3. If this is a popularity contest of those in attendance at your hearing - the windmills are doomed. However, the numbers and ratios are totally out of line. A large percent of dissatisfied people will show up to bitch. The satisfied people go to work, milk the cows, mow the grass and to their part to keep life moving.

f. those who want to come to (or return to) the idealic country life. This wonderful place may be gone and in fact may never have existed

g. people (usually city transplants) who are smarter, richer and more discerning than the natives (country bumpkins)

h. people who can hear and see a windmill but DON'T GET ANY MONEY!!

i. people with too much time on their hands.

I am a retired dairy farmer who is now just a landowner. I am part of a group of neighbors who have pooled as a unit (17,000 plus acres) with several companies and signed with RFS America. I am not an expert on much of anything but I have searched for answers and have yet to find factual situation which corroborate that windmills are terrible. Some "experts" referred to or quoted I find to be very suspect.

The solution to most sleep problems can be found in Ecclesiastes 5:12

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts. If I can help in any way - I will
Sincerely,
Keith Iseler

Lisa Laming
5050 Bad Axe Road
Ubyly, MI 48475

September 5, 2009

Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Ms. Baldwin:

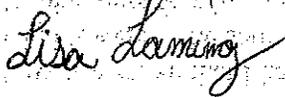
I am writing in response to the Wind Energy Meeting on August 24, 2009 at the Expo Center in Bad Axe, Michigan. I think that developing any new Wind Parks in Michigan should be put on hold until the Harvest Wind Park and Michigan Wind Park I can do more research. A project that is this big and will affect so many people needs to have done all the research possible to find out if the towers are really worth putting up. After experiencing all the negative effects of the wind towers, I do not think it is a good idea to put up these towers so close to peoples' houses.

When I came home from college back in May 2009, the wind towers were so loud I couldn't sleep for days. I could hear the towers all night long. On specific days I could really hear them in the mornings. Once I was up I could not get back to sleep because the towers were all that I heard. I don't like going outside either anymore because of the wind towers. The sound that they make is really annoying. I invited my friends to go tanning outside with me at my house one day. When they came over they said they couldn't believe how loud they were. It was really distracting.

The strobbing lights are another problem. The strobbing lights of the blades comes through the windows of the house and is so irritating that it gives me a headache. Even when all the shades are down and the blinds are all pulled, it still goes right through the windows.

I feel sorry for my parents because they have to live with it everyday, but I can at least escape it by going back to Saginaw for college. Knowing that when I come home I have to come home to the wind towers, it really discourages me from wanting to come home as often as I used to. I really hope that more research is done before any more wind towers are put up. I do not feel that they are as great as everyone makes them out to be.

Sincerely,



Lisa Laming

LISA LAMING
5050 Bad Axe Road
Ubly, MI 48475

FLINT MI 485
09 SEP 2009 PM 2 T



JULIE BALDWIN, BOARD SECRETARY
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

482047724



✓
September 1, 2009

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board,

Please be aware of the narrowness of Lake Township (Huron County), 3 mile average depth, before making any decision. It contains Rush Lake a natural wet land, The Rush Lake game reserve, Sleeper State Park, a Golf Course. Consider the US Fish and Wildlife Service recommendation, **(no turbines be located within three miles of any Great Lake shoreline, Eagles nests, migratory birds, etc.)**

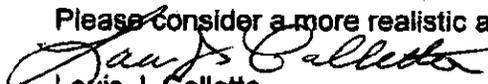
The area high points have always been:

- Resorting, vacationing, agriculture, hunting and fishing.

The potential adverse effects:

- With the density of housing in the Agricultural District it would create a shotgun approach to the siteing of the wind turbines.
- A burden on the non-participants with regards to property values.
- The aesthetic view and serenity of the area would be impacted.

Please consider a more realistic approach in your decision rather than a blanket choice.


Louis J. Colletta
6755 Hilltop Drive
Port Austin, Mi 48467

September 3, 2009

Dear Ms. Baldwin,

Please convey our comments to the MI Public Service Commission on wind turbines.

We understand the concern about energy and renewable energy and the State of Michigan's mandate to obtain ten percent of our energy from renewables by 2015.

Also, we are aware of the wind studies showing the Thumb of Michigan as one of the top areas of strong winds. In recent months, all stops have been pulled to go ahead full steam to plan this decided vision of two to four thousand turbines in Michigan's Thumb.

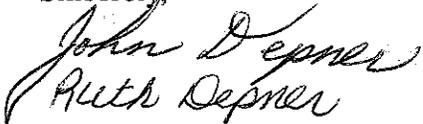
If this project becomes reality, we have the following reasons to be greatly concerned:

1. Rural residential property values will certainly decrease. This is common sense.
2. Turbines would change the landscape forever. There would be no point in the three-county area where they wouldn't be seen.
3. We have concern for our rural residents. Already, health problems are known. These issues would be multiplied.
4. It has been said that migratory birds can avoid turbines. Will they then avoid the three counties?
5. Two to four thousand turbines in the Thumb would most likely affect growth in our towns and surrounding areas. The novelty will wear off after the curiosity of seeing them once. Finally, we will have the desire to get away from them and live elsewhere.

Adequate set-backs are crucial! The World Health Organization recommends 1.5 kilometers. Some doctors recommend 2 kilometers.

We ask for a moratorium on any construction until all the questions have been adequately answered and more information is gathered.

Sincerely,



John and Ruth Depner
5945 Griggs Rd.
Caseville, MI 48725

John + Ruth Depner

I am a physician and scientist; my expertise lies in clinical and environmental matters. Whether or not wind proves to be a viable source of power, it is absolutely essential that windmills not be sited any closer than 1.25 miles (2 km) from people's homes or anywhere else people regularly congregate. (Highways are also a problem for motorists with seizure and migraine disorders and motion sensitivity, from the huge spinning blades and landscape-sweeping shadow flicker.) I consider a 1.25 mile set-back a minimum figure. In hilly or mountainous topographies, where valleys act as natural channels for noise, this 1.25 mile set-back should be extended anywhere from 2-3 miles from homes.

Let me be clear: there is nothing, absolutely nothing, in the wind energy proposition that says windmills must be sited next door (often 1000 feet) to people's homes and workplaces. Siting, after all, is the crux of the issue.

Irresponsible siting is what most of the uproar is about. Corporate economics favor building wind turbines in people's backyards; sound clinical medicine, however, does not.

- Dr. Nina Pierpont

John + Ruth Depner

Nina Pierpont, MD PhD

Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics

February 8, 2006

Education

1991 M.D. The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
1985 Ph.D. Princeton University (Behavioral Ecology)
1981 M.A. Princeton University (Behavioral Ecology)
1977 B.A. Yale University, National Merit Scholar (cum laude)

Post-Doctoral Training

1992 to 94 Pediatrics Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH
1991 to 92 Pediatrics Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC
1985 to 86 Ornithology American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY

Licensure and Certification

1997 Licensed Physician, New York
1997 Licensed Physician, New Hampshire (expired)
1995 Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor and Affiliate Faculty
1994 Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics (recertified 2000, expires 2008)
1994 Licensed Physician, Alaska (expired)

Hospital or Affiliated Institution Appointments

10/00 to 12/03 Senior Attending in Pediatrics Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, NY
1997 to 00 Attending Pediatrician Alice Hyde Hospital, Malone, NY
1995 to 96 Chief of Pediatrics Yukon-Kuskokwim (Yup'ik Eskimo) Delta Regional Hospital, Bethel, AK
1994 to 95 Staff Pediatrician Yukon-Kuskokwim (Yup'ik Eskimo) Delta Regional Hospital, Bethel, AK

Other Professional Positions

2004 to ... Private Practice (Solo) Pediatrics (emphasizing Behavioral Peds) Malone, NY
1998 to 00 Private Practice (Solo) Pediatrics Malone, NY (poorest county in state)
1997 to 00 Staff Pediatrician St. Regis Mohawk (Iroquois) Health Services, Hogansburg, NY
1997 to 98 Staff Pediatrician North Country Children's Clinic (clinic for needy children), Malone, NY

Academic Appointments

2000 to 03 Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics
Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons

Sally Talberg

From: Baldwin, Julie (DELEG) [baldwinj2@michigan.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2009 9:03 AM
To: grege@sbic-mi.org; davidw@ecocenter.org; Public Sector Consultants; Ianni, Robert
Cc: Sally Talberg
Subject: RE: WEZRB Report Comments

Greg - Thank you for submitting comments. Sally Talberg is coordinating the Board's analysis of comments. I will forward your comments to her. I am sure the Board will consider your comments in some way even if it is too late for them to be included in the data analysis part of the comment summary.

Julie Baldwin, Staff Engineer
Michigan Public Service Commission

From: Greg Eagle [mailto:grege@sbic-mi.org]
Sent: Fri 9/11/2009 8:40 AM
To: davidw@ecocenter.org; psc@pscinc.com; Ianni, Robert; Baldwin, Julie (DELEG)
Subject: WEZRB Report Comments

I just went online to enter comments into the PSC form and found that comments were ended on 9/8/09. I did not realize or note that the comment period was ending on 9/8/09 and had been waiting on the review of my draft comments by the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy – Land Stewardship Committee at their meeting last night. I recall looking on the PSC link for information on deadlines and am sure there wasn't a deadline notice, but I was planning on getting this to the WERZB after last night's meeting to insure that you got our comments in time for your mid-October final report target. Will you still accept the following comments?

I am the Land Protection Specialist with the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy (SBLC) and have been asked by our Land Stewardship Committee to make formal comment on the June 2nd Michigan Wind Energy Resource Zone Board Draft Report. At the August 24th public hearing in Bad Axe, I heard a number of well thought out comments on the draft report of the Board. Due to the large crowd attending, I did not comment verbally, but wish to establish an official record of my recommendations and concerns. The SBLC is a non-profit land trust with a work area comprised of all or part of 22 counties in the Saginaw Bay watershed. The SBLC works to acquire important habitat for inclusion in our nature preserve system and collaborates with landowners to perpetually protect open space and unique natural systems using permanent conservation easements. This work has included implementing State of Michigan programs to permanently protect wetlands to achieve water quality improvement goals in the Saginaw Bay watershed. The SBLC supports the need for increased renewable energy and recognizes that generating electricity from wind holds promise to mitigate or slow the negative impacts of air pollution, climate change, and national safety threats associated with non-renewable energy sources. However, SBLC's primary concern is the impact the fulfillment of energy development agreements with landowners will have on the conservation values of property to be preserved.

The report explains decisions to exclude certain lands using "exclusion criteria" that includes, "wetlands, lakes, and rivers." However, the methodology explained in Exhibit B-1 would likely miss ~~restored wetlands~~ under various agricultural land conversion incentive programs (e.g. Michigan CREP, USDA-CRP, USDA-WRP, USFWS Partners for Wildlife, Pheasants Forever private land agreements) and natural areas protected by non-profit wild land ownership or permanent conservation easements. The methodology did not note using information from the Comprehensive Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) database for Michigan being coordinated by Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, and the Michigan DNR. Also, even though identified as being excluded from the viable acres for wind energy development, the report does not expressly establish a public policy or recommendation on wind energy development on these lands. The report uses the terminology, "removed from consideration," when discussing exclusion criteria, but did not clarify what that statement meant in terms of obligations to the wind energy development industry... it is ambiguous and uncertain. We are increasingly running into title issues that complicate or prevent our ability to protect open space because of pre-existing wind energy easements or leases. As of late, we are experiencing resistance from wind energy developers, or their land acquisition agents, who do not feel obligated to consider amendments of their leases or easements to accommodate open space protection efforts such as ours, despite the potential to achieve compatibility and consensus with wind energy development. Section 145 of Public Act 295 of 2008 mandates the WERZB to exercise its powers, duties, and decision-making authority to *assess the availability of land in this state for potential utilization by wind energy conversion systems and conduct modeling and other studies* related to wind energy. Your decision to not include

information and studies related to protected species; land use; parcel size; environmental, cultural, and historical factors is ~~short sighted and does not complete your statutory responsibility.~~ Your report has fallen short in addressing the land availability on private lands restored to pre-European settlement conditions or protected by privately held land preservation mechanisms. **We recommend that your report be revised to include, at minimum, CARL database information, USDA wetland restoration information, US Fish & Wildlife private land restoration properties.** Further, we request that you formally and clearly state your reasoning behind designating, "exclusion criteria." Currently, non-excluded land appears to be classified as developable but the report does not expressly state that excluded lands cannot be considered for development.

Comments by WERZB members during and after the August 31st meeting indicated that the Board is leaving up wind development siting decisions to local government. While local controls have their own advantages and empower local citizens with development controls over activities in their communities, this decision to not take a State of Michigan level of regulatory leadership puts SBLC in the position of negotiating with wind energy developers and prospective private land preservationists in a regulatory vacuum, since ordinances have not been expeditiously forthcoming. Further, this places wind energy developers in a position of uncertainty as well while also subjecting them to dealing with a multitude of varying levels and types of local ordinances related to wind energy siting and controls. **We recommend that the Board recommend that the State of Michigan develop state government level minimum regulatory controls as to site selection and operational controls, especially excluded properties.** The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – East Lansing Field Office recommends, in relation to wetlands, that wetlands be avoided and that buffers be maintained. Further, they recommend that turbines be placed away from, "wetland, stream corridor, or wooded areas," using their Interim Guidelines to Avoid and Minimize Wildlife Impacts from Wind Turbines (2003). At a minimum, these guidelines should be incorporated into your report.

Greg Eagle
Land Protection Specialist
Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy
PO Box 222
311 Fifth Street
Bay City, MI 48707-0222
(989) 891-9986
(989) 891-9987 (fax)



clearly land cannot be included and developed - not so

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
Comment Card

Name: *Mary Nowak* *4234 N. Washington, Uby, MI 48475*

Affiliation (optional):

Do you wish to speak today? (Yes) *I did* No:

Do you wish to provide written comments today? *will mail you written*

Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @ <https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

My comments are on attached written letter.

August 31, 2009

Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary
Michigan Public Service Commission
PO Box 30221
Lansing, MI. 48909

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I attended a public meeting regarding wind turbines in Bad Axe on Monday, August 24, 2009 at the Expo Center at 11:00 a.m. I did comment at this meeting. Comments were limited to 3 minutes. I had not originally planned to comment as I thought that this meeting was only for the people who wanted wind turbines in Huron County. I think the reason I thought this was because in Huron County they are the only people who's opinion counts. I am sorry to be so pessimistic but this is how the last few years regarding turbines has gone for me and many others who thought that they would be detrimental to our county.

My problem is the value of the land that we have in the village of Ubly. Yes, we can hear the turbines as there are 3 behind our house, sometimes a whoosh and sometimes like jets going over. We are ½ mile north of Ubly, out of the village limits but our land is in the village limits.

We have sold two lots that were plotted by the village many years ago, and both of these households can hear the wind turbines, and don't like the sound, one has had it loud inside her house with windows closed. She complained but is afraid to say anything more because of the bad remarks she has heard since. The other couple have complained when I talked to them but have not reported it by written comment. They feel intimidated also.

Our problem is that the remaining plotted lots and definitely the land that is in the village limits are not going to be able to be sold as who would what to build a house so close to loud wind turbines. I would like to get all this land out of the village of Ubly and in order to do so, we need to spend money and get a lawyer to represent us, even without knowing if we would be able to get this land out. We have already lost thousands of dollars in the value of the plotted and also other land in the village limits, according to the assessment we had done. If the lots cannot be sold because of the turbines, (which we are sure they won't sell), we think the wind turbine company should cover the cost of the lawyer to get our land out of the village. We pay taxes on this land for streets, lights, and village taxes. On land that will never be of use for homes. It seems that the wind turbine companies do not care about that, only about the money they make and tax incentives they receive by putting them up.

Some of the citizens near Ubly tried to get them to change the setbacks to 1 mile

from a village and 1800 feet from a house. The court in this county turned down the petition that over 1,200 people signed. The people in village of Ubly could not sign this petition because the government in Ubly had the say-so in having the wind turbines so close. The village had years ago given the zoning rights to the county so actually zoning was denied by the county zoning board in Bad Axe, who will not have wind turbines in their area because of the airport.

When the wind turbine company came around to see us they gave us a contract that they give to people who will have turbines on their land, so we know what this contract says. One stipulation was that if we sign we are not able to talk about this contact to anyone. We did not sign. I could see the anxiety of the man talking about the turbines and the urgency in his voice that we sign up our land as an abutment. They would have been much closer to town and our home if we had signed. I am so happy that we did not sign, but now our land is less valuable and the reason is not our fault. If we had signed, we would not have been able to write this letter.

I say that with the turbines so close to homes in this county, all those who signed can hear them but are not allowed to say this, and probably a few are terribly bothered like some of the people who cannot even sleep in their homes. These participating people are not allowed to talk about it to anyone, not you or anyone.

If you continue to allow setbacks of 1000 feet in other places, others will be in the very situation that we have in this county. They said the sound would not bother us, or very little. I say it has changed our environment very much. We had lived in a peaceful environment but now the wind turbines have changed that. The plotted lots on our property are even closer to the wind turbines than us and even closer than those that we sold lots to. They are not saleable as this is something people would not want.

I hope you take this seriously as our environment has been ruined, our retirement value of our property is now only as valuable as the agriculture property through no fault of ours.

I also feel that it will affect wild life because we have had many animals coming to live around our house that never did before, they lived in the woods behind our house (raccoons, gophers etc.), and I think the wind turbine noise has made them move. We have many more birds that we never had before, cardinals, blue jays, etc. that we had not seen at our bird feeders in the past.

I do not lie, this is the situation as I truly see it and the government in Bad Axe would not even listen to a respected sound specialist who tried to tell them. They ignored what he said and treated him badly when he attended the meeting they had. They also treated me the same when I tried to tell them about the problems that

Page 3

might arise. I am quite sure that two members of the zoning board in Huron County had signed up for wind turbines on their property, a real conflict of interest if you ask me. Two of the village of Ubly township board also have turbines, both have six, the most of anyone that got them. Is this a coincidence. I don't know but it just doesn't seem right. If the state of Michigan does not do the wind turbine placement right, a lot of people will be hurt. We just wanted what we had a right to, land that is sellable for houses and now is not. This was part of our retirement money. Money is not worth all the trouble that this has caused some of my neighbors and friends.

Please keep this letter under your consideration before you decide where these wind turbines should be placed. You have peoples lives and happiness in your hands. Many people are bothered around the world with these wind turbines going up, and no one seems to care. What a sad thing that is. This country needs to do better for their people.

Sincerely hoping you understand,

Mary Nowak /
Alger Nowak
Mary and Alger Nowak
4234 N. Washington St.
Ubly, Mi. 48475

Sanilac76@yahoo.com

989-658-8138

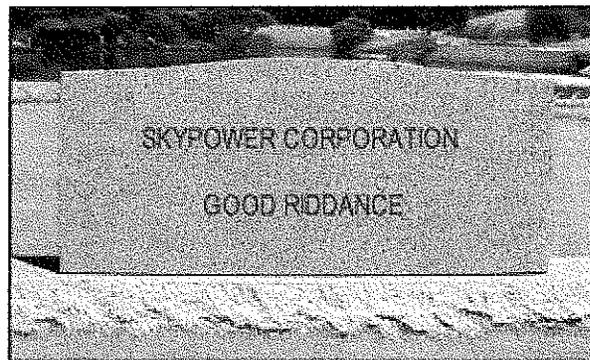


August 19, 2009
Nova Scotia, Opinions

Skypower obituary

"The mighty have fallen from their thrones" the psalmist wrote. It's a day now since the news got out that Skypower of Toronto the Good has had a financial collapse, and to say that I was sorry would be a lie.

I am in a celebrative mood for one reason alone: my neighbors nor I shall not have to live with them as corporate neighbors! They don't deserve to because they did not treat the people with due honor or respect.



They were a people with a book of rules and regulations but without heart, a group of men and women who chose the letter of the law and used it as a club to get their way, rather than to meet the people half way and live by the spirit of it instead.

They did what they seem predestined to do viz. to divide and conquer. Secret tryst with municipal leaders, faulty and flawed pseudo-Consultations with the people, secret leases with lessors sworn to secrecy, and unkept promises for meetings never held – all about a Wind Turbine Communal Home Invasion in the name of clean energy regardless of the cost to man nor beast in one of Nova Scotia's prime pristine gems still left.

From all appearances, neither our Municipal leaders nor Skypower, had the intestinal fortitude to venture into the homeland of families here fifteen generations or more and many who have come here since, to lay the cards on the table and open a discussion with the people. They slayed, instead, democracy stone dead!

The issue for me is not the wind! The issue is democracy denied! At days end, some may have a few more bucks in their pockets, but there still shall be no winners. Another chip off an already fragile community demeans and cripples all the more.

Whatever be the future I don't know, but as for Skypower I must say: Good Riddance!

SEP 23 2009

September 21, 2009

Electric Reliability Division

Hello

My name is Richard Duemling. I have lived on ^{THIS} a small farm most of my life. My family and I love it here in Huron County, Michigan. We have no wind lease, Yet, the income from a lease would add considerably to our farms viability.

I attended the wind resource meeting in Bad Axe on August 24th. I came to listen and did not speak. Young people and working farmers were under represented that day. I know lots of farmers and others who support wind energy development here. Some people you heard complain those days were complaining before any wind turbines were even erected.

I have also lived in St. Clair County, Michigan, home to several large coal plants. I have seen and heard the ships, trains, ash piles and smoke associated with this method of power generation. My work in security has taken me to three Michigan nuclear power plants, most recently to Cook Nuclear Power Station. I have seen first hand the incredible anti-terror security measures required since 9/11.

Michigan has no coal, yet imports and burns huge amounts every day. Clean coal is a misnomer, decades away if possible at all.

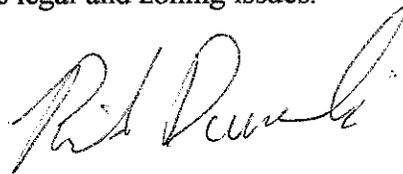
The wind farms here in Huron County are producing better than expected, generating some power 85 percent of the time. If climate change is real, it will affect the world's poorest people first. If we resource rich Michiganders can help, we should.

There may be some sacrifice living near these large wind farms, but also some pride.

In closing, I urge you to support wind energy development and aid county and township government with the legal and zoning issues.

Thank you,

Richard Duemling
989-658-2552



Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
 Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
 Comment Card

Name: *Ervin Haley*
 Affiliation (optional): *Huron County Bldg & Zoning Board*
my address 4490 Hobart Rd Sebuning MI 48759
 Do you wish to speak today? Yes: No:

Do you wish to provide written comments today?

Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @ <https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

*My observation over past years - land owners highly favor wind energy. Those opposing have no land on which to situate wind generators on it also. (It) appears to be a jealousy issue with some who withheld for more lease \$\$.
 I felt opponents provided very little usable factual info. I believe Jennifer Hagen and Yvonne Bushley spoke very well prepared and valuable info for the wind energy possibilities and opportunities.*

The amount of land leased to energy companies on their behalf in Huron County speaks well for the acceptance.

As for Lake township - that is a political hotbed over the past few years. I enclose an article from our local paper - should be of interest to you.

Farm/Business

HURON DAILY TRIBUNE • www.michigansthumb.com

Area teen recognized for knowledge on wind farms

BY STACY LANGLEY
Tribune Staff Writer

ELKTON — An FFA project a few years back for an area teen has opened the door to a number of opportunities to share her knowledge about wind farms — and has even garnered her a little home town recognition.

Andrea Schuette, 16, daughter of Leanne and Troy Schuette of Elkton, admits she didn't know a lot about alternative energy before taking on an eighth-grade FFA leadership project for public speaking which earned her first-place in a contest a few years back.

Schuette said when coming up with a speech topic, her FFA adviser Don Wheeler suggested wind power.

"He said, 'It's all the rage now.' And he was right," Schuette laughed. "I spent about a month and a half pulling all my facts and then putting it together. Then I had to memorize it and give the speech at (FFA) districts, regionals and state (competition). I learned a lot not only about wind energy, but alternative energy, going green and what it all means for the environment."

This fall, Schuette will be a junior at Elkton-Pigeon Bay Port High School where Wheeler teaches. Over her summer break from school she said she's volunteered during Elkton's Wind Turbine Days as a tour guide, sharing what she knows about wind turbines with those who flock to the Harvest Wind Farm, Michigan's first commercial-scale wind project, which is on farmland located between Elkton and Pigeon.

Schuette was also called upon to speak in Bay City during the Bay Area Sustainable Energy forum in October.

"I was nervous. There were people there from (Elkton's) Wind Turbine Day. I think I was the youngest person there. It

wanted to know more about wind 'turbineism,'" she said, adding many of those in attendance were shocked to find out that Schuette's family has four wind turbines on the property.

During Wind Turbine Days, Schuette said she was a tour guide on the bus tours that were offered.

"I mainly provided wind turbine facts, told a few stories and answered quite a few questions," she said about being a tour guide. "People wanted to know which turbines are on our land. They asked questions like, 'Does the noise bother you?' I think they sound like the ocean."

Schuette said other questions she commonly gets are if farmers can farm right up to the turbines and others about money and how much the company pays to landowners they contact with.

"That one (FFA) speech has given her a lot of miles," Schuette's father, Troy, said.

In July, Schuette was recognized by Vestas for the educational role she's taken in the community.

"I wouldn't consider myself an expert, but I know that I'm more informed than the (general) public on wind energy. I know the truth and I know the facts," said Schuette. "I feel wind energy is great. It can provide future benefits for our community and get us off our nation's addiction to coal and oil."

As for Schuette's future plans, she said she hopes to continue to be involved in Wind Turbine Days. Looking further into the future, she'd like a career in the field of alternative energy.

"I never thought that one speech could change my life. I thought I'd give the speech and try to make it to state competition. I never thought it would change what I want to do with my life. I used to want to be a



Pictured above is Andrea Schuette, of Elkton, standing near wind turbines located along S. Elkton Road. Schuette was recently recognized with this miniature wind turbine, presented by Vestas, during Elkton's Wind Turbine Days.

"Aside from the FFA and volunteering at Wind Turbine Day, Schuette said she is involved in soccer, takes part each year at the Huron Community Fair, is a member of the National Honor Society, and is active in her church.

"She's Miss FFA," Troy Schuette said about his daughter.

"We are very proud of her." Schuette's parents both attended the FFA state competition when she earned first place.

"She answered every question. She nailed it and we knew it. One of the questions she was asked she had just learned the answer to the night before."

Troy Schuette said.

Schuette's parents were also on hand when she was presented with a miniature wind turbine by Vestas representatives and the Elkton Chamber of Commerce.

"I got up and gave my speech (during Wind Turbine Days) then they called Vestas

up and began talking about me," said Schuette.

"She was surprised. I think everyone knew except for her," said Troy Schuette.

As for Schuette's miniature turbine, she said it sits on top of the kitchen table.

"It will probably go up in my room," she said.

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parate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @
nalled to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public
by September 8, 2009.

933 201104 Board	
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source Zone Board	
Axe, August 24, 2009	

Comment Form for All Others, Including Local Governments outside the Identified Regions

(1/1)
NOW
Speaki
Team
Stand

Identifying Information

Name of person submitting comments: EUGENE M. CHAMPAGNE

Title: RESIDENT OF OLIVER TWP, HURON COUNTY, MI.

Affiliation (company, organization, or local unit of government), if applicable: _____

Address: 1749 NORTH FARVER ROAD ELKTON MI. 48731

E-mail: _____

Phone: 989 375-4085

Are you submitting comments on behalf of a local unit of government that is not in one of the four regions identified in the board's proposed report? (REQUIRED)

- Yes
 No

Comments on Proposed Report

1. For each section of the proposed report listed below, please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to the clarity, accuracy, and conclusions of the report. If desired, you may explain your opinion in the space provided.

Report section	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No position
Executive summary					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Introduction					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Report section	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No position
b. Information is accurate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
Methodology					
a. Information is clearly presented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
b. Information is accurate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
Findings					
a. Information is clearly presented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
b. Information is accurate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
c. Conclusions seem appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
Conclusion					
a. Information is clearly presented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
b. Information is accurate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				
c. Conclusions seem appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (optional):	_____				

This next series of questions (2A–2F) focuses more specifically on the different parts of the Findings Section

2. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements. If desired, you may explain your opinion in the space provided.

Findings Subsection	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No position
Regions with the Highest Wind Energy Potential					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Findings					
Wind Speeds on Land					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Findings Subsection	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No position
Land Availability					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Viability of Wind as Commercial Generation Source					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wind Energy Systems in Service					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Findings Subsection	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	No position
Proposed Wind Energy Systems in Interconnection Queue					
a. Information is clearly presented Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Information is accurate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conclusions seem appropriate Comments (optional): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Public Act 295 requires the board to identify regions of the state with the "highest level of wind energy harvest potential." Please indicate your level of agreement with the board's assessment of these regions identified in the proposed report. If desired, explain your opinion in the space provided below.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No position at this time

Comments (optional): _____

4. Public sentiment may affect the viability of wind as a commercial source of energy generation. How would you generally describe public sentiment related to wind energy development on land in your county, city, town, or village?

- Very positive
- Positive
- Undecided or neutral
- Negative
- Very negative
- Do not know

5. In the space below, please provide any additional comments on the proposed report.

SEE 3 PAGE LIST OF COMMENTS ATTACHED

Thank you for providing your comments.

The board appreciates your input and will consider your comments as it prepares its final report. The board has scheduled public hearings in Bad Axe on August 24, 2009, and in Scottville on August 31, 2009, to take additional comment on the proposed report. For more information about these public hearings, go to <http://www.michigan.gov/windboard>.

To submit your comments, please either mail or fax this completed form to Public Sector Consultants Inc., attention Amy Rittenhouse, using the information below.

Mail: Public Sector Consultants Inc.
Attn: Amy Rittenhouse
600 W. Saint Joseph St., Suite 10
Lansing, MI 48933

Fax: (517) 484-6549

Online: <https://ianus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/>

①

COMMENTS

Good Day,

My name is Eugene Champagne. I reside near the center of Harvest Wind Farm, Oliver Township, Huron County, Mi. The last almost 2 years surrounded by Commercial Wind Turbines. I have 3 surrounding my house all at approximately 1400 feet each, believe me I have the experience and knowledge in this area.

I would first like to talk about dealing with developers. The developer of Harvest Wind Farm is John Deere. When I attend meetings around Huron County and observe them in action with governmental units, I'm impressed. I just wish I could say that, in my dealing with them, My TV signal was interfered with by the turbines. They corrected it right away on a verbal agreement. However when I starting working on getting a written agreement, I ran into a brick wall. I also have noise issues and shadow flicker issues. When I went to my Oliver Township board with my complaints their response was, they did not feel they had the authority to act. So I was on my own. If you are ever on your own dealing with John Deere, "BELIEVE ME YOU ARE DEFINITELY ON YOUR OWN."

On the topic of expected community and public acceptance, my opinion on this has not changed since I made my testimonial video in Feb of 2009, stating we are placing these turbines too close to residences. I based the opinion on my experience and look at the number of complaints we have coming from the Bingham Township wind path.

On the social and political considerations, this is a most hurtful topic. I have a lot of friends around this county and it is not a pleasant sight watching what is happening in their communities. Many of us in Huron County have watched or followed the happenings in Lake Township and what it is doing there. I visited at Paris Township where I feel it is also starting to heat up. Commissioner Peruski was attending the last Paris Township meeting I was at, and may or may not remember my plea or caution to them, which was, "Please do not let this issue tear your community or township apart."

(3)

Also on the political and social point.
On April 22 at Earth Day I invited my
State Rep Terry Brown out to my place to
also see my situation and to talk. He lives
5 or 6 miles from me. I guess I just have
to be patient its only been 4 months.
I also invited out for a visit my District
Commissioner Steve Vaughan but at a
later date than April 22nd. Also a no
show. Without disturbing or disrupting
this meeting if you have invited a
representative of yours out to your
place that would not come out, would
you please silently raise your hand
for the information of this board.

Thank You
Eugene M Champagne
OLIVER TOWNSHIP RESIDENT

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
Comment Card

Name: Marilyn Replinski

Affiliation (optional):

Do you wish to speak today? (Yes: No:)

Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @

<https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

2

The Wind Resource Board Meeting – August 24, 2009
Statement from David and Marilyn Peplinski

Our experience living next to a wind turbine at 1300 hundred feet in distance has been a living nightmare. When the turbines first started to spin and create noise in November of 2008, we were essentially indoors in a well built home. We could many times hear the turbines through the day and through the night inside of our home.

David found that he would be awoken and would then stay awake for hours at night. This, unfortunately, has gone on ever since with David having to use varying degrees of medicinal help for the ability to get to sleep and to stay asleep. White noise machines do not mask the disturbance. This is also affecting our two children and me. We have chosen not to use sleep aids, and on nights when it is noisy, the children and I toss and turn and are fatigued throughout the next day. This can happen up to three or four times a week. So, with school starting soon, we have had to secure an apartment to sleep in. The World Health Organization has stated that noise effects on children can have lifelong negative implications both cognitively and physically. The turbines are essentially **chasing us** from our home.

The reality of our living nightmare is that we are not only woken from the sound you can hear, but there is a low frequency noise in our home that you can feel at night and sometimes all throughout the day. This noise can be related to a helicopter hovering nearby for extended periods of time. Unfortunately, these low frequency sensations create a panicky feeling. This is not something you can get used to, and we cannot continue to live this way. In reviewing their guidelines, we have discovered that The World Health Organization deems **our home environment** “dangerous for public health”. The first and primary responsibility of government is to protect its citizens. I feel that the board of commissioners has turned a blind eye to credible scientific evidence and the welfare of its constituents. It has, instead, allowed itself to be manipulated by the promise of tax revenue and the influence of large corporate interests.

- The inherent noise byproduct of the John Deere Wind Energy turbines is not allowing our family to safely stay in our home.
- The World Health Organization has set guidelines to protect people from industrial noise. The Huron County ordinance has not followed these guidelines. Who is protecting the fundamental rights of Huron county residents?
- Our experience is not unique. It mirrors the experiences of other Bingham township families, those in other states, and in other countries. We don't want what is currently happening to our family to happen to yours. It is undeserved and unacceptable.

Some of the many reasons Huron county should not be designated a wind resource zone are this is one of the most unique peninsulas in the country surrounded by one of the largest body's of fresh water in the world. If it is not ok to drill for oil in the Alaska wild life area why should it be ok here to to destroy the residents quiet peaceful lives, jeopardize their heath, safety and welfare while scaring the land and waterfront as well as severely degrading their largest investment their homes.

Are the land and wildlife in Alaska more valuable than the people, land, and water of Huron County?

To litter our land and waters with over one thousand turbines and the hundreds of miles transmission lines and towers for an unreliable, over priced, heavily taxpayer subsidized source of power is complete madness and is driven by financial greed not intelligence. The most important reasons for zoning are to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people while conserving and protecting property values and preventing incompatible land uses from locating in a given area. Installing 100's of these commercial wind generators within a 1000' of homes is similar to allowing 100's of auto parts stamping plants making noise running 24/7 along side our homes and is something an intelligent planner would never do. The placement of these turbines so close to homes with the resulting severe loss of value and sale ability is just like an armed robbery the only thing missing here is the gun!

The information is out there and very easy for all to see so then why do we have to go and make the exact same mistakes here that others have made before us in both this country and abroad.

The current setbacks in Europe are 1 mile or greater while our own county's currently at 1000' feet and the allowable noise level at 50 db which is twice the normal ambient quiet night in my area. Certified sound engineers state that an increase of 5 or more is very objectionable. I am completely disgusted that our head of zoning in this county has failed us so badly and continues to do so with over 20 years of experience. I ask you whose side is he really on and why is he still here?

On June 13 at the close of the 72nd anual thumb electric meeting I met with senator barcia and state rep Terry Brown and told them both of my concerns they both fully agreed there were problems that needed to be corrected. At that time the senator stated "we are looking at a moratorium at the state level" As of today I see no indication of that. I asked the state rep if he would go to a residence where their were problems he said yes and that he knew of the man and planned go to see him the following week. To this day he has never contacted Gene Champagne. I will ask you whose interest are these people really concerned with the wind companies or the residents that elected them?

People open your eyes and do your homework wind power is not the miracle you have been currently sold. Yes it has some potential but the rush to throw them up and the manner in which we currently are doing it will cost us all very much for many years if we do not wake up.

This matter is desperately in need of some very good investigative journalism so that people can learn the real truth so far all I have seen is mostly biased one-sided reporting.

Questions you need to ask and get the complete real true answers to.

When someone who can no longer get a good nights sleep in their own home due to wind turbines then falls asleep or has an accident on the way to work or at work injuring or killing themselves or another person who is going to be held accountable?

The Overbionis

Why do all wind turbine companies require you when you sigh up to lease your land or even sigh into the project and receive even one dollar to give up your right to speak public ally about anything negative about them. If you do you will lose in court.

Why I thought they wanted to work with us and for us so the truth should be told first hand and not hidden by a court order.

Why the need for you personally to burden your own legal fees when someone sues you due to a complaint from the noise and other problems created by their turbine on your land?

What is going to happen if the 2 current wind parks fail the money is not there to dismantle them who is going to pay for it?

How many years of operation does it take for a wind turbine to pay for itself the true real cost excluding the subsidies?

Who are your local officials watching out for on this issue the wind turbine company's or you the person that pay their wage and may have elected them?

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
Comment Card

4

Name: TIM LACKEY

Affiliation (optional):

5600 W. KINSE RD

Do you wish to speak today? Yes

Do you wish to provide written comments today? No

Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @

<https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

Aug 24

#4

My name is Tim Lalley, and I am a member of the Lake Township planning commission. Since our township does not fall under county zoning, myself and others have been working for quite some time on drafting a wind ordinance specific to our township. The issue that has received the most criticism from developers and land owners is that of citing and safe setbacks.

WHICH INCLUDES →

According to M.S.U Land Use Policy Institute, mentioned in your proposed report, the estimated number of commercial scale wind turbines in Huron County will be between 2000 and 4000. This does not even take into account the transmission towers that will accompany these turbines to export any generated power.

REGION 4

Siting this many turbines that stand almost 400 feet tall will be critical to the health, safety, and welfare of those residents living nearby. It will also be critical for the protection of those residents' property values as well.

Increasing setbacks from homes will have some effects.

First, it will reduce the number of such turbines that a developer can site within a certain area. This will undoubtedly affect that developer's profit margin but it will also reduce the chances that someone living in a home in that area will be negatively impacted both physically and economically.

Our local governments' priority is the health and welfare of the residents of Huron County.

Credible health and sound studies have been done and continue to be done to help in siting these turbines in safe and proper locations. Michigan's own Lawrence Technological Institute completed a comprehensive sound study in 2005 as well as Dr. Nina Pierpont's continued work in this field.

To quote the Acoustic Ecology Institute in a special report on wind energy noise impacts:

"If the thousands of wind farms to be built in the coming decade are placed too close to homes, the industry will be faced with an echoing chorus of complaints and resistance for years to come, even if it manages to invent much quieter machines. Better to be conservative, so as to build a reservoir of goodwill rather than a rising tide of complaints.

WHICH WAS HIRED BY THE WIND WORKING GROUP,
RECOMMENDED CONSULTING W/ A NOISE
EXPERT TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE NOISE STANDARDS
TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MICHIGAN SITING GUIDELINES
THIS WAS NEVER DONE.

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
Comment Card

7

Name:

Clay Ketterborn

Affiliation (optional):

Do you wish to speak today?

Yes

No:

Do you wish to provide written comments today?

Yes

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**Comments with attachments
to the Wind Energy Resource
Zone Board at it's Public
Hearing held on August 24,
2009 in Bad Axe, MI**

**By: Clay Kelterborn
P O Box 1048
Caseville, MI 48725
(989) 550-3103**

By Clay Kelterborn, Lake Township, Huron County, Michigan – Comments to Wind Energy Resource Zone Board, August 24, 2009, Bad Axe, Michigan-

I am here on behalf of property owners in Lake Township who are requesting that Lake Township be **excluded** from any wind energy zone for the following reasons.

1. Lake Township is a shoreline community that extends three to 3-3/4 miles inland from Lake Huron. In the center of Lake Township is Rush Lake which is a state game area consisting of approximately 1,312 acres of water and wetlands used during migration seasons by geese, swans and other waterfowl. Each end of Lake Township is partially bordered by a river system, the Pigeon and Pinnebog Rivers. Craig A. Czamecki, Field Supervisor (Michigan) of the **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**, in a 2007 letter to Lake Township Deputy Clerk, Kathleen Bolton, stated as follows:

“We particularly encourage placement of turbines away from any large wetland, stream corridors or wooded areas, including the areas mentioned previously, and avoid placing turbines between nearby habitat blocks. Lake Township has two significant rivers systems that course through the Township. **The Service recommends that no turbines be located within three miles of a Great Lake’s shoreline**, within five miles of bald eagle nests or between the refuges and known feed areas for migratory waterbirds and waterfowl. Lake Township has six miles of Great Lakes shoreline, two bald eagle nests and is within the pathway of migratory birds including tundra swans and sandhill cranes. In addition, we strongly recommend that turbines be located as far away from any national/state wildlife refuge as possible. Lake Township includes the Rush Lake State Game area centrally located within the Township.”

2. The agricultural district of Lake Township, excluding state owned lands and the Rush Lake area, comprise slightly more than 50% of the Township's land area with residential homesteads scattered throughout at the rate of approximately nine homes per square mile. The World Health Organization recommends a 1.5 kilometer setback from residential dwellings. The Lake Township Planning Commission has not been able to identify any area of Lake Township that would be able to accommodate commercial scale wind turbines within recommended setback guidelines.

3. Lake Township is a bedroom community that relies upon a seasonal tourist economy. Within Lake Township is the Sleeper State Park campground, the Caseville Golf Course and Depner Farms Corn Maze. Commercial wind development within the boundaries of Lake Township will limit not only further residential growth, but will negatively impact the tourist economy the entire Huron County region depends on.

I would also like to make a few additional points that do not relate specifically to Lake Township.

Many people are supportive of the concept of wind energy. However, those same people are also concerned about the impact poor planning will have as is evidenced here in Huron County as well as elsewhere across the country.

What good is renewable energy if it is chasing people from their homes?

In April 2008 I spent my vacation touring wind farms in Wisconsin, talking with people who lived in these farms, some of whom had a wind turbine on their land and those that lived next to wind turbines. The purpose of my trip was to learn first hand what to expect since we were only just getting started with wind development in our area.

What I learned in Wisconsin and now here in Huron County, is that we cannot look at wind energy as a one size fits all arrangement. With the mixed land uses that are scattered throughout this county, there are areas not suited to wind development because they will have a greater negative impact to the homeowners and landowners affecting their quality of life and their investment.

Our state lawmakers, through legislation, have created the necessity for these developments by mandating an RPS. The wind energy developers, knowing these requirements were coming, swarmed in upon our rural areas signing up leases. Often the very property owners who signed leases are the same people serving in decision making positions as county commissioners, planning commissioners and township board members, tainting the entire process. Lake Township, itself, has two township board members with a conflict of interest.

In the mean time, developers are doing their job. They are not concerned about the politics, the conflicts of interest, the investments residents have in their homes or their quality of life. Their job is to develop a wind farm to meet the mandated RPS requirements.

We are here today giving you our comments because your job is to determine whether or not this area is a suitable location for wind development. It is not. You cannot chose an area based solely upon wind speed data. Many people have chosen this area as a place to live, raise their families, work and vacation. If this area were 100 percent agricultural land not having any residential influences, you might be able to get away with wind farms. However, with the guidelines being used in this area, such as the inadequate setbacks which are placing people in harms way, impacting their health and their investment, it would have to be without conscience that you would recommend this area for industrial wind development. **Our message to you is that many of the people of Huron County, contrary to what our County officials have lead you to believe, do not want to be living in a wind energy zone for the State of Michigan.**

Wind Energy Resource Zone Board
Public Hearing-Bad Axe, August 24, 2009
Comment Card

10

BENNIS-6 PHONE: 989-658-2798

Name: DARCY MAUSOLF 1505 E. ATWATER RD, UBLY, MI 48475

Affiliation (optional):

Do you wish to speak today? Yes: (No:)

Do you wish to provide written comments today? YES - SEE ATTACHED

Written Comments may be provided on this form or a separate sheet of paper, submitted on-line @ <https://janus.pscinc.com/WindEnergyResourceZone/> or mailed to Julie Baldwin, Board Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing MI 48909 by September 8, 2009.

Multiple empty rows for providing written comments.

#10
Tom Stantch
to Read

Date: August 24, 2009

To : Michigan Wind Energy Resource Zone Board

From: Dennis and Darcy Mausolf of Ubly, Michigan

Any new wind turbine construction should be stopped until the health and noise issues are resolved. Improper zoning and little research has lead to several complaints being filed in Huron County. John Deere, the wind farm operator, is doing little to resolve these issues. We own a home in the Ubly John Deere Windfarm; surrounded by wind turbines. The closest being 1,100 feet from our home.

Attn: Michigan Wind Energy Resource Zone Board

Wind generated electricity costs at least two to three times more than electricity generated by natural gas. A report by the Department of Energy estimated the federal capital subsidy at 2 ½ cents per kwh and the generation subsidy at an additional 2 cent per kwh. These two subsidies account for 2/3's of the return for wind turbines according to a major Washington law firm. To purchase wind-only power is estimated by Consumer Reports to cost 2 cents per kwh more than conventional power sources even after subsidies.

The reason why wind power is more expensive is simply physics. The most wind is near the coasts and in the mountains. The Thumb is rated a 3 out of 7 ^{on the federal wind scale} which is just fair. The developers of wind power quote how much power the turbines can generate, not what they are likely to generate. In a low wind location like this area they will never operate near rated capacity.

Wind power even in windy areas rarely hits rated capacity. The California Energy Commission calculates that actual capacity only hits 25% of rated capacity. This is because wind is variable, intermittent and can't be relied on.

Wind power is also expensive because we are jamming in technology that isn't competitive. Why does DTE keep building these expensive and unsightly machines if they aren't going to save us money? Because the state has a law that says they have to generate renewable power without regard to how much money it costs the rate payers. Better technology is being developed now in our universities, but because of the mandate, DTE has to install these large and noisy units now.

Wind turbines take up a lot of land. The Institute for Energy Research estimates it takes 2000 times more space than conventional power sources. In Michigan the land with wind is by the coasts and it is expensive and faces lots of opposition from local residents. The Thumb is attractive not because there is good wind, but because we are willing to rent our land cheap.

The current power grid is centralized. Large factories and cities are served by nearby power plants. Because there is little manufacturing in the Thumb the power will need to be routed a long way to the cities. The loss of power makes it silly to build a conventional power plant here. But we propose to do that with the wind turbines, anyway.

Marjorie Zolt pg. 1 of 2

The real problem with wind power is that it is a creature of government incentives and mandates. What the government gives, it can take away. California had an explosion of these units installed in the mid-1980s based on similar favorable tax credits. Within 5 years after the credits expired many of these units were out of service and abandoned by the companies that built them. Just imagine what a 400 foot tall rusting stationary wind turbine will look like, that sits for 20 years.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Zott

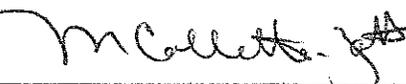
gg. 2 of 2

AS A PROPERTY OWNER IN LAKE TOWNSHIP I am requesting that Lake Township be **EXCLUDED** from the Region 4 Wind Energy Zone as identified by the Wind Energy Resource Zone Board for the following reasons:

1. Lake Township is a shoreline community that extends three to 3-3/4 miles inland from Lake Huron. In the center of Lake Township is Rush Lake which is a state game area consisting of approximately 1,312 acres of water and wetlands used during migration seasons by geese, swans and other waterfowl. Each end of Lake Township is partially bordered by a river system, the Pigeon and Pinnebog Rivers. Craig A. Czamecki, Field Supervisor (Michigan) of the **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**, in a 2007 letter to Lake Township Deputy Clerk, Kathleen Bolton, stated as follows:

"We particularly encourage placement of turbines away from any large wetland, stream corridors or wooded areas, including the areas mentioned previously, and avoid placing turbines between nearby habitat blocks. Lake Township has two significant rivers systems that course through the Township. **The Service recommends that no turbines be located within three miles of a Great Lake's shoreline, within five miles of bald eagle nests or between the refuges and known feed areas for migratory waterbirds and waterfowl.** Lake Township has six miles of Great Lakes shoreline, two bald eagle nests and is within the pathway of migratory birds including tundra swans and sandhill cranes. In addition, we strongly recommend that turbines be located as far away from any national/state wildlife refuge as possible. Lake Township includes the Rush Lake State Game area centrally located within the Township."

2. The agricultural district of Lake Township, excluding state owned lands and the Rush Lake area, comprise slightly more than 50% of the Township's land area with residential homesteads scattered throughout at the rate of approximately nine homes per square mile. The World Health Organization recommends a 1.5 kilometer setback from residential dwellings. The Lake Township Planning Commission has not been able to identify any area of Lake Township that would be able to accommodate commercial scale wind turbines within recommended setback guidelines.
3. Lake Township is a bedroom community that relies upon a seasonal tourist economy. Within Lake Township is the Sleeper State Park campground, the Caseville Golf Course and Depner Farms Corn Maze. Commercial wind development within the boundaries of Lake Township will limit not only further residential growth, but will negatively impact the tourist economy the entire Huron County region depends on.

Name & Mailing Address (Print)	Property Address	Signature	Date
MAJORIE ZOTT 4227 Glen HAVEN RD. SOQUEL, CA 95073	3815 Port Austin Port Austin, MI 48467		8/24/09

**Comments with attachments
to the Wind Energy Resource
Zone Board at it's Public
Hearing held on August 24,
2009 in Bad Axe, MI**

**By: Valerie McCallum
6064 Dufty Road
Caseville, MI 48725
(989) 856-7485**

Comments to the Wind Energy Resource Zone Board, August 24, 2009

I am the Clerk of Lake Township. I am here to speak from the perspective of a public official.

Lake Township does not have any wind farm yet. However, the anticipation of a commercial wind energy development within our township has ruptured our community into two factions, creating divisions not only at the Township meetings, but between neighbors, friends and families. This same division has happened in communities across the country and is occurring simultaneously in other Michigan communities.

The Lake Township Planning Commission has been ridiculed by one side for taking its time and doing the research and praised by the other side, only to be sideswiped by the political machine of the Township Board after two years of work and a wind ordinance that would protect the health and safety of the people of Lake Township.

We are all familiar with the saying, "politics corrupts". After serving for ten years on the Lake Township Planning Commission and nine years as Township Clerk, I have seen the worst side of politics in the last year.

Your job today is to listen to public comments on your proposal to designate this area as a suitable wind energy zone for the State of Michigan

Huron County has 93 miles of shoreline. Based upon recommendations of the Great Lakes Region of the USFWS, commercial wind turbines should not be located within 3 miles of a Great Lakes shoreline. On what basis did your Board arrive at a one mile buffer?

Your report, on pg. 61, states:

"The amount of land zoned as residential in the identified regions is unknown and gathering such information is beyond the scope of this analysis."

The rural/agricultural area of Huron County has varied uses with numerous residential homesteads which makes commercial scale wind development impossible to achieve without impacting our residents health, safety, property values and quality of life. These wind farms are industrial machines and they are being located haphazardly next to residential dwellings. This goes against common zoning protocol of separating incompatible land uses.

On pg. 50 your report states:

"The board also found that there is the potential for wind energy to be a commercial source of generation in the state, and particularly in these regions. The board's assessment does not consider, however, site-specific issues that may affect the viability of any particular location to support the commercial wind systems. For example, local zoning, social factors (such as public acceptance) or site-specific environmental features could prohibit wind energy development or make it uneconomical or infeasible to site turbines in any particular area."

As to local zoning, townships and county governments do not have the expertise or the financial resources themselves, nor the political will to require the developers to pay for independent qualified experts to conduct studies necessary to ensure appropriate and adequate zoning regulations. And in the case of Lake Township, when our Planning Commission spent two years doing their own research based upon existing information to create a wind ordinance specific to Lake Township and its natural features and existing development, they were attacked by DTE for not being conducive to wind energy development and the Planning Commission has been requested by the Township Board, two members of which have a financial interest in the development of wind energy within the Township, to rewrite the ordinance with the assistance of DTE, the wind energy developer. This flies in the face of common sense and rational prudence and

reeks of impropriety – or put more simply – it's letting the fox guard the hen house.

Your report also mentions social factors such as public acceptance. What about public health? We only have to look at our neighbors in Ubly and Elkton to know that what has been done in Michigan Wind I and Harvest Wind was done wrong. There are problems that are not going to go away. There are people suffering who will continue to suffer as long as the turbines keep turning. What if it was your family suffering? What if it was your home, your life investment?

The Michigan Public Service Commission should not be designating wind energy zones when problems are already apparent and studies need to be done, **especially human health and impact studies.** Otherwise, the Public Service Commission is putting the cart before the horse.

Don't let the foolishness of Lansing's politics tear apart our communities, harm the health of our residents and destroy the value of our properties by foregoing long term planning.

The recommendation of a wind energy zone by this Board, based upon the lack of information obtained for your own analysis and report and the obvious problems within our two existing wind farms, is unconscionable.

Valerie McCallum
Lake Township Clerk
Huron County, Michigan
6064 Dufty Road
Caseville MI 48725